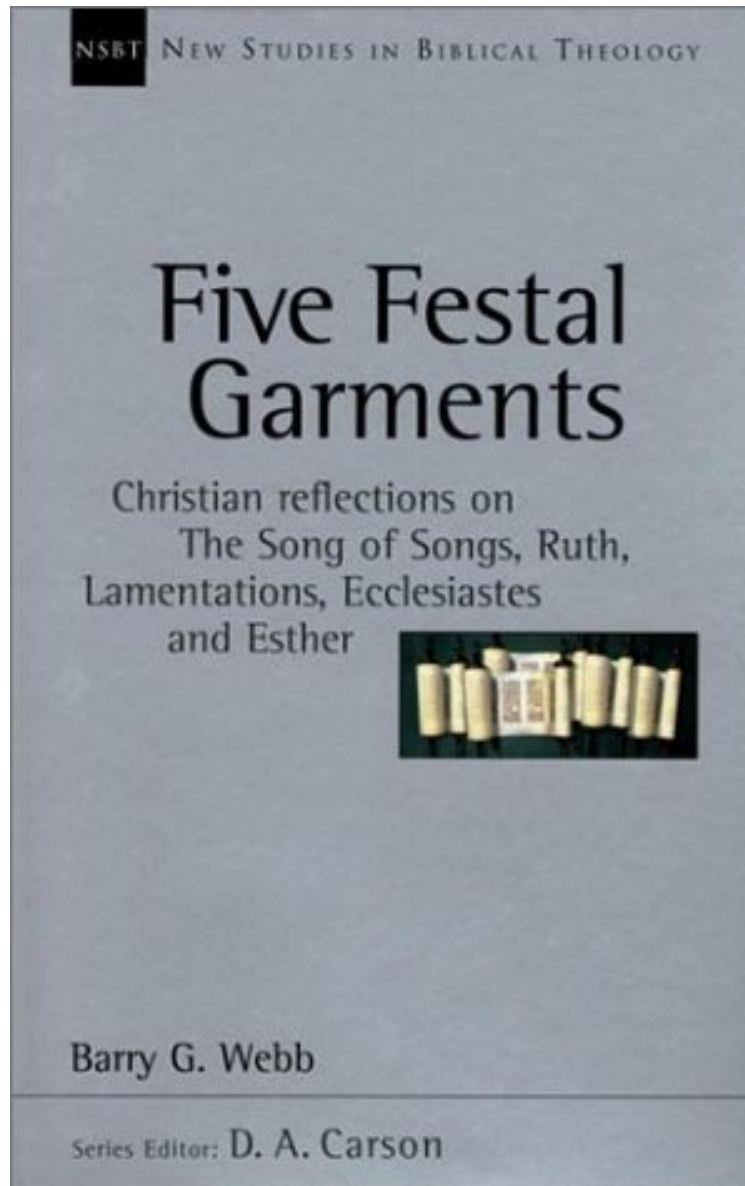



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## Five Festal Garments: Christian Reflections on the Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes and Esther (New Studies in Biblical Theology)

Barry G. Webb

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Barry G. Webb : Five Festal Garments: Christian Reflections on the Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes and Esther (New Studies in Biblical Theology) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it

would be worth my time, and all praised *Five Festal Garments: Christian Reflections on the Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes and Esther* (New Studies in Biblical Theology):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A wonderful, evangelical "reading" of these five biblical books  
By Mike Fox  
A wonderful, evangelical "reading" of these five biblical books. I find it extremely insightful, and that's even though I see Song of Songs a little differently than the author. More than worth the price of the book if you want spiritual scholarship.  
1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The Five Megilloth  
By J. Barginear  
This is a good book by Dr. Barry Webb, I enjoy his style of writing. The Five shortest books in the Writings, the third final part in the Hebrew canon. Traditionally they are known simply as the Scrolls (Megilloth)  
Dr. Webb refer to them as five garments, a metaphor that was suggested to him by the passages below, where Joseph is at last reconciled to his brothers. To [a]each of them he gave changes of garments, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver and five changes of garments (Genesis 45:22) NASB  
To all of them he gave each man changes of raiment; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver, and five changes of raiment. (Genesis 45:22) KJV  
The key issue was how the Scrolls were to be worn. The solution that eventually emerged in Judaism was their adoption as lectionary readings for five of the major festivals: Passover (Song of Songs), the Feast of Weeks (Ruth), the Ninth of Ab (Lamentations), the Feast of Tabernacles (Ecclesiastes) and the Festival of Purim (Esther)  
The Five Festal Garments:  
Chapter 1 Song of Songs: Garment of love  
Chapter 2 Ruth: Garment of kindness  
Chapter 3 Lamentations: Garment of suffering  
Chapter 4 Ecclesiastes: Garment of vexation  
Chapter 5 Esther: Garment of deliverance  
0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Short, But Good  
By Dataman  
This is the second of the works I have read comprising the New Studies in Biblical Theology series published by IV Press. Although this book was not quite as good as *Dominion and Dynasty*, it is still well worth reading. Author Barry Webb offers an interpretation of the five Old Testament books traditionally known as "the Scrolls": the Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes and Esther. They are among the most neglected books of the Bible--all of them are marginal in one way or another. They could perhaps even be considered "problem" books, raising unnerving and difficult questions. Webb offers an interpretation of these books, examining each in relation to the rest of the Old Testament, as well as to the New Testament gospel. In this way, Webb offers wonderful insights to these five neglected books. Reading *Five Festal Garments* certainly increased both my understanding and my appreciation of the place these five books have in the greater canon.

These five Old Testament books, traditionally known simply as "the Scrolls," are among the most neglected parts of the Christian Bible. In Judaism, the Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes and Esther were eventually adopted as lectionary readings for five of the major festivals. In Christian tradition, however, no consensus has emerged about their proper use. Each book presents particular difficulties with regard to how it relates to the rest of Scripture and how it should be understood as the Word of God for us today. In this *New Studies in Biblical Theology* volume, Barry Webb offers a Christian interpretation of these problematic writings. He allows each book to set its own agenda, and then examines each in relation to the wider Old Testament and to the New Testament gospel with its basic structure of promise and fulfillment. In this way, Webb presents fresh and illuminating perspectives on these five "festal garments" of love, kindness, suffering, vexation and deliverance. Addressing key issues in biblical theology, the works comprising *New Studies in Biblical Theology* are creative attempts to help Christians better understand their Bibles. The NSBT series is edited by D. A. Carson, aiming to simultaneously instruct and to edify, to interact with current scholarship and to point the way ahead.

About the Author  
Barry G. Webb (PhD, Sheffield) is emeritus senior research fellow in Old Testament at Moore Theological College in New South Wales, Australia. He has written *The Book of Judges* (JSOT Press).