

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE: The Digital Library of Classic Protestant Texts

For a quick on-screen tour of the database, please visit our website at www.ad-fontes.com and click on “Guided Tour.”



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Digital Library of Classic Protestant Texts. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Browse, Search, My Cart, and Help. Below this is the site's title: "Digital Library of Classic Protestant Texts". A large image on the left depicts a hand holding an open book. To the right of the image is a descriptive paragraph about the database's scope and content. Below the text are four buttons: "Search the Collection", "Browse Authors", "Browse Works", and "Browse Topics". At the bottom of the page, there is a "Content Update" section with the following information: "Date of last upload: 9/19/2004", "Number of titles loaded: 9", and "Total titles in database: 414". A small copyright notice is visible at the very bottom: "© Copyright 2002-2004 Ad Fontes, LLC. All rights reserved. ScholarsWork Architecture version 2.7.0.5".

The *Digital Library of Classic Protestant Texts* (CPT) is a powerful tool that offers professors, students, and researchers unprecedented access to religious content from the 16th and 17th centuries. This “Quick Reference Guide” serves as a basic introduction to the design and capabilities of the database. Every document in the CPT has benefited from Ad Fontes’ rigorous editorial process that transforms early printed material into carefully re-keyed, thoughtfully tagged, and thoroughly indexed XML documents.

To maximize the user’s ability to browse, search, and navigate this content, Ad Fontes has developed the ScholarsWork™ search engine. This engine was created by our in-house editorial and technology teams to address the specific research needs of students and scholars in the humanities. With ScholarsWork™, users can develop sophisticated queries that return targeted, accurate results in seconds.

Entering the Database

- Enter our corporate website www.ad-fontes.com.
- On the left side of the homepage you will see product icons. Click on the CPT icon. Your IP address will be authenticated and the collection home page will appear on your screen.
- On the collection home page you have four options for accessing material:
 - 1) Search the Collection
 - 2) Browse Authors
 - 3) Browse Works
 - 4) Browse Topics
- First, let’s select Browse Authors.

Browse Authors

- You will notice that the authors are sorted alphabetically. You can scroll through the list by using the scroll bar at the right of the screen, or you can use the “Quick Nav” feature at the top to jump to different letter sections.
- Click on the “Tradition” bar to re-sort by theological tradition. Once you have re-sorted, notice that the “Quick Nav” bar changes to allow you to organize authors into four broad categories: Lutheran, Protestant [British Isles], Radical, and Reformed [Continental].
- Click on the “Name” bar to sort by author name again.

- Let's navigate to a specific author, **William Sherlock**. Click on the "View Titles" link next to his name. Now you see a list of the works written by Sherlock that are currently included in the database.
- Below each title you will see four links. The "View" link allows the user to go directly to the document title page. The "Table of Contents" link allows the user to view a list of the major chapter or section headings in the document. The "Bibliography" link generates a pop-up box containing full bibliographic and sourcing information about the text. And the "Search" link takes the user to a search page dedicated to searching within that particular document.
- Let's click on the "Table of Contents" link underneath the title *A Discourse Concerning The Divine Providence*.
- Now click on the "View" link next to chapter V. This takes you directly to that section.
- What you now see is an HTML version of the underlying XML file. For ease of navigation, you are able to view and scroll through ten pages of text at a time. Use the "Page Go/Quick Nav" functions at the top of the screen to easily move about the text.
- The Find box allows you to perform a keyword search of the ten-page range currently displayed.
- The "Current View" buttons along the top of the screen allow you to manipulate the text in a variety of ways. We are currently in the "Text" view mode. As you review the following options, try each one of them out to familiarize yourself with the functionality available to you.
 - 1) "Facsimile Image" displays facsimile images (in JPEG format) of the original printed pages.
 - 2) "Text and Image" displays the HTML text pages side by side with the corresponding facsimile images.
 - 3) The "View Options" button brings up a menu of options for altering the on-screen appearance of the text or facsimile image. You may change the "Text Size" or "Image Size," or select "Show TOC" (Table of Contents) to display the TOC for the document in a separate pane to the left of the text window. Should you wish to close the TOC, choose "Hide TOC" from the "View Options" menu.
 - 4) The "Print" button generates a PDF version of the ten-page range being viewed, allowing users to print selected pages from the transcribed text for educational use only.

Search an Individual Document

- Now let's conduct a search within a single document. Select "Home" and then "Collection Home" from the menu bar at the very top of the screen to return to the CPT home page. Now click on the "Browse Authors" icon and scroll down to (or use Quick Nav to locate) Edward Fisher. Click the "View Titles" link to the right of his name. We are going to search his book *The Marrow Of Modern Divinity*, so select the "Search" link underneath the document title.
- The "Search One Document" page appears. You will notice that the first field is the "Keyword" field for finding references to a particular word or phrase in the document. Notice that you can perform near (words occurring within 30 characters of each other) and exact phrase searches, as well as standard and/or searches. You may also choose to retain or abandon case/accent sensitivity.
- Enter the word "faith" into the "Keyword" box, then click "Search." You will see that *The Marrow Of Modern Divinity* contains 185 instances of the word "faith." Now click on the "Keywords" link to see the highlighted keyword in its immediate textual context. Click the "View" link next to any result to be taken directly to the page where the keyword occurs. Notice that the yellow highlighting carries over, allowing you to easily locate your search term.
- Use your back button to return to the search screen for this document. You may also launch a new or modified search for this document from links in the shaded area at the top of the "Search Results" page.
- Let's modify our last search using another useful feature, the wildcard (*). If we truncate our keyword by typing "faith*" we will return results for multiple word endings, e.g. "faithful." Click "Search" and you will see that the keyword hits have increased to 200.

- Now let's return to the "Search One Document" page by clicking on the "New Search" link in the shaded area near the top of the results page.
- Let's take advantage of another unique feature of the ScholarsWork platform, the ability to search for scriptural citations. We may now want to find passages that have references to phrases containing faith and also quote Romans 5. A keyword search for Romans would only return modern spellings. Ad Fontes' extensive tagging allows us to utilize the Scriptural Citation search to locate every instance of a scriptural citation, regardless of how it appeared in the original text. Go to the Scripture field and scroll through the books until you find Romans. In the chapter field enter 5 and leave the verse field blank. Click search and your results will be returned.
- The "Search Results" page shows us that *The Marrow Of Modern Divinity* contains nine references to Romans 5. To view these citations in context, click the "Citations" link. You will see the yellow highlighting and "View" links familiar to you from your keyword search results.
- Now let's return to the original search screen by selecting the "Modify this Search" link in the shaded area at the top of the results page. You will see that the search fields are still populated with Romans 5. Let's clear all the fields by clicking the "Clear" button to the right of the "Search" button.
- Let's reexamine the subject of faith. Instead of finding individual keywords, perhaps it would be better to locate entire passages dealing with that topic. This is possible to do because every document in the CPT has been indexed on a section-by-section basis using a thesaurus of over 150 theological or social/cultural topics. To sample this indexing feature, go to the "Theological Topics" field. Scroll down to "Faith" and highlight it. Click the "Add" button to add it to your topics search box and then click "Search." You are presented with two results. These are sections of *The Marrow of Modern Divinity* which treat the subject of faith in a sustained and substantive way. Click the "View" link underneath the first result to go directly to the beginning of that section.

Search the Entire Database

- We've been searching on just one document. Now let's try searching the entire database. Go to the top of the screen and select "Home" and then "Collection Home."
- On the collection homepage click the "Search the Collection" link (or use the "Search" button at the top of the page). This takes you to a search page that is similar to the "Search One Document" page, but more robust in its functionality. From this page you can search all the documents in the database simultaneously, using very specific parameters to refine your search.
- As before, each field can be searched separately. However, let's look at how to combine fields in order to return highly targeted results.
- Let's try combining two index topics. This asks the database to return a set of results showing documents and/or document sections that have been indexed for **both** topics. Let's choose "Clergy" from the "Theological Topic" list and "Marriage, Family, and Human Sexuality" from the "Social/Cultural Topic" list. This search returns dozens of results.
- Now click the "Modify this Search" link in the shaded region at the top of the results page to return to the previous search screen and preserve your topic search terms. Now let's add the keywords, "celib*" and "coelib*" (for English and Latin forms) and click "Search." By combining a keyword search and a topic search, we have located our **keyword only in sections of documents that have been indexed for both topic terms**. Keyword searches that are limited by topic are far more focused than generic keyword searches and dramatically reduce the number of "noise" results.
- While we're looking at this page, notice that results are organized by the number of keyword hits by default. However, you can also sort your results by author, title, or first publication date. Use the bar above the results to re-sort them.
- Now, let's click the "New Search" link in the shaded area to return to the main search page. Let's try combining a keyword with a scripture citation. Enter "atonement" in the "Keyword" field, and then enter 1 Peter 2:24 in the "Scripture Verse Cited" field. Click "Search." You have now located **a keyword and a citation occurring on the same page** in any document in the database. Combining

this kind of search with a topic search would add the further refinement of locating only pages that occur within sections indexed for your desired topic(s).

- Click the “New Search” link to return to the main search page again. Locate the “Title” and “Author” fields. Let’s try combining an author’s name with a theological topic. In the “Author” field enter “Arminius,” then choose “Free Will” from the “Theological Topic” list. This search finds all the **documents and/or sections of documents written by Arminius that treat the topic** of free will in a sustained and substantive way.
- The fields at the bottom of the main search screen allow you to refine your searches even further.
 - 1) “Theological Tradition” allows you to limit your search to a particular tradition:
 - Lutheran
 - Protestant [British Isles]
 - Radical
 - Reformed [Continental]
 - 2) “Document Type” allows you to target your search to a specific genre.
 - 3) “Publisher” lists all the original publishers of the works in the database.
 - 4) “Publication City” lists all the cities in which the works were published.
 - 5) “Publication Country” allows you to limit your searches to works coming out of a particular country.
 - 6) “Publication Date” sets chronological parameters for your search.
 - 7) “Language” allows you to include or exclude certain languages.
- Finally, let’s combine several fields at once in order to examine attitudes towards the establishment Church in England in the first half of the 17th century, specifically in polemical writings.
- Enter “establish*” in the “Keyword” field. Then select “Church and State” from the “Social/Cultural Topics” list. From the “Theological Tradition” menu select “Protestant [British Isles].” For “Document Type” select “Polemical, Apologetical & Controversial Writings.” Finally, for date range enter 1600–1650. Click “Search” and view your highly targeted results.

Other Features

- You have now witnessed the extent to which the ScholarsWork™ platform allows users to perform sophisticated, nuanced, and accurate searches. Briefly, we would like to introduce you to a few extra features that round-out our platform.
- Ad Fontes’ files are written in Unicode, allowing scholars to search for Greek and Hebrew words more efficiently. Just enter the Greek or Hebrew characters directly into the “Keyword” field (using a keyboard program or cutting and pasting from a character map) and conduct your search.
- Another important feature is the personal, password-protected study space known as “My Carrel.” My Carrel allows you to save searches, documents, or portions of documents to be recalled at your convenience. To save a search, click the “Add to My Carrel” link at the top of any “Search Results” page. After you enter your username and password you will be taken to the “Saved Searches” section of “My Carrel,” where you will see this most recent search added to all your previously saved searches. This list is organized by the date each search was added to “My Carrel.”
- If you click the “Add to My Carrel” link while viewing a document, you will be given the option of saving either a specific page range or the entire document. Once you have made your choice, you will be taken to the “Saved Documents” section of “My Carrel.” From here you can access a meaningful text or portion of text at any time, without the need for additional searching. If you wish to compare two documents, check the boxes to the left of each title and click the “View” button at the top of the list. Both texts will be displayed side-by-side for comparison and analysis.

We hope that you have found this Quick Reference Guide helpful. For further assistance, we encourage you to take the Guided Tour that is available on our public home page (www.ad-fontes.com). We’ll also be happy to personally answer any questions you may have, so feel free to contact us at support@ad-fontes.com.