

*The NIV Interlinear Hebrew-English Old Testament. Volume 3: I Chronicles—Song of Songs.* Edited by John R. Kohlenberger, III. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1982, 601 pp.

The third in a projected series of four volumes, this book maintains the distinctive features that characterized the first two. The complete text of the *NIV* is printed in the outside margin, and the Hebrew text, following *BHS*, is spaced out so that a very literal English may be printed underneath each Hebrew word. The *ktiv-qere* variants are included in the footnotes. The ordering of the books follows the Greek (and English) versions. The series is useful for students and for ministers with only an elementary knowledge of Hebrew, but like similar helps it must not be abused by those who think interlinear English translations provide profound insight into the semantic range of Hebrew words and syntax.

D. A. Carson

*A Harmony of the Words and Works of Jesus Christ: From the New International Version.* Edited by J. Dwight Pentecost. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981, xx + 183 pp., paper.

The two dominant features of this harmony: (1) It is based on the *NIV*; (2) its order and structure obviously tie it to Pentecost's companion volume, *The Words and Works of Jesus Christ*, also published by Zondervan. For the first feature we may be grateful, but the second is as much a limitation as a strength. For Bible colleges that use the companion volume as a standard text, this *Harmony* will doubtless prove very welcome; for institutions that find such an approach in need of more critical interaction with other approaches to the gospels, the *Harmony* will prove of little use. It contains none of the critical essays found in some other English-language harmonies (e.g. the old standard by A. T. Robertson or the recent harmony based on the *NASB*, not to mention more sophisticated ones) and fails to establish a rationale for the general approach and structure that are adopted. For instance, the Aland *Synopsis*, in Greek or English, provides the parallels to each passage from each gospel. This results in repetition but does not prejudge historical, chronological, literary and theological issues in quite the same way this volume does. The *NIV* deserves a more comprehensive volume.

D. A. Carson