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BT 650 The Person and Work of Christ

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BT 650 THE PERSON AND WORK OF CHRIST

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January 10-21, 2005 Mon-Fri 8.30-10.10, 10.35-12.15

DESCRIPTION
The aim of the course is to gain a critical appreciation of the understanding of the person and work of Christ in the New Testament texts. The course will examine and evaluate the development of early Christian christology and soteriology against their background in Judaism and the Hellenistic world. Particular attention will be given to the teaching of Jesus himself, to the growth of thought in the early church and to its literary deposit in the major authors of the New Testament. Several major texts of theological importance and the main christological titles will be examined.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Having successfully completed the course, participants should:

1. Have a knowledge of the main topics and issues in the early church’s understanding of the person of Jesus and the significance of his death as reflected in the New Testament texts.

2. Have an awareness of some of the main scholarly works on the topic and be able to interact critically with them.

3. Have commenced reflection on how to communicate this aspect of the teaching of the New Testament in the contemporary world.

STRONGLY RECOMMENDED READING

Relevant articles in the four IVP Dictionaries of the New Testament.


RECOMMENDED READING

L. W. Hurtado, Lord Jesus Christ (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003).

SYLLABUS OF TOPICS FOR THE COURSE WITH PRELIMINARY READING

1. Introduction to the study of the Person of Christ

2. Jesus – Teacher and Prophet
   ‘Teacher’, in DJG 807-811 (R. Riesner) and ‘Prophets, Prophecy’, in DJG 636-642 (G. F. Hawthorne); Cullmann, ch. 2.

3. Jewish ideas of Messiahship
4. The Messiah in the Synoptic Gospels

5. The Son of Man — Background
‘Son of Man’, in *DJG*, 775-81 (I. H. Marshall); Casey, *Son of Man*, chs. 2, 5;

6. The Son of Man — The Synoptic Gospels
Marshall, *Origins*, ch. 4; Moule, 11-22; Casey, *Son of Man*, chs. 8,9.

7. Christology after Easter — Jesus as Lord

8. Jesus as Son of God
‘Son of God’, in *DJG*, 769-775 (D. R. Bauer), *DPL*, 900-906 (L. W. Hurtado), and *DLNTD*, 1111-1115 (J. W. Drane).

9. The Christology of Paul
‘Christology’, in *DPL*, 100-115 (B. Witherington); Moule, 47-96; Witherington 1998:103-126


11. The Christology of John

12. The death of Jesus — Crucifixion and martyrdom

13. How did Jesus understand his death?

14. Redemption
‘Redemption’, in *DPL*, 784-6 (L. Morris), and *DLNTD*, 1001-4 (I. H. Marshall); *NIDNTT* III, 189-205.

15. Wrath and reconciliation
*DPL*, 695-699, 991-3; *DLNTD*, 893-900, 1238-40; *NIDNTT* I, 105-113; III, 166-174.

16. Sacrifice and propitiation

17. Justification

18. The Resurrection of Jesus
‘Resurrection’, in *DPL*, 805-812 (L. J. Kreitzer), and in *DLNTD*, 1015-1020 (S. H. Travis); ‘Exaltation and enthronement’, in *DPL*, 275-8 (J. F. Maile), and in *DLNTD*, 359-63 (D. A. DeSilva).

19. *Christus Victor*
20. Understanding the atonement

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Preparation, attendance and participation (15%).

**USUAL MATERIAL ON ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS**
Students should come to each class session prepared by having read the appropriate preparatory material.

2. Essay. Students are required to write an essay (2500 words) on any ONE of the following topics. This work must be handed in by DATE (35%). Essays should be formatted according to the usual practice in the Seminary. Minimal bibliographical guidance is given: candidates are expected to use their own initiative in finding other, relevant material.

1. How is the person of Jesus understood in the Letter to the Hebrews? (See recent commentaries, especially Ellingworth and Lane for bibliography).

2. To what extent is the death of Jesus understood as a means of atonement in the Gospel and Epistles of John, and how central is the death to John’s total understanding of Jesus as Saviour? (See Bultmann, Forestell; M. Turner in *Evangelical Quarterly* 62 [1990], 99-122).

3. What picture of the person and work of Jesus can be drawn from the Revelation? (See Bauckham, *Theology of Revelation*; Powell and Bauer; Witherington)

3. Examination. Students will be required to sit a take-home examination, to be handed in to the office by DATE. The paper will be based on the work done in the class; students are allowed two hours to completed and are expected to use a computer and print out their script. The examination must be done under normal examination conditions so far as possible; you may use an unmarked Bible and Greek New Testament, but no other aids of any kind (books; notes; computer software, etc) are allowed. Envelopes containing the examination questions must not be opened prior to the actual time that you have set aside for writing your paper, and neither the questions nor your answers should be discussed with anybody else. Students must sign a declaration at the end of their scripts saying that they have fulfilled these conditions (50%).
BIBLIOGRAPHY

There are important articles on most of the key terms in the four IVP reference volumes: Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels (DJG), Dictionary of Paul and his Letters (DPL), Dictionary of the Later New Testament and its Developments (DLNTD), and Dictionary of New Testament Background (Consult all 4 volumes, since sometimes a topic is covered in more than one volume). See also the articles in NIDNTT (not quite so up-to-date and patchy) and the more technical articles in TDNT. Books marked with * are introductory.

THE PERSON OF CHRIST

R. Bultmann  Theology of the New Testament  SCM  1953
C. C. Caragounis  The Son of Man  Mohr  1986
M. Casey  Son of Man  J. Clarke  1991
M. Casey  From Jewish Prophet to Gentile God  SPCK  1979
O. Cullmann  The Christology of the New Testament  SCM  1959
C. H. Dodd  The Interpretation of the Fourth Gospel  CUP  1953
J. D. G. Dunn  Christology in the Making  SCM  1989
J. D. G. Dunn  The Theology of Paul the Apostle  T & T Clark  1998
J. B. Green
& M. Turner  Jesus of Nazareth: Lord and Christ  Paternoster  1994
F. Hahn  The Titles of Jesus in Christology  Lutterworth  1969
M. J. Harris  Jesus as God  Eerdmans  1992
M. Hengel  The Son of God  SCM  1976
M. Hengel  Studies in Early Christology  T & T Clark  1995
J. Hick (ed.)  The Myth of God Incarnate  SCM  1977
M. D. Hooker  The Son of Man in Mark  SPCK  1967
L. Hurtado  Lord Jesus Christ  Eerdmans  2003
M. de Jonge  Christology in Context  Westminster  1988
S. Kim  The Origin of Paul’s Gospel  Eerdmans  1982
— "The ‘Son of Man’” as the Son of God  Mohr  1983
W. Kramer  Christ, Lord, Son of God  SCM  1966
B. Lindars  Jesus Son of Man  SPCK  1983
R. N. Longenecker  Biblical Exegesis in the Apostolic Period  Eerdmans  1999
R. P. Martin  Carmen Christi  CUP  1983
*C. F. D. Moule  The Origin of Christology  CUP  1977
J. Neusner (et al.)  Judaisms and their Messiahs  CUP  1987
P. Pokorny  The Genesis of Christology  T & T Clark  1987
M. A. Powell  Who do you say that I am? Essays on Christology  WJK  1999
and D. R. Bauer
H. H. Rowdon (ed.)  Christ the Lord  IVP  1996
P. Satterthwaite (ed.)  The Lord’s Anointed  Paternoster  1995
S. S. Smalley  John: Evangelist and Interpreter  Paternoster  1998
R. T. Beckwith
V. Taylor  The Person of Jesus in New Testament Teaching  Macmillan  1958
C. Tuckett (ed.)  The Messianic Secret  Fortress/SPCK  1983
G. Vermes  Jesus the Jew  Collins  1973
G. Vos  The Self-Disclosure of Jesus  Pres. & Ref.  1926
B. Witherington, III  The Christology of Jesus  Fortress  1990
*B. Witherington, III  The Many Faces of the Christ  Crossroad  1998
N. T. Wright  Jesus and the Victory of God  SPCK  1996

THE WORK OF CHRIST

C. E. Arnold  Powers of Darkness  IVP  1992
R. T. Beckwith
and M. J. Selman  Sacrifice in the Bible  Baker/Paternoster  1995
W. H. Bellinger, Jr.,
I. Bradley *The Power of Sacrifice* DLT 1995
R. J. Daly *The Origins of the Christian Doctrine of Sacrifice* DLT 1978
J. Denney *The Death of Christ* Tyndale 1951
J. B. Green and M. D. Baker *Recovering the Scandal of the Cross* Paternoster 2000
D. Hill *Greek Words and Hebrew Meanings* CUP 1967
A. J. Hultgren *Christ and His Benefits* Fortress 1987
A. T. Hanson *The Paradox of the Cross in the Thought of St Paul* JSNT 1987
M. Hengel *The Atonement* SCM 1981
M. D. Hooker *Jesus and the Servant* SPCK 1959
R. Leivestad *Christ the Conqueror* SPCK 1954
*I. H. Marshall* *The Work of Christ* Paternoster 1995
G. F. Moore *Judaism in the first centuries of the Christian era: The age of the Tannaim* Harvard 1932
L. Morris *The Apostolic Preaching of the Cross* IVP 1965
*J. I. Packer* *Celebrating the Saving Work of God* Paternoster 1965
J. S. Pobee *Persecution and Martyrdom in the Theology of Paul* Paternoster 1998
S. E. Porter *Katai&ssw in Ancient Greek Literature, with Reference to the Pauline Writings* JSNT 1985
E. P. Sanders *Paul and Palestinian Judaism* SCM Press 1977
T. Smail *One and For All: A Confession of the Cross* DLT 1998
D. M. Stanley *Christ’s Resurrection in Pauline Soteriology* Pontifical 1961
J. R. W. Stott *The Cross of Christ* IVP 1986
V. Taylor *Jesus and his Sacrifice* Macmillan 1937
*--* *The Atonement in New Testament Teaching* Epworth 1945
*--* *Forgiveness and Reconciliation* Macmillan 1946
D. E. H. Whiteley *The Theology of St Paul* Blackwell 1964
F. Young *Sacrifice and the Death of Christ* SPCK 1975
He is considered perhaps the world's foremost interpreter of biblical prophecy. John is perhaps best known for his bestselling work on Bible prophecy, *Armageddon More*. More from this author Published.

1:1 This is the record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. 1:2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, 1:3 Judah the father of Perez and Zerah (by Tamar), Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, 1:4 Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, 1:5 Salmon. This book on the person and work of Christ is a must for anyone studying Christology or Soteriology. It is heart-warming by being intellectually challenging and carefully biblical. The relationship between Christ's person and his work, often neglected nowadays, is spelled out clearly: if Jesus is not all that biblical Christianity claims for him, the salvation proclaimed in his name is but a farce. This is one of those books that helped me comprehend, love worship and serve Christ with greater enthusiasm, and to hunger to know more. Read more.

24 people found this helpful.


What is the theme of the letter? It is the Person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ; this includes His pre-incarnate glory, His incarnation, His life, His teaching and ministry, His death, resurrection and ascension, His present ministry at God’s right hand, and His second coming. It is also the theme of our first study, centred in chapter 1. Verse 1 shows us the splendour and magnificence of the language which is used and tells us that all down the ages God has spoken to men and women through the prophets.