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BT 606 Theology of the New Testament

Ben Witherington

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BT606
THEOLOGY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT
Fall 1998
Dr. Ben Witherington, III

Tuesday - Thursday
1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

[N. B. This year's course will focus on N.T. Christology]

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
(other hours by appointment)

Phone: 606-858-2329

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

1. B. Witherington, The Christology of Jesus. Minnesota: Fortress, 1990. (hb)
2. B. Witherington, Jesus the Sage. Minnesota: Fortress, 1994. (hb)
3. B. Witherington, Paul's Narrative Thought World. Louisville: Westminster, 1994. (pb)
4. R. E. Brown, An Introduction to New Testament Christology. NY: Paulist, 1994. (pb)
5. B. Witherington, The Jesus Quest I-V Press, 1995 (hb) (*extra-credit reading*)
Recommended
6. B. Witherington, The Many Faces of the Christ Crossroads, 1998 (pb) This is the main textbook for the course.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. All required reading (see below).
2. Attendance at all classes.
3. 15-20 page paper, using **TURABIAN STYLE MANUAL**, on some topic in N.T. Christology, or the modern discussion of Christology. Several students will be asked to give a 15-20 minute presentation of their papers at the end of the term.
This paper is due the last week in October.
4. Final exam comprehensive of all lectures and readings.
5. There will be no class on November 20. The professor is away.
6. Students should be aware that random sample questions taken from the required reading will appear on the final exam.

READING & BIBLIOGRAPHY

(ALL * MATERIAL IS REQUIRED READING)

LECTURE 1 The Starting Point and Methodology

- *1. Brown, pp. 3-15.
- *2. J. D. G. Dunn, Christology in the Making. Philadelphia: Westminster (1980) pp. 1-6.
3. M. D. Hooker, "Christology and Methodology." NTS 17 (1970-71) pp. 1-6.
R. H. Fuller and P. Perkins, Who is this Christ? Philadelphia: Fortress (1983) pp. 1-13.

LECTURES 2-6 The Christology of Jesus

- *1. Brown, pp. 19-102.
- *2. Witherington, The Christology of Jesus in toto.

LECTURES 7-8 Wisdom Christology; The Christology of Q and Early Jewish Christianity

- *1. Dunn, pp. 196-206.
- *2. Witherington, Jesus the Sage, pp. 3-208.
- 3. M. J. Suggs, Wisdom, Christology, and Law, Harvard: HUP (1970).
- 4. R. G. Hamerton-Kelly, Pre-existence, Wisdom, and the Son of Man, Cambridge: CUP (1973).
- 5. L. Hurtado, One God, One Lord, Philadelphia: Fortress, (1988).
- 6. R. N. Longenecker, The Christology of Early Jewish Christianity, Grand Rapids: Baker (1981). (pb)
- *7. G. Stanton, "On the Christology of Q" in Christ and Spirit in the New Testament, Cambridge: CUP (1973). pp. 27-42.
- *8. Brown, pp. 155-61.

LECTURES 9-10 Early Hymns, Creeds, Kerygma

- 1. R. P. Martin, New Testament Foundations, vol. 2, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans (1978) pp. 248-75.
- 2. J. Sanders, The New Testament Christology Hymns, Cambridge: CUP (1971) pp. 1-87, 140-148.
- 3. C. H. Dodd, The Apostolic Preaching and Its Developments, London: (1936).
- 4. R. H. Gundry, "The Form of the Hymn in I Tim. 3:16" in Apostolic History, pp. 103-96.
- 5. Witherington, Jesus the Sage, pp. 211-94.

LECTURES 11-13 The Pauline Evidence

- *1. Witherington, Paul's Narrative, pp. 81-211.
- *2. Stanton, "Incarnational Christology in the N.T." in Incarnation and Myth, pp. 151-73.
- *3. B. M. Metzger, "The Punctuation of Romans 9:5" in Christ and Spirit, pp. 95-112.
- 4. Dunn, Christology, pp. 98-128, 176-96.
- 5. M. E. Thrall, "The Origin of Pauline Christology" in Apostolic History, pp. 103-96.
- 6. Hamerton-Kelly, pp. 103-96/

LECTURE 14 Marcan Christology

- 1. Fuller and Perkins, pp. 67-80.
- 2. J. D. Kingsbury, The Christology of Mark's Gospel, Philadelphia: Fortress (1983), pp. 152-55.
- 3. R. C. Tannehill, "The Gospel of Mark as Narrative Christology," Semeia 16 (1979), pp. 57-93.
- 4. E. Richard, Jesus: One and Many, Wilmington, 1988, pp. 97-128.
- *5. Brown, An Introduction, pp. 105-41.

LECTURE 15 Lukan Christology

- 1. Fuller and Perkins, pp. 81-95.
- 2. S. S. Smalley, "The Christology of Acts Again" in Christ and Spirit, pp. 79-84.
- 3. Moule, "The Christology of Acts" in Studies in Luke-Acts, pp. 159-85.
- 4. S. S. Smalley, "The Christology of Acts," Exp. T. 93 (1961-62), pp. 358-62.
- 5. E. Richard, Jesus: One and Many, pp. 157-186.

LECTURES 16-17 Matthean Christology

1. D. A. Carson, "Christology Ambiguities in Matthew" in Christ the Lord, pp. 97-114.
2. J. G. Machen, The Virgin Birth of Christ, Grand Rapids: Baker (1930 repr.), skim read.
- *3. Witherington, Jesus the Sage, pp. 335-68.
4. R. E. Brown, The Virginal Conception and Bodily Resurrection, New York: Paulist (1973), pp. 1-68.
5. J. D. Kingsbury, Matthew: Structure, Christology, Kingdom, Philadelphia: Fortress (1975).
6. Fuller and Perkins, pp. 81-86, 122-127.
7. G. M. Styler, "Stages in Christology," NTS 10 (1963-64), pp. 398-409.
8. E. Richard, Jesus: One and Many, pp. 129-156.

LECTURES 18-20 Johannine Christology and Its Development

1. Fuller and Perkins, pp. 96-108.
2. Dunn, pp. 213-250.
- *3. S. S. Smalley, "The Johannine Son of Man Sayings," NTS 15 (1968-69), pp. 278-301.
4. R. E. Brown, "The Theology of the Incarnation in John," in Brown, N.T. Essays, pp. 96-101.
- *5. J. A. T. Robinson, "The Use of the Fourth Gospel for Christology Today" in Christ and Spirit, pp. 61-78.
6. P. S. Minear, "The Idea of Incarnation in I John," Interpretation 24 (1970), pp. 291-302.
- *7. S. A. Edwards, "Christological Perspectives in the Book of Revelation," in Christological Perspectives, pp. 139-154.
- *8. R. Bauckham, "The Sonship of the Historical Jesus in Christology," Scottish Journal of Theology 31 (1978), pp. 245-60.
9. R. T. Fortina, "Christology in the Fourth Gospel," NTS 21 (1974-75), pp. 489-504.
- *10. Brown, Introduction, pp. 142-52.

LECTURE 21 Hebrews: High (Priestly) Christology

- *1. R. Williamson, "Hebrews 4:15 and the Sinlessness of Jesus," ET 86 (1974-75), pp. 4-8.
2. R. Williamson, "Philo and N.T. Christology," ET 90 (1978-79), pp. 361-65.
3. R. Williamson, "The Background of the Epistle to the Hebrews," ET 87 (1975-76), pp. 232-37.
4. J. W. Thompson, "The Structure and Purpose of Heb. 1:5-13," CBQ 38 (1976), pp. 352-63.
5. P. Giles, "The Son of Man in ... Hebrews," ET 86 (1974-75), pp. 328-32.
6. J. C. Campbell, "In a Son: The Doctrine of the Incarnation in Hebrews," Interpretation 10 (1956), pp. 24-38.
- *7. R. N. Longnecker, "The Melchizedek Argument of Hebrews," in Unity and Diversity, pp. 161-85.
- *8. T. F. Glasson, "Plurality of Divine Persons and the Quotations in Heb. 1:6ff," NTS 12 (1965-66), pp. 270-72.

LECTURE 22 The Minor Witnesses

- *1. P. Davies, "Primitive Christology in I Peter" in Gingrichfest, pp. 115-22.

2. M. Black, "The Maranatha Invocation and Jude 14, 15" in Christ and Spirit, pp. 189-98.
3. Selwyn, 1 Peter, to be announced.
4. Bauckham, 2 Peter, to be announced.

LECTURE 23 Summing Up and Moving On

- *1. C. F. D. Moule, "The New Testament and the Doctrine of the Trinity," ET 88 (1976-77), pp. 16-19.
- *2. A. W. Wainwright, "The Confession 'Jesus is God' in the N.T.," SJT 10 (1957), pp. 274-97.
3. Fuller and Perkins, pp. 121-34.
4. G. B. Caird, "The Development of the Doctrine of Christ in the N.T.," in Christ for us Today, pp. 66ff.
- *5. R. T. France, "The Worship of Jesus" in Christ the Lord, pp. 17-36.

LECTURE 24 N.T. Christology and Beyond: Toward Chalcedon and Canon

- *1. J. Pelikan, The Christian Tradition, vol. 1. Chicago (1971), pp. 172-277.
- *2. J. N. Kelly, Early Christian Doctrines, New York: Harper & Row (1958), pp. 56-60, 83-162.
- *3. B. Childs, The N.T. as Canon, Philadelphia: Fortress (1984), pp. 16-53.
4. Kummel, Introduction, pp. 476-501.
5. P. R. Ackroyd, ed., The Cambridge History of the Bible, London: CUP (1970), pp. 284-97.
6. Brown, Introduction, pp. 162-213.

LECTURES 25-27 The Modern Discussion

A. In the general field of Biblical Studies

1. W. Bousset, Kyrios Christos, Nashville: Abingdon (1970).
2. H. Boers, "Jesus and the Christian Faith: New Testament Christology since Bousset's Kyrios Christos," JBL 89 (1970), pp. 450-56.
- *3. M. Hengel, The Son of God, Philadelphia: Fortress (1976).
4. Cf. Dunn, Cullman, Fuller and Perkins and also F. Hahn. The Titles of Jesus in Christology, New York: World (1969), pp. on discussion of Marcan Christology.
5. A. N. S. Lane, "Christology Beyond Chalcedon" in Guthrie Festschrift, pp. 257-81.

B. The "Myth of God Incarnate" Debate

1. John Hick, ed., The Myth of God Incarnate, Philadelphia: Westminster (1977), (gives the radical view).
2. M. Green, ed., The Truth of God Incarnate, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans (1977), (the Evangelical response).
3. M. D. Goulder, ed., Incarnation and Myth: The Debate Continued, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans (1979), (interdisciplinary debate between liberals and conservatives, cf. especially pp. 77-144).
- *4. S. W. Sykes and J. P. Clayton, Christ, Faith and History, pp. 3-78, 95-204, 223-38, 263-300.
5. G. Osborne, "Christology and N.T. Hermeneutics," Semeia 30 (1984), pp. 49-62.

C. Process Christology

1. N. Pittenger, the Word Incarnate, New York: Harper (1959).
2. _____, Christology Reconsidered, London: SCM (1970).

3. R. Pregeant, Christology Beyond Dogma: Matthew's Christ in Process Hermeneutics, Philadelphia: Fortress (1978).
- D. The Jewish-Christian Dialogue
1. J. T. Paulikowski, Christ in the Light of the Christian-Jewish Dialogue, New York: Paulist (1982).
 2. S. Sandmel, "Christology, Judaism, and Jews" in Christological Perspectives, pp. 170-78.
 3. S. Kotz, "Christology - A Jewish View," SJT 24 (1971), pp. 184-200.
- E. "Kenotic" Christology
1. D. G. Dawe, "'A Fresh Look at Kenotic Christologies," SJT 15 (1952), pp. 227-49.
- F. "Unsanctioned" Catholicism
1. E. Schillebeecx, Jesus. An Experiment in Christology.
- G. Theological Discussions
1. E. Brunner, The Mediator, Philadelphia: Westminster (1947), Book II.
 2. D. Bonhoeffer, Christ the Center, New York: Harper & Row (1960).
 3. J. Moltmann, the Crucified God, New York: Harper & Row (1974).
 4. K. Barth, Church Dogmatics, vol. iv, Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1 (1956), pp. 157-210; 2 (1958), pp. 3-264.
 5. C. W. Carter, A Contemporary Wesleyan Theology, vol. 1, Grand Rapids: Zondervan (1983), chapters 9-10.
 6. C. F. H. Henry, God, Revelation and Authority, vol. III, Waco: Word (1979), pp. 7-230.
 7. D. Bloesch, Essentials of Evangelical Theology, vol. I. New York: Harper & Row (1978), chapters on Christology.
 8. W. Pannenberg, Jesus - God and Man, London: SCM (1968).

Catch Up Class and Student Presentations