

Paul and His Theology

Stanley E. Porter (ed.)

Pauline Studies 3

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SUMMARY

This collection of fifteen essays addresses a number of crucial issues in the study of Paul's theology. All are in English. They are written by specialists in the field and cover themes such as Paul's Gentile mission, Paul's understanding of faith, of electing grace, of the law and the Spirit and of reconciliation. Others focus on theological issues in individual Pauline letters (Cor, Phil, Rom). There is also a detailed discussion of Paul's understanding of gender roles by C. L. Blomberg. The editor provides a helpful introduction to the study of Pauline theology.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

Diese Sammlung von 15 Artikeln spricht eine Anzahl von entscheidenden Fragen in der Erforschung der paulinischen Theologie an. Sie wurden von Spezialisten dieses Gebietes geschrieben und decken Themen wie die folgenden ab: die Heidenmission des Paulus, Paulus' Verständnis des Glaubens, der erwählenden Gnade, des Gesetzes sowie des Geistes und der Versöhnung. Andere Artikel konzentrieren sich auf theologische Fragen einzelner Paulusbriefe (Korinther, Philipper, Römer). Es gibt auch eine detaillierte Diskussion der Rollen der Geschlechter von C. L. Blomberg. Der Herausgeber bietet eine hilfreiche Einführung in die Erforschung der paulinischen Theologie.

RÉSUMÉ

Cet ouvrage contient quinze contributions de spécialistes de la théologie paulinienne abordant des questions clé comme la mission auprès des non Juifs, la conception de la foi, celle de l'élection par grâce, le thème de la loi et de l'Esprit et celui de la réconciliation. D'autres traitent de questions théologiques dans certaines épîtres (Corinthiens, Philippiens, Romains). Craig Blomberg aborde aussi la question des rôles de l'homme et de la femme. Stanley Porter livre une introduction utile à l'étude de la théologie de Paul.

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The present book is volume three in a series of five volumes devoted to *Pauline Studies*. Stanley E. Porter serves as editor for all volumes. Volume one is devoted to the Pauline canon, and the second volume to Paul and his opponents. For Porter "the balance of this volume is generally reflective of the tenor of current discussion of the topic of Paul and his theology" (Preface), though he notes that there is – other than his own – no contribution on the centre of Paul's theology, only one on the question of Paul and the law, and two that address Trinitarian issues.

Porter opens the volume with an introduction to the

study of Paul and his theology (1-19). He describes the crucial issues in the study of Paul's theology (types of Pauline theology, what is Pauline theology, what constitutes a centre of Paul's thought?, contingency and timelessness, the Pauline corpus) and then introduces the contributions of this study. A. J. Hultgren describes "The Scriptural Foundations for Paul's Mission to the Gentiles" (21-44). He "looks at Paul's call in terms of Jeremiah 1:5 and its implications for Paul's mission. Then he turns to the guiding principle of Paul's apostleship, before considering Paul's eschatological expectations concerning the nations. D. M. Hay examines "Paul's Understanding of Faith as Participation" (45-76), the significance of faith for Pauline theology and of faith as participation in Christ, believing and trusting, faithfulness and the faith of Christ. J. R. Harrison writes on "Paul, Theologian of Electing Grace" (77-108). He surveys the understanding of grace in systematic theology and then delineates the understanding of grace in various studies of NT theology and of Paul's theology. Then Harrison examines grace in early Judaism and in Romans 9 as well as electing grace in its imperial context in Romans 9-11. C. G. Kruse turns to "Paul, the Law and the Spirit" (109-30) and concludes that "whereas the demands of the Mosaic law are no longer the regulatory norm for believers, the OT is nevertheless their Scripture that when illuminated by the Spirit is seen to be a witness to Christ and a source of instruction for godly living when read paradigmatically in the light of the gospel" (130). Porter writes on "Paul's Concept of Reconciliation, Twice More" (131-52, presenting and assessing essays by S. Kim on 2 Cor 5:18-20 and by R. P. Martin on Rom 5:10f). In "Color Outside the Lines: Rethinking How to Interpret Paul's Letters" (153-87), R. K. J. Tan offers several suggestions for a renewed focus on the text and language of the biblical text. He argues for "new pathways into computer-assisted discourse analyses of Paul's letters" and provides several examples from Romans. J. R. Levison comments on "The Spirit and the Temple in Paul's Letters to the Corinthians" (189-215): faulty Corinthian assumptions prompted Paul, despite what he had learned about their schisms and sexual proclivities, to remind a fractured and frayed community in Corinth that they remain a temple filled with the Holy Spirit (215). H. Giesen examines "Eschatology in Philippians" (217-82). In this lengthy contribution he demonstrates persuasively that Paul awaits the completion of his salvation in the hour of death which is clearly testified in Philippians 1:23. In "Neither Hierarchalist nor Egalitarian: Gender Roles in Paul" (283-326), C. L. Blomberg sets off with a succinct description of the historical background and distinguishes and examines Paul's descriptive material, foundational theological principles and didactic material on gender roles. R. C. Fay asks "Was Paul a Trinitarian?" (327-45) and concludes that "there can be little doubt that, through reading Romans 8, Paul was indeed a Trinitarian" (345). A. K. Gabriel examines "Pauline Pneumatology and the Question of

Trinitarian Presuppositions" (347-62). C. A. Evans studies "Paul the Exorcist and Healer" (363-79) according to Paul's letters (2 Cor 12:12 and Rom 15:18f) and the Book of Acts, arguing for example that Paul's credentials were consistent with those of the original apostles, in particular Peter. Finally R. Kieffer addresses "The Interpretation of the Letter to the Romans in Melancthon's *Loci Communes* from 1521" (381-92) and J. de Villiers "Adolf Deissmann: A Reappraisal of his Work, especially his Views on the Mysticism of Paul" (393-420). The well produced volume closes with indices of ancient sources and of modern authors (423-44, 445-54).

The volume contains valuable contributions to the scholarly understanding of Paul's theology which deserve to be noted. It does not offer a systematic treatment of all aspects or the main aspects of Pauline theology (there is e. g. little directly on Christology, anthropology, ecclesiology or in Paul's understanding of Israel).

Volume 4 of *Pauline Studies* addresses Paul's world, and volume five Paul as Jew, Greek and Roman. Two further sets of five volumes each are under consideration. Porter's first three volumes have brought together scholars from various persuasions, traditions and countries and have given evangelical scholars the opportunity to present their views to an international audience. The quality of their contributions is impressive.

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Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament

G.K. Beale and D.A. Carson (eds.)

Nottingham: Apollos, 2007, xxviii + 1239 pp.,
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SUMMARY

Especially in the field of New Testament studies, the publication of another commentary must find a special niche in the market if it is to be welcomed and utilized. Beale and Carson offer such a reference resource that fills the need for a pan-corpus (New Testament) treatment of how each 'NT book or writer habitually uses the OT' (vii). Though certain methodological constraints were laid out, the commentaries on various NT books are handled with great variety even within these boundaries. These sixteen contributors have produced an invaluable aid to scholars, students and ministers.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

Besonders auf dem Gebiet der neutestamentlichen Wissenschaft muss die Veröffentlichung eines weiteren Kommentars eine Marktlücke finden, wenn sie willkommen heißen und benutzt werden will. Die Herausgeber Beale und Carson haben so ein Referenzwerk bereitgestellt, das das Bedürfnis nach einer gesamthaften (das ganze NT) Behandlung der Frage stillt, wie jedes „NT-Buch oder jeder

NT-Autor das AT gewöhnlich gebraucht" (vii). Obwohl bestimmte methodologische Grenzen gesetzt wurden, spiegeln die Kommentare zu den verschiedenen NT-Büchern eine große Vielfalt selbst innerhalb dieser Grenzen wider. Die sechzehn Autoren haben eine unschätzbare Hilfe für Gelehrte, Studenten und Prediger produziert.

RÉSUMÉ

Un nouveau commentaire sur les livres du Nouveau Testament doit trouver un nouveau créneau pour avoir une chance d'être jugé utile. Beale et Carson ont supervisé la production d'un ouvrage de référence couvrant tout le Nouveau Testament et qui répond au besoin d'une étude de l'usage de l'Ancien Testament par les auteurs du Nouveau. Tout en respectant certaines directives méthodologiques, les commentaires des divers livres du Nouveau Testament sont abordés avec une grande variété. Les seize auteurs ont produit un outil qui sera très utile aux spécialistes, aux étudiants et aux prédicateurs.

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Especially in the field of New Testament studies, it is no exaggeration to say that there are so many commentaries for any given book that the student or researcher is virtually in need of a guidebook for navigating through the dense forest of literature available – and such guidebooks are already beginning to enumerate! This being the case, the emergence of a new commentary needs justification; it must find a special niche in the market if it is to be welcomed and utilized. G.K. Beale and D.A. Carson (the editors) offer such a reference resource that fills the need for a pan-corpus (New Testament) treatment of how each 'NT book or writer habitually uses the OT' (vii).

The question of how the NT uses or reflects on the OT has long been a topic of debate and a major crux in discussion of New Testament and Biblical theology. The editors have done a fine job of commissioning the following expert scholars to contribute to this tome: Craig Blomberg (Matthew), Rikki Watts (Mark), David Pao and Eckhard Schnabel (Luke), Andreas Köstenberger (John), I. H. Marshall (Acts), Mark Seifrid (Romans), Roy Ciampa and Brian Rosner (1 Corinthians), Peter Balla (2 Corinthians), Moisés Silva (Galatians, Philippians), Frank S. Thielman (Ephesians), Jeffrey Weima (1-2 Thessalonians), Philip Towner (1-2 Timothy, Titus), George Guthrie (Hebrews). Of the editors, Beale took Revelation (along with Sean McDonough) and Carson the General Epistles.

In order to make the project more manageable for a single-volume commentary, the editors chose to limit the scope of investigation to all the explicit OT citations and only the most probable allusions. Each writer was given a significant amount of flexibility but basic guidelines encouraged a consideration of (1) the NT literary context of the citation/allusion, (2) the original OT context, (3) uses of the same OT text in early Jewish literature, (4) textual issues (e.g., what kind of *Vorlage*, textual emenda-