

(dis)unity of Luke-Acts. Although his study has presented an argument for understanding Acts as part of the genre of (Jewish) history, he has not substantiated a claim for Luke's Gospel.

On the other hand, one of the strengths of this work is its application of narrative criticism. In addressing the passages in Acts, Padilla pays particular attention to situating the speeches within their literary context as well as their importance for advancing the immediate and overarching narrative. This provides some literary perspective to the conclusions that he draws.

Overall, this work deals with an area of Lukan studies that has been overlooked by scholars and so is a valid contribution to this area of research. Although further work needs to be done regarding the role of outsiders' speeches within Acts and other Jewish historical works, this work provides a useful conversation partner for all those who attempt such an endeavour in the future, as well as those who take a rhetorical and/or narrative approach to Acts.

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*The Assumed Authorial Unity of Luke and Acts:
A Reassessment of the Evidence*
Society for New Testament Studies
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Patricia Walters

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SUMMARY

Patricia Walters attempts to challenge the scholarly consensus that Luke and Acts were written by the same author-editor. She attempts to apply a new methodology by statistically evaluating the prose compositional styles of the authorial seams and summaries of Luke and Acts. Making use of Aristotle, Ps.-Demetrius, Dionysius of Halicarnassus and Ps.-Longinus, Walters proposes that the three key aspects of prose composition (euphony, rhythm and sentence structure) provide access to the authorial compositional techniques of Luke and Acts.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

Patricia Walters will den Konsens der Forscher darüber in Frage stellen, dass das Lukasevangelium und die Apostelgeschichte von demselben Autor stammen. Dabei wendet Walters eine neue Methode an: Sie wertet statistisch die Prosastile der Übergänge und Zusammenfassungen des Lukasevangeliums und der Apostelgeschichte aus. Walters bezieht sich auf Aristoteles, Pseudo-Demetrios, Dionysius von Halikarnassus und Pseudo-Longinus und stellt fest, dass die drei Hauptaspekte von Prosa (Euphonie, Rhythmus und Satzstruktur) Aufschluss geben über die Komposi-

tionstechniken des Verfassers jeweils von Lukasevangelium und Apostelgeschichte.

RÉSUMÉ

Dans cet ouvrage, Patricia Walters conteste le consensus académique selon lequel l'Évangile de Luc et les Actes seraient l'œuvre d'un seul et même auteur ou éditeur. Elle met en œuvre une nouvelle méthode consistant à analyser de manière statistique la prose des transitions et des résumés des deux livres. S'appuyant sur Aristote, le Pseudo-Démétrius, Dionysius de Halicarnasse et le Pseudo-Longinus, elle considère que les trois aspects de la composition prosaïque (l'euphonie, le rythme et la structure des phrases) permettent de caractériser les techniques de composition de l'Évangile de Luc et des Actes.

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Patricia Walters attempts to challenge the scholarly consensus that Luke and Acts were written by the same author-editor. While not the first to confront this view, Walters attempts to apply a new methodology by evaluating the prose compositional styles of the authorial seams and summaries of Luke and Acts.

Accordingly, chapter one provides some of the background scholarship to the authorship question of Luke and Acts. Beginning with the supporters of the shared authorship, Walters attempts to outline some of the methodological flaws that underlie this position, while at the same time providing justification for the challenges to this view and why it needs to be challenged again. Following this, Walters outlines her methodology, stating that she will be evaluating the seams and summaries of Luke and Acts that have a majority of support by a selected grouping of representative scholars. Thus, in chapter two, Walters creates her Luke and Acts data sets, based on the majority of support from her selected scholars.

In chapter three, Walters combs ancient Greek grammarians for their insight into the prose compositional techniques of the ancient world. Making use of Aristotle, Ps.-Demetrius, Dionysius of Halicarnassus and Ps.-Longinus, Walters proposes that the three key aspects of prose composition, namely, euphony, rhythm and sentence structure, provide access to the authorial compositional techniques of Luke and Acts.

In applying statistical analysis to Luke and Acts in chapter four, Walters finds highly significant results for hiatus, dissonance, long syllables in long sequences and clause/sentence segues, and significant results for final syntax that challenge the authorial unity of Luke and Acts. With these results, she calls for a re-evaluation of the authorial unity of Luke and Acts.

Overall, Walters makes some positive contributions. One of the benefits of this work is the outlining of the four grammarians' views of euphony, rhythm and sentence structure, in chapter three. These, as well as other aspects of her work, are summarised in helpful charts throughout. Furthermore, Walters promotes a cross-

disciplinary approach to biblical studies that attempts to make use of the strength of different disciplines.

On the other hand, there are a number of issues with this work that undermines its conclusions. First, there is the issue of which text Walters used. Walters uses NA²⁷ for both her text and punctuation. While NA²⁷ is a useful tool, its eclectic nature causes some serious difficulties for the evaluation of different stylistic features. To Walters' credit, she does propose that future study should be applied to the Bezaen text of Acts.

Second, there are issues in the determination of the evidence to be used. While Walters is aware of the inability of modern scholarship to determine some of the ancient prose syllable divisions, there are a few other instances in which the ancient sources are somewhat vague, or outright disagree about the nature and definition of what counts of examples of a particular literary features. As a result, Walters is forced to choose which definition/evaluative method to use.

Another problematic example of what counts as evidence would be the dissonance category in which word dissonances are calculated for Luke and Acts. While a statistically significant result occurred abdicating the same author for Luke and Acts, a large amount of data was not able to be calculated because there were not enough occurrences to make it statistically significant for chi-square calculations. In this case, nine of the thirteen dissonance combinations were omitted, with all but two of them being separated by only one instance. This selection of evidence, and the omission of some similarities between Luke and Acts, undermines Walters' conclusions.

Overall, Walters provides a new approach for determining the authorial unity of Luke and Acts. While her statistical findings suggest that there is reason to doubt the scholarly consensus, there are a few issues that undermine her findings and, as a result, her work is not entirely convincing.

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***From Pentecost to Patmos: Acts to Revelation:
Introduction and Survey***

Craig L. Blomberg

Nottingham: IVP, 2008. 592 pp. £20 h/b. ISBN 978-1-84474-052-0.

SUMMARY

Blomberg has provided a worthy sequel to his earlier volume on *Jesus and the Gospels*. For Acts and each New Testament letter Blomberg treats the questions of introduction and then offers a detailed survey of the contents. This is a well-done first year NT survey textbook for students and all others interested in the NT. Careful study of this volume will lay a solid foundation for Christian ministry.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

Blomberg hat eine beachtliche Fortsetzung seines früheren Bandes *Jesus and the Gospels* [*Jesus und die Evangelien*] vorgelegt. Er behandelt Einleitungsfragen der Apostelgeschichte und eines jeden Briefes des Neuen Testaments und bietet jeweils einen ausführlichen inhaltlichen Überblick. Das Werk stellt ein gelungenes Unterrichtsbuch dar und verschafft Studenten im ersten Jahr und allen, die am Neuen Testament interessiert sind, einen Überblick. Das sorgfältige Studium dieses Bandes legt eine solide Grundlage für den christlichen Dienst.

RÉSUMÉ

Ce volume vient s'ajouter à celui du même auteur sur Jésus et les Évangiles. Pour les Actes et les épîtres du Nouveau Testament, Blomberg traite des questions d'introduction et propose un survol détaillé du contenu de ces écrits. C'est là un manuel très bien fait pour débutants en théologie et autres personnes intéressées par le Nouveau Testament. L'étude sérieuse de ce manuel permettra de poser des bases solides pour le ministère.

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One volume English language textbooks and introductions to the New Testament abound. Several good volumes are available from an evangelical perspective. So in one sense, I have not been eagerly awaiting Blomberg's book. However those who, like me, have used and value Blomberg's excellent textbook *Jesus and the Gospels: An Introduction and Survey* (Leicester: Apollos, 1997) will be pleased to see that Blomberg, distinguished Professor of New Testament at Denver Seminary, has produced a volume on the remaining parts of the New Testament.

In the brief 'Introduction', Blomberg describes the origin and aims of the book. While other volumes in the field concentrate on matters of introduction, theological significance or specialised forms of analysis that have been growing in popularity, Blomberg concentrates 'on detailed mastery of the meaning of texts of Scripture themselves' (2). Therefore he only offers the most crucial items of introduction in enough detail to provide the necessary background for correctly interpreting NT books. The emphasis lies 'on surveying the actual structure and contents of each book, the main points in each section, the distinctive exegetical cruxes, and several key terms for contemporary application' (3). Blomberg adopts what he calls a 'broadly based evangelical perspective' (3). However, he has read widely, 'interacted with a broad cross-section of scholarship, and tried to offer representative sampling of approaches across a wide spectrum of theological commitments' (3).

For each NT book Blomberg begins with introductory considerations. This is followed by abbreviated remarks in commentary form on the most central, interesting, relevant and/or controversial details of the book. Next we have, in Blomberg's own words 'passage-by-passage (at times even verse-by-verse) comments with footnotes to where specific concepts or quotations originate or to where fuller discussion of issues may be