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# BT 650 The Person and Work of Christ

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**DRAFT: TO BE REVISED LATER IN NOVEMBER WHEN I ONCE AGAIN HAVE ACCESS TO MY BOOKS!**

## **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.

J. Denney, *The Death of Christ* (Carlisle: Paternoster, 1997; or London: Tyndale Press, 1951).

J. D. G. Dunn, *Christology in the Making* (Philadelphia: Westminster, 1980).

J. R. W. Stott, *The Cross of Christ* (Leicester: Inter-Varsity Press, 1986).

B. Witherington, III, *The Many Faces of the Christ* (New York: Crossroad, 1998).

### RECOMMENDED READING

I. Bradley, *The Power of Sacrifice* (London: Darton, Longman and Todd, 1995).

M. Casey, *From Jewish Prophet to Gentile God* (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1991).

A. J. Hultgren, *Christ and His Benefits* (Philadelphia: Fortress, 1988).

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

B. Witherington, III, *The Christology of Jesus* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1990).

J. B. Green and M. D. Baker, *Recovering the Scandal of the Cross: Atonement in New Testament and Contemporary Contexts* (Carlisle: Paternoster, 2000).

### SYLLABUS OF TOPICS FOR THE COURSE WITH PRELIMINARY READING

1. Introduction to the study of the Person of Christ  
Cullmann, ch. 1; L. E. Keck, 'Toward the Renewal of New Testament Christology', *NTS* 32 (1986), 362-377; Pokorny, ch. 1; Witherington 1998:1-9.
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

- 'Christ', in *DJG* 106-117 (L. Hurtado); Witherington 1998:11-23.
4. The Messiah in the Synoptic Gospels  
Witherington 1998:24-52; Essay by J. D. G. Dunn in C. Tuckett, *The Messianic Secret* (Philadelphia: Fortress/London: SPCK, 1983), 116-131.
  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  
'Creed', in *DPL*, 190-192 (R. P. Martin); 'Hymns, etc', in *DPL*, 419-423 (R. P. Martin); 'Liturgical Elements', in *DPL*, 557-560 (J. L. Wu); 'Lord', in *DPL*, 560-569 (L. W. Hurtado).
  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
  10. The Christology of Luke-Acts  
L. T. Johnson, 'The Christology of Luke-Acts', in Powell and Bauer, *Who do you say that I am?*, 49-65; C. M. Tuckett, 'The Christology of Luke-Acts', in Verheyden, *The Unity of Luke-Acts*, , 133-64; Witherington, 1998, 153-68.
  11. The Christology of John  
'John, Gospel of', in *DJG*, 368-83 (M. M. Thompson); Witherington 1998:86-9, 169-191; 'Logos', in *DJG*, 481-4 (D. H. Johnson); 'Wisdom', in *DJG*, 873-7 (F. W. Burnett).
  12. The death of Jesus — Crucifixion and martyrdom  
'Death of Jesus', in *DJG*, 146-163 (J. B. Green). Hengel, *Crucifixion*; J. Downing, 'Jesus and Martyrdom'.
  13. How did Jesus understand his death?  
R. T. France, 'The Servant of the Lord in the Teaching of Jesus', *Tyndale Bulletin* 19 (1968), 26-52 (cf. *Jesus and the Old Testament*, 110-135).
  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  
'Expiation, propitiation, mercy seat, in *DPL*, 279-284 (J. Gundry-Volf); 'Reconciliation', in *NIDNTT* III, 148-166 (H.-G. Link, C. Brown); 'Sacrifice', in *NIDNTT* III, 415-428 (C. Brown).
  17. Justification  
'Justification', in *DPL*, 516-523 (A. E. McGrath). 'Righteousness, Justification', in *NIDNTT* III, 352-374.
  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*  
'Triumph', in *DPL*, 946-954 (D. G. Reid); C. Gunton, 'Christus Victor revisited. A Study in Metaphor and the Transformation of Meaning', *JTS* ns 36 (1985), 129-45.

20. Understanding the atonement  
M. D. Hooker, 'Interchange in Christ', *JTS* 22 (1971), 349-61; J. I. Packer, 'What did the Cross achieve?', *Tyndale Bulletin* 25 (1974), 3-45.

## 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 complete 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 stating 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. E. Brown	<i>An Introduction to New Testament Christology</i>	Paulist	1994
R. Bultmann	<i>Theology of the New Testament</i>	SCM	1953
G. B. Caird,	<i>New Testament Theology</i>	OUP	1994
C. C. Caragounis	<i>The Son of Man</i>	Mohr	1986
M. Casey	<i>Son of Man</i>	SPCK	1979
M. Casey	<i>From Jewish Prophet to Gentile God</i>	J. Clarke	1991
J. H. Charlesworth (ed.)	<i>The Messiah</i>	Fortress	1992
O. Cullmann	<i>The Christology of the New Testament</i>	SCM	1959
C. H. Dodd	<i>The Interpretation of the Fourth Gospel</i>	CUP	1953
J. D. G. Dunn	<i>Christology in the Making</i>	SCM	1989 <sup>2</sup>
J. D. G. Dunn	<i>The Theology of Paul the Apostle</i>	T & T Clark	1998
R. H. Fuller	<i>The Foundations of New Testament Christology</i>	Lutterworth	1965
J. B. Green & M. Turner	<i>Jesus of Nazareth: Lord and Christ</i>	Paternoster	1994
F. Hahn	<i>The Titles of Jesus in Christology</i>	Lutterworth	1969
M. J. Harris	<i>Jesus as God</i>	Eerdmans	1992
M. Hengel	<i>The Son of God</i>	SCM	1976
M. Hengel	<i>Studies in Early Christology</i>	T & T Clark	1995
J. Hick (ed.)	<i>The Myth of God Incarnate</i>	SCM	1977
M. D. Hooker	<i>The Son of Man in Mark</i>	SPCK	1967
L. Hurtado	<i>Lord Jesus Christ</i>	Eerdmans	2003
M. de Jonge	<i>Christology in Context</i>	Westminster	1988
S. Kim	<i>The Origin of Paul's Gospel</i>	Eerdmans	1982
—	<i>"The 'Son of Man'" as the Son of God</i>	Mohr	1983
W. Kramer	<i>Christ, Lord, Son of God</i>	SCM	1966
B. Lindars	<i>Jesus Son of Man</i>	SPCK	1983
R. N. Longenecker	<i>Biblical Exegesis in the Apostolic Period</i>	Eerdmans	1999 <sup>2</sup>
*I. H. Marshall	<i>The Origins of New Testament Christology</i>	IVP	1990 <sup>2</sup>
—	<i>Jesus the Saviour: Studies in NT Theology</i>	SPCK	1990
R. P. Martin	<i>Carmen Christi</i>	CUP	1983 <sup>2</sup>
*C. F. D. Moule	<i>The Origin of Christology</i>	CUP	1977
J. Neusner (et al.)	<i>Judaisms and their Messiahs</i>	CUP	1987
P. Pokorný	<i>The Genesis of Christology</i>	T & T Clark	1987
M. A. Powell and D. R. Bauer	<i>Who do you say that I am? Essays on Christology</i>	WJK	1999
H. H. Rowdon (ed.)	<i>Christ the Lord</i>	IVP	
P. Satterthwaite (ed.)	<i>The Lord's Anointed</i>	Paternoster	1995
S. S. Smalley	<i>John: Evangelist and Interpreter</i>	Paternoster	1998 <sup>2</sup>
V. Taylor	<i>The Person of Jesus in New Testament Teaching</i>	Macmillan	1958
C. Tuckett (ed.)	<i>The Messianic Secret</i>	Fortress/SPCK	1983
J. Verheyden,	<i>The Unity of Luke-Acts</i>	Leuven University Press,	1999
G. Vermes	<i>Jesus the Jew</i>	Collins	1973
G. Vos	<i>The Self-Disclosure of Jesus</i>	Pres. & Ref.	1926
B. Witherington, III	<i>The Christology of Jesus</i>	Fortress	1990
*B. Witherington, III	<i>The Many Faces of the Christ</i>	Crossroad	1998
N. T. Wright	<i>Jesus and the Victory of God</i>	SPCK	1996

### THE WORK OF CHRIST

C. E. Arnold	<i>Powers of Darkness</i>	IVP	1992
R. T. Beckwith and M. J. Selman	<i>Sacrifice in the Bible</i>	Baker/Paternoster	1995
W. H. Bellinger, Jr.,			

and W. R. Farmer (ed.)	<i>Jesus and the Suffering Servant</i>	TPI	1998
I. Bradley	<i>The Power of Sacrifice</i>	DLT	1995
R. J. Daly	<i>The Origins of the Christian Doctrine of Sacrifice</i>	DLT	1978
J. Denney	<i>The Death of Christ</i>	Tyndale	1951
J. T. Forestell	<i>The Word of Salvation</i>	Pontif. Bib.	1974
R. B. Gaffin, Jr	<i>The Centrality of the Resurrection: A Study in Paul's Soteriology</i>	Baker	1978
J. B. Green and M. D. Baker	<i>Recovering the Scandal of the Cross</i>	Paternoster	2000
D. Hill	<i>Greek Words and Hebrew Meanings</i>	CUP	1967
A. J. Hultgren	<i>Christ and His Benefits</i>	Fortress	1987
A. T. Hanson	<i>The Paradox of the Cross in the Thought of St Paul</i>	JSNT	1987
M. Hengel	<i>The Atonement</i>	SCM	1981
M. D. Hooker	<i>Jesus and the Servant</i>	SPCK	1959
W. Horbury & B. McNeil	<i>Suffering and Martyrdom in the New Testament</i>	CUP	1981
R. Leivestad	<i>Christ the Conqueror</i>	SPCK	1954
B. H. McLean	'The absence of an atoning sacrifice in Paul's soteriology', <i>NTS</i> 38 (1992), 531-55. <i>The Cursed Christ: Mediterranean Expulsion Rituals and Pauline Soteriology</i>	Sheffield	1996
*I. H. Marshall	<i>The Work of Christ</i>	Paternoster	1995
R. P. Martin	<i>Reconciliation</i>	Marshall	1981
G. F. Moore	<i>Judaism in the first centuries of the Christian era: The age of the Tannaim</i>	Harvard	1932
L. Morris	<i>The Apostolic Preaching of the Cross</i>	IVP	1965 <sup>3</sup>
*--	<i>The Cross in the New Testament</i>	Paternoster	1965
J. I. Packer	<i>Celebrating the Saving Work of God</i>	Paternoster	?1998
J. S. Pabee	<i>Persecution and Martyrdom in the Theology of Paul</i>	JSNT	1985
S. E. Porter	<i>Katala&amp;ssw in Ancient Greek Literature, with Reference to the Pauline Writings</i>	El Almdro	1994
E. P. Sanders	<i>Paul and Palestinian Judaism</i>	SCM Press	1977
T. Smail	<i>One and For All: A Confession of the Cross</i>	DLT	1998
D. M. Stanley	<i>Christ's Resurrection in Pauline Soteriology</i>	Pontifical	1961
J. R. W. Stott	<i>The Cross of Christ</i>	IVP	1986
V. Taylor	<i>Jesus and his Sacrifice</i>	Macmillan	1937
--	<i>The Atonement in New Testament Teaching</i>	Epworth	1945 <sup>2</sup>
--	<i>Forgiveness and Reconciliation</i>	Macmillan	1946 <sup>2</sup>
D. E. H. Whiteley	<i>The Theology of St Paul</i>	Blackwell	1964
F. Young	<i>Sacrifice and the Death of Christ</i>	SPCK	1975