

# CONTENTS

Preface		xiii
<b>PART I</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
1	Jesus Then and Now	3
	1. Angels, Giants and Jigsaws	3
	2. Procedure	11
	3. The 'Quests' and their Usefulness	13
	(i) Jesus Through History	13
	(ii) The Rise of the Critical Movement: from Reimarus to Schweitzer	16
	(iii) No Quest to New Quest: Schweitzer to Schillebeeckx	21
	(iv) Two Hundred Years of Questing	25
2	Heavy Traffic on the Wredebahn: The 'New Quest' Renewed?	28
	1. Introduction	28
	2. The 'Jesus Seminar'	29
	3. Burton L. Mack (and the Question of Q)	35
	4. J. Dominic Crossan	44
	(i) Introduction	44
	(ii) Basic Features	47
	(iii) Historical Reconstruction of Jesus	56
	(iv) The Early Church	62
	5. Jesus the Cynic?	66
	6. Marcus J. Borg	75
	7. Conclusion: the New 'New Quest'	78
3	Back to the Future: The 'Third Quest'	83
	1. Breaking out of the Straitjacket	83
	2. The Questions	89
	(i) How does Jesus fit into Judaism?	91
	(ii) What were Jesus' Aims?	99
	(iii) Why did Jesus die?	106
	(iv) How and Why did the Early Church Begin?	109
	(v) Why are the Gospels what they Are?	112
	(vi) The Five Questions Together	113
	(vii) The Sixth Question: Agenda and Theology	117
	3. Conclusion: Future Directions of the Third Quest	121
4	Prodigals and Paradigms	125
	1. Jews, Peasants and Prodigals	125
	2. From Parable to Paradigm	131
	(i) Towards a Hypothesis	131

	(ii) Of the Telling of Stories	133		(ii) The Forgiveness of Sins	268
	(iii) Worldviews and Mindsets	137		4. Challenge: The Call to Live as the New Covenant People	274
<b>PART II</b>	<b>Profile of a Prophet</b>	<b>145</b>		(i) Introduction: Community and Praxis	274
5	The Praxis of a Prophet	147		(ii) New Covenant, New Community	275
	1. Jesus' Career in Outline	147		(iii) New Covenant, New Praxis	279
	2. Jesus' Context	150		(a) Introduction	279
	(i) First-Century Judaism	150		(b) The Renewed Heart	282
	(ii) Bandits, Peasants and Revolt	155		(c) The Sermon on the Mount	287
	(iii) John the Baptist	160		(d) The Lord's Prayer	292
	3. Jesus as 'Oracular' and 'Leadership' Prophet	162		(e) Jubilee: Forgiveness of Debts	294
	4. A Prophet Mighty in Word and Deed	168		(f) Revolution, Politics, Community and Theology	296
	(i) Jesus as a 'Leadership' Prophet	168		5. Summons: The Call to be Jesus' Helpers and Associates	297
	(ii) An Itinerant Prophet	170		(i) The Summons to Follow Jesus	297
	(iii) Mighty in Word	171		(ii) The 'Rich Young Ruler'	301
	(a) Authority and the Kingdom	171		(iii) The Summons to Assist in the Proclamation of the Kingdom	303
	(b) Parables	174		(iv) The Summons to Take up the Cross and Follow Jesus	304
	(c) Oracles of Judgment	182		(v) The Great Commandment and the Good Samaritan	304
	(iv) Mighty in Deed	186		6. Many Will Come From East and West	308
	(a) Introduction	186		7. The True Wisdom	311
	(b) 'Mighty Works': Interpretation	191		8. Conclusion: The Renewed People of God	316
	5. More Than a Prophet?	196			
6	Stories of the Kingdom (1): Announcement	198	8	Stories of the Kingdom (3): Judgment and Vindication	320
	1. Introduction	198		1. Introduction	320
	2. Contexts	202		2. The Coming Great Disaster	322
	(i) The Jewish Hope	202		(i) Introduction	322
	(a) Eschatology	202		(ii) John the Baptist	326
	(b) A Non-Apocalyptic Kingdom?	210		(iii) General Warnings of Judgment on Israel	326
	(ii) The Christian Reappropriation	214		(iv) Warnings of Imminent Judgment on 'This Generation'	329
	(iii) The Kingdom in recent Scholarship	220		(v) Warnings of Judgment on Jerusalem and the Temple	333
	3. Kingdom Redefined: The Announcement	226		3. Assurance of Vindication	336
	(i) Introduction: Summary Announcements	226		4. Mark 13 and Parallels: The Coming Destruction and Vindication	339
	(ii) Stories of Israel's Paradoxical History	229		(i) Introduction	339
	(a) Introduction	229		(ii) The Fall of Jerusalem	343
	(b) The Sower	230		(iii) The Start of the 'Woes', and the Trials of the Disciples	346
	(c) Other Parables of Israel's Story	238		(iv) Specific Signs of Emergency	348
	4. Conclusion: Announcing the Kingdom	242		(v) The Vindication of the Son of Man	360
				(vi) Noah, Lot and the Son of Man	365
				5. Conclusion: Judgment and Vindication	367
7	Stories of the Kingdom (2): Invitation, Welcome, Challenge and Summons	244	9	Symbol and Controversy	369
	1. Introduction: The Open-Ended Story	244		1. Introduction: Kingdom, Symbol, Controversy	369
	2. Invitation: The Call to Repent and Believe	246		(i) The Problem of Symbols	369
	(i) Repentance	246		(ii) Controversy about Controversy	371
	(ii) Belief	258		2. Symbols of Israel's Identity: Sabbath, Food, Nation, Land	383
	3. Welcome: Sinners and Forgiveness	264		(i) Introduction: Context and Agendas	383
	(i) Who are the Sinners?	264		(ii) Sabbath	390
				(iii) Food	396
				(iv) Nation and Family	398
				(v) Possessions	403

3. Symbols of Israel's Identity: The Temple	405				
(i) Introduction	405				
(ii) The Temple and its Significance	406				
(iii) Jesus' Action in the Temple	413				
4. Jesus' Symbols of the Kingdom	428				
(i) Introduction: Symbols of 'Return'	428				
(ii) Restored Land, Restored People	428				
(iii) The Redefined Family	430				
(iv) The Redefined Torah	432				
(v) The Rebuilt Temple	432				
(vi) The Symbolic Focus	437				
5. Jesus 'Leading the People Astray'?	439				
10 The Questions of the Kingdom	443				
1. Introduction	443				
2. Who Are We?	443				
3. Where Are We?	445				
4. What's Wrong?	446				
(i) Introduction	446				
(ii) The Real Enemy Identified: not Rome, but the Satan	451				
(a) The Beelzebul Controversy	451				
(b) Who is to be Feared?	454				
(c) The Seven Other Demons	455				
(d) The Initial Victory	457				
(iii) The Enemy Relocated: Israel and the Satan	459				
(iv) Conclusion: Jesus' Analysis of the Problem	461				
5. What's the Solution?	463				
6. What Time is it?	467				
7. The Prophet and the Kingdom	472				
<b>PART III</b>					
<b>The Aims and Beliefs of Jesus</b>	475				
11 Jesus and Israel: The Meaning of Messiahship	477				
1. Introduction	477				
2. Messiahship in Judaism and Early Christianity	481				
(i) Messiahship in the Jewish World of Jesus' Day	481				
(ii) Messiahship in Early Christianity	486				
3. Jesus and Kingship: Events in Jerusalem	489				
(i) Introduction	489				
(ii) The Temple-Action	490				
(iii) Royal Riddles	493				
(a) Destroy and Rebuild	493				
(b) Say to this Mountain . . .	494				
(c) John the Baptist	495				
(d) Tenants, Servants, Son and Stone	497				
(e) Tribute to Caesar	502				
(f) David's Lord and David's Son	507				
(g) Royal Riddles: Jesus and the Evangelists	510				
(iv) Temple, Messiah and Son of Man	510				
				(a) Temple Destroyed, Jesus Vindicated	510
				(b) Jesus on Trial	519
					528
				4. Messiahship as the Secret of Jesus' Prophetic Ministry	528
				(i) Caesarea Philippi	530
				(ii) Messianic Praxis in the Early Ministry	533
				(iii) Messianic Sayings in the Early Ministry	536
				(iv) A Messianic Beginning to the Ministry?	537
				(v) A Prophetic/Messianic Ministry	538
				5. Conclusion: Jesus and the Return from Exile	538
				12 The Reasons for Jesus' Crucifixion	540
				1. Introduction	540
				2. The Roman Charge	543
				3. The Jewish Charge	547
				4. The Intention of Jesus (1): The Key Symbol	553
				(i) Introduction	553
				(ii) The Last Supper: Symbol and Significance	554
				(a) Introduction	555
				(b) Last Supper and Passover	559
				(c) From Symbol to Word	562
				(d) Conclusion	563
				5. The Intention of Jesus (2): The Sayings and the Symbol	563
				(i) Introduction	565
				(ii) The Riddles of the Cross	565
				(a) The Rejected Son	566
				(b) The Great Commandment	567
				(c) Anointing for Burial	567
				(d) The Green Tree and the Dry	570
				(e) The Hen and the Chickens	572
				(f) The Baptism and the Cup	573
				(g) Riddles and Authenticity	574
				(iii) Predictions of the Passion	576
				6. The Intention of Jesus (3): Eschatological Redemption in Judaism	576
				(i) Introduction	576
				(ii) The Controlling Story: Exile and Restoration	577
				(iii) The First Sub-Plot: The Messianic Woes	579
				(iv) The Second Sub-Plot: Specific or Individual Suffering	584
				(v) 'According to the Scriptures'	591
				(vi) Conclusion: Jesus' Jewish Context	592
				7. The Intention of Jesus (4): The Strange Victory	592
				(i) Introduction	594
				(ii) Proposal: Eschatology and the Cross	597
				(iii) The Cross and the Scriptures	604
				(iv) The Messianic Task	609
				(v) The Victory of God	611
				(vi) Conclusion	611
				13 The Return of the King	612
				1. Introduction	612

2. The Jewish World of Meaning	615
(i) The Hope of YHWH's Return	615
(ii) Sharing the Throne of God	624
(iii) Symbols for God and God's Activity	629
3. Jesus' Riddles of Return and Exaltation	631
(i) Stories of YHWH's Return to Zion	631
(a) Introduction	631
(b) Talents and Pounds	632
(c) Other Stories of the Return of YHWH	640
(ii) Riddles of Exaltation	642
(iii) Conclusion	644
4. Vocation Foreshadowed	645
5. Conclusion	651
<b>PART IV</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>
	655
14 Results	657
<b>Appendix: 'Kingdom of God' in Early Christian Literature</b>	663
<b>Bibliography</b>	671
Abbreviations	671
A Primary Sources	673
B Secondary Literature	675
<b>Indexes</b>	705
A Index of Ancient Sources	705
1. Old Testament	705
2. Apocrypha	711
3. Pseudepigrapha	712
4. Qumran	713
5. Josephus	714
6. Philo	715
7. Rabbinic Works	715
8. New Testament	717
9. Other Early Christian and/or Gnostic Works	727
10. Pagan Sources	729
11. Persian Texts	729
B Index of Modern Authors	730
C Index of Selected Topics	737