
This book considers ways that Jesus and the first Christian writers used the “First Testament,” taking Matthew’s five ways of reading the OT (e.g. as telling the story of which Jesus is the climax; as declaring the promise of which Jesus is the fulfillment; as providing the images, ideas, and words with which to understand Jesus) to frame how we might read the OT for ourselves. After a four-page introduction, it discusses the early Christian use of the OT under the following headings: story (Mt 1:1–17; Romans 1 Cor 10; Hebrews), promises (Mt 1:18–2:23), ideas (Mt 3:13–17; 3:1–5; 3:6–12; Romans; Hebrews; Revelation), relationship (Mt 4:1–11; 5:1–16), and life (Mt 5:17–20; 5:21–48). Each chapter includes questions for discussion. Goldingay is professor of OT at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA.


In this book, Gooder, honorary lecturer at the University of Birmingham and canon theologian at Birmingham Cathedral, explores what Paul had to say about bodies, life after death, identity, relationships, and life in the Spirit, and reflects on what Paul’s view of the body might contribute to more general discussions about bodies and their role in spirituality. After a fourteen-page introduction, she discusses the nature of the soul (the imprisoned soul, keeping the body and the soul together), the resurrection of the body (the resurrection body, a spiritual body), the Spirit and identity (the life-giving Spirit, the “me” that is “me”), and Paul’s language about the body (beautiful bodies, the body of Christ). In her four-page epilogue, Gooder offers some reflections on what Paul’s view of the body means for embodied spirituality and a theology of the body.


Griffiths, lead pastor of the Metropolitan Bible Church in Ottawa, asks whether according to Scripture there is such a thing as “preaching” that is mandated in the postapostolic context, and if there is, how it is characterized and defined. After a six-page introduction, he discusses foundational matters: the word of God in biblical theology, the language of “preaching” in the NT, and the word ministries of all believers. Then he provides exegetical studies: 2 Timothy 3:4—the preacher’s charge; Romans 10—the preacher’s commission; 1 Corinthians—the power of the gospel in authentic Christian preaching; 2 Corinthians 2–6—beholding the glory of God in preaching; 1 Thessalonians 1–2—preaching the very words of God; and Hebrews—preaching to the gathered people of God. Excursuses consider the identity of the preachers in Phil 1:14–18, and biblical-theological connections between NT preaching and OT prophecy. Griffiths concludes that the public proclamation of the word of God in the Christian assembly has a clear mandate from Scripture and occupies a place of central importance in the life of the local church.


The papers in these three volumes examine the origin of the Eucharist and its development in the early church as well as the religious and cultural background of sacred and communal meals in ancient societies. The contributions of interest to NT studies include those by U. Körtner on the Lord’s Supper, the communal meal, and table fellowship in Christianity; P. Altmann on sacred meals and feasts in the OT as a “treasure chest” for early Christian practice and reflection; H. Lichtenberger on Jewish eating—external perception and self-definition; C. Wässén on