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RIGHTEOUSNESS IN MATTHEW
AND HIS WORLD OF THOUGHT
Righteousness in Matthew and his world of thought

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In memory of my father
Rev. Adolf Przybylski
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PREFACE

I am grateful to Professor E. P. Sanders for initiating me into the complex world of Rabbinic thought and making me aware of the intricacies of relating this knowledge to the study of the New Testament. While following his research on the relationship between Paul and Palestinian Judaism, my interest in the application of this type of criticism to the Gospel of Matthew was kindled. After various general investigations, my research began to focus on the relationship between the Matthean concept of righteousness and that of the Tannaitic literature and the Dead Sea Scrolls.

My exhaustive analysis of the righteousness terminology in the Tannaitic literature and the Dead Sea Scrolls led to the unmistakable conclusion that the concept of righteousness is not to be equated with the soteriological system inherent in this literature. For the overall view of the intrinsic soteriology of Palestinian Judaism, I am, however, indebted to the work of Professor Sanders. On the other hand, the distinction between righteousness and soteriology in the Gospel of Matthew is based entirely on my own research.

Under the supervision of Professor Sanders this study was submitted to McMaster University as a doctoral dissertation and the degree of Doctor of Philosophy was granted in 1975.

The financial support provided by the Canada Council throughout my doctoral studies is deeply appreciated. I am particularly indebted for the grant which made it possible for me to engage in a year of research in Israel. At the Hebrew University of Jerusalem it was especially Professor D. Flusser who stimulated my thinking. Life in Israel presented numerous diversions which mitigated the painstaking work involved in word studies.

The present form of this study represents a major revision of the original doctoral dissertation. For their constructive suggestions concerning both form and content of this revised monograph I would like to thank my colleagues at McMaster University, Drs E. P. Sanders, B. F. Meyer, A. I. Baumgarten and A. M. Cooper. The suggestions by Professor R. McL.
Preface

Wilson, the editor of the SNTS Monograph Series, and by the appointed reader have also been most helpful and are appreciated.

Since this study deals primarily with unpointed Hebrew texts, a simplified method of transliteration has been adopted in most cases, that is, one in which there is no ambiguity concerning the identity of Hebrew consonants, while the numerous vowel points are represented by the appropriate English vowels without further distinguishing marks. In a few cases, i.e. especially when quoting unpointed terms in secondary literature, it seemed more appropriate to use solely consonants in transliteration.

For proofreading and sharing in the typing I would like to thank Miss Marlene Przybylski and Ms Phyllis Koetting.

For the laborious task of typing the bulk of this manuscript and helping in numerous other aspects of the preparation of this monograph I am deeply grateful to Brigitte, my wife. Above all, however, I am thankful for her encouragement and sincere interest in my research.
ABBREVIATIONS

AThD Acta Theologica Danica
ATR Anglican Theological Review
B. Babylonian Talmud
BA Biblical Archeologist
BASOR Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research
BEvTh Beiträge zur evangelischen Theologie
BibSac Bibliotheca Sacra
BNTC Black’s New Testament Commentaries
BThB Biblical Theology Bulletin
BZ Biblische Zeitschrift
CD Damascus Document
DJD Discoveries in the Judean Desert
EQ Evangelical Quarterly
ET English translation
EvTh Evangelische Theologie
FRLANT Forschungen zur Religion und Literatur des Alten und Neuen Testaments
HbzNT Handbuch zum Neuen Testament
HTR Harvard Theological Review
HUCA Hebrew Union College Annual
ICC International Critical Commentary
IDB Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible
IEJ Israel Exploration Journal
JBL Journal of Biblical Literature
JJS Journal of Jewish Studies
JQR Jewish Quarterly Review
JSS Journal of Semitic Studies
JSOT Journal for the Study of Judaism
JThS Journal of Theological Studies
KerDog Kerygma und Dogma
LXX Septuagint

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Abbreviations

Mek. Meḳiṭa de-Rabbi Ishmael
MS. Manuscript
MSS. Manuscripts
NCB New Century Bible
NF Neue Folge
NovTest Novum Testamentum
NT New Testament
NTab Neutestamentliche Abhandlungen
NTD Das Neue Testament Deutsch
NTS New Testament Studies
OSi OudTestamentische Studiën
OT Old Testament
P. Palestinian Talmud
1QH Thanksgiving Hymns
1QM War Scroll
1QpHab Habakkuk Commentary
1QpMic Micah Commentary
1QS Manual of Discipline
1QSa Rule Annexe
1QSb Book of Blessings
4QFl Florilegium
4QPatr Patriarchal Blessings
4QpNah Commentary on Nahum
4QpPs37 Commentary on Ps 37
4QSi(39) Angelic Liturgy
4QTest Testimonia
R. Rabbi
RB Revue Biblique
RevExp Review and Expositor
RQ Revue de Qumran
RSV Revised Standard Version
SBT Studies in Biblical Theology
Sifre Deut Sifre on Deuteronomy
Sifre Num Sifre on Numbers
SNTS Society for New Testament Studies
SPB Studia Post Biblica
StANT Studien zum Alten und Neuen Testament
StTDJ Studies on the Texts of the Desert of Judah
StTh Studia Theologica
StUNT Studien zur Umwelt des Neuen Testaments
Suppl. Supplements
## Abbreviations

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<td>Theologische Arbeiten</td>
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<td>ThLZ</td>
<td>Theologische Literaturzeitung</td>
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<td>TU</td>
<td>Texte und Untersuchungen</td>
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<td>VigChr</td>
<td>Vigiliae Christianae</td>
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<td>VT</td>
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<td>Wissenschaftliche Monographien zum Alten und Neuen Testament</td>
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<td>ZAW</td>
<td>Zeitschrift für die Altt testamentliche Wissenschaft</td>
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