

Cambridge University Press  
0521018730 - The Son of Man in the Teaching of Jesus  
A. J. B. Higgins  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

SOCIETY FOR NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES  
*MONOGRAPH SERIES*

General Editor: R. McL. Wilson, F.B.A.

Associate Editor: M. E. Thrall

**39**

THE SON OF MAN  
IN THE TEACHING OF JESUS

Cambridge University Press  
0521018730 - The Son of Man in the Teaching of Jesus  
A. J. B. Higgins  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

# THE SON OF MAN IN THE TEACHING OF JESUS

**A. J. B. HIGGINS**  
Professor Emeritus of Theology  
Saint David's University College  
Lampeter, Wales

**CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS**  
CAMBRIDGE  
LONDON NEW YORK NEW ROCHELLE  
MELBOURNE SYDNEY

Cambridge University Press  
0521018730 - The Son of Man in the Teaching of Jesus  
A. J. B. Higgins  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo

Cambridge University Press

The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9780521223638](http://www.cambridge.org/9780521223638)

© Cambridge University Press 1980

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception  
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,  
no reproduction of any part may take place without  
the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1980

This digitally printed first paperback version 2005

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library*

ISBN-13 978-0-521-22363-8 hardback

ISBN-10 0-521-22363-6 hardback

ISBN-13 978-0-521-01873-9 paperback

ISBN-10 0-521-01873-0 paperback

## CONTENTS

	Preface	page vii
	Abbreviations	ix
	Introduction	1
	<b>PART ONE</b>	
<b>I</b>	<b>The Son of man and ancient Judaism</b>	3
	F. H. Borsch	3
	C. Colpe	7
	The Similitudes of Enoch	12
	The philological problem	20
	G. Vermes and the synoptic sayings	23
	Excursus: The Son of man and the Melchizedek fragment	28
<b>II</b>	<b>The Son of man in the synoptic gospels in recent study</b>	29
	Excursus: The hypothesis of Barnabas Lindars	49
	<b>PART TWO</b>	
<b>III</b>	<b>The synoptic texts. I</b>	55
	1. Luke 17.22, 24, 26, 30	56
	2. Luke 18.8b	72
	3. Luke 21.36	74
	4. Matt. 10.23	75
	5. Mark 14.62	77
	6. Mark 13.26	79
	7. Matt. 25.31	79
	Conclusion	79
<b>IV</b>	<b>The synoptic texts. II</b>	80
	1. Luke 12.8-9; Matt. 10.32-3; Mark 8.38	80
	2. Luke 12.10; Matt. 12.32; Mark 3.28-9	84
	3. Luke 11.29-30; Matt. 12.39-40; Mark 8.12	90
	(i) R. A. Edwards, <i>The Sign of Jonah</i>	92

<i>Contents</i>	<i>vi</i>
(ii) The eschatological correlative and the teaching of Jesus	100
(iii) The eschatological correlative and the sentence of holy law	107
4. Luke 6.22; Matt. 5.11	113
5. Matt. 16.13; Mark 8.27.	113
6. Mark 8.31; Matt. 16.20f.	114
7. Matt. 16.28; Mark 9.1	114
8. Mark 10.45; Luke 22.27	114
9. Matt. 19.28; Luke 22.28-30	115
Conclusion	116
Excursus 1: Luke 12.10 and parallels	116
Excursus 2: The sign of Jonah, and the sign of the Son of man	118
Excursus 3: Remarks on J. Jeremias, 'Die älteste Schicht'	119
Excursus 4: The Son of man and pre-existence	121
<b>V The kernel sayings</b>	123
Summary	123
Concluding remarks	125
Notes	127
Select bibliography	159
Index of authors	169
Index of references	172

## PREFACE

It has taken very much longer than anticipated for this book to see the light of day. Other academic commitments and the responsibilities of a university chair have contributed to the delay. However, one result has been that I have been able to take account of some of the more recent literature which, to the impoverishment of my own work, would otherwise not have figured here. My opinion remains that none of the more recently proposed alternative solutions of the Son of man problem in the synoptic gospels, however new or different they may claim or may appear to be, carry such a weight of conviction as to overthrow irreparably the hypothesis they are intended to supplant.

The absence of discussion of the Johannine form of the Son of man, to which a chapter was devoted in my book of 1964, *Jesus and the Son of Man*, should occasion no surprise.

It so happened that the present study, in its final form, was completed early in the sesquicentenary year of what is now known as Saint David's University College. Since Theology has always figured prominently among the subjects of study in the College, it seems not inappropriate to dedicate this monograph to my colleagues in the Department of Theology during my tenure of the Chair from 1970 to 1976, and this I do with esteem and gratitude.

*Lampeter,*  
*August 1977*

A. J. B. HIGGINS

## ABBREVIATIONS

<i>BJRL</i>	<i>Bulletin of the John Rylands Library</i> , Manchester
BZNV	Beihefte zur <i>Zeitschrift für die Neutestamentliche Wissenschaft</i> , Berlin
<i>CGSM</i>	F. H. Borsch, <i>The Christian and Gnostic Son of Man</i> , 1970
<i>EQ</i>	<i>Evangelical Quarterly</i> , Exeter
ET	English translation
<i>EvT</i>	<i>Evangelische Theologie</i> , Munich
<i>ExpT</i>	<i>Expository Times</i> , Edinburgh
FRLANT	Forschungen zur Religion und Literatur des Alten und Neuen Testaments, Göttingen
HDB	Hastings' <i>Dictionary of the Bible</i> , second edition, revised by F. C. Grant and H. H. Rowley, Edinburgh 1963
<i>JBL</i>	<i>Journal of Biblical Literature</i> , Philadelphia
<i>JR</i>	<i>Journal of Religion</i> , Chicago
<i>JSM</i>	A. J. B. Higgins, <i>Jesus and the Son of Man</i> , 1964
<i>JTS</i>	<i>Journal of Theological Studies</i> , Oxford
LXX	The Septuagint
NEB	New English Bible
<i>NTS</i>	<i>New Testament Studies</i> , London
<i>RGG</i> <sup>3</sup>	<i>Die Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart</i> , third edition, ed. K. Galling <i>et al.</i> , Tübingen 1957-62
RSV	Revised Standard Version
SB	H. L. Strack and P. Billerbeck, <i>Kommentar zum Neuen Testament aus Talmud und Midrasch</i> , Munich 1922-61
SBT	Studies in Biblical Theology, London
<i>SJT</i>	<i>Scottish Journal of Theology</i> , Edinburgh
<i>SMMH</i>	F. H. Borsch, <i>The Son of Man in Myth and History</i> , 1967
SNTSMS	Society for New Testament Studies Monograph Series, London
<i>TDNT</i>	<i>Theological Dictionary of the New Testament</i> , ET of <i>Theologisches Wörterbuch zum Neuen Testament</i> (see

*Abbreviations*

x

	<i>TWNT</i> , below) by G. W. Bromiley, Grand Rapids, Michigan 1964-76
TU	Texte und Untersuchungen zur Geschichte der altchristlichen Literatur, Berlin
<i>TWNT</i>	<i>Theologisches Wörterbuch zum Neuen Testament</i> , ed. G. Kittel and G. Friedrich, Stuttgart 1933-74
ZNW	<i>Zeitschrift für die Neutestamentliche Wissenschaft</i> , Berlin
ZTK	<i>Zeitschrift für Theologie und Kirche</i> , Tübingen

*Dead Sea Scrolls*

CD	Cairo Damascus Document
1QM	War Scroll
1QS	Manual of Discipline
1QSa	Appendix to 1QS: Rule of the Congregation
4QCatena A	Catena of Old Testament passages, copy A
4QPatr	Patriarchal Blessings
11QMelch	Melchizedek fragments