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0521023009 - Jesus and the Angels: Angelology and the Christology of the  
Apocalypse of John

Peter R. Carrell

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This book examines the influence of angelology on the christology of the Apocalypse of John. In the Apocalypse, Jesus appears in glorious form reminiscent of angels in Jewish and Christian literature in the period between 200 BCE and 200 CE. Dr Carrell asks what significance this has for the christology of the Apocalypse. He concludes that by portraying Jesus in such a way that he has the form and function of an angel, and yet is also divine, the Apocalypse upholds monotheism while at the same time providing a means for Jesus to be presented in visible, glorious form to his church.

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# Jesus and the angels

Angelology and the christology of  
the Apocalypse of John

**PETER R. CARRELL**



**CAMBRIDGE**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

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## PREFACE

My interest in the christology of the Apocalypse began during my BD studies at Knox Theological Hall, Dunedin, New Zealand, and resulted in a small dissertation on Lamb christology. The observation that comparatively little work has been done on the christology of the Apocalypse led me to maintain an interest in this subject as I embarked on postgraduate studies at the University of Durham, England, under the supervision of Professor James Dunn. The resulting PhD dissertation is the basis for this book. I remain grateful for all the assistance I received from Professor Dunn and other teachers in the Department of Theology at Durham, fellow students, family, and friends in the completion of that project. I also gratefully acknowledge the helpfulness of my examiners, Professor Richard Bauckham and Dr Robert Hayward. I remain thankful for a Post-Ordination Scholarship from the St John's College Trust Board, Auckland, NZ, which contributed the greatest part of my financial support while studying in Durham. In the process of turning the dissertation into a monograph it is my pleasant task to thank Professor Dunn for his continuing encouragement and Dr Margaret Thrall for her patient encouragement and helpful direction. To fellow Kiwi scholars also go my thanks for their interest and support: Dr Paul Trebilco, Dr Derek Tovey, Revd Ren Kempthorne, Dr Peter Lineham, and Dr Tim Meadowcroft. I am also thankful that twelve thousand miles from the Libraries of the University of Durham and Tyndale House, Cambridge I have been able to find help in time of need from the Kinder Library, the College of St John the Evangelist, Auckland, the Bishopdale College Library, Nelson, and the Hewitson Library, Knox College, Dunedin. My extended family have been supportive in various ways for which I gladly thank them. Teresa Kundycki-Carrell, my wife, and our children, Leah, Bridget, Andrew, and Alice, have patiently borne with me through the period of revision.

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I gratefully dedicate this book to them and to four Bible teachers (among others) who have fired my passion for biblical study: Dick Carson, Derek Eaton, Milton Hayward, and my father, Brian Carrell.

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Burchard's reconstructed Greek text of *Joseph and Aseneth* in A.-M. Denis, *Concordance Grecque des Pseudépigraphe d'Ancien Testament: concordance, Corpus des Textes, Indices*, Louvain: Université Catholique de Louvain, 1987, is gratefully acknowledged.

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[More information](#)**ABBREVIATIONS**

<i>ABD</i>	D. N. Friedman (ed.), <i>Anchor Bible Dictionary</i> (6 vols.)
<i>Adam &amp; Eve</i>	<i>Books of Adam and Eve</i>
<i>Adv. haer.</i>	<i>Adversus haereses</i> (Irenaeus)
<i>AGJU</i>	Arbeiten zur Geschichte des antiken Judentums und des Urchristentums
<i>AJBI</i>	<i>Annual of the Japanese Biblical Institute</i>
<i>ANCL</i>	Ante Nicene Christian Library
<i>ANRW</i>	H. Temporini and W. Haase (eds.), <i>Aufstieg und Niedergang der römischen Welt</i>
<i>ANTJ</i>	Arbeiten zum Neuen Testament und Judentum
<i>AOS</i>	American Oriental Series
<i>AOT</i>	H. E. D. Sparks (ed.), <i>The Apocryphal Old Testament</i>
<i>Apc.</i>	Apocalypse of John = Revelation of John
<i>Apoc. Abr.</i>	<i>Apocalypse of Abraham</i>
<i>2–3 Apoc. Bar.</i>	Syriac, Greek <i>Apocalypse of Baruch</i>
<i>Apoc. Esdras</i>	<i>Apocalypse of Esdras</i>
<i>Apoc. Mos.</i>	<i>Apocalypse of Moses</i>
<i>Apoc. Paul</i>	<i>Apocalypse of Paul</i>
<i>Apoc. Pet.</i>	<i>Apocalypse of Peter</i>
<i>Apoc. Zeph.</i>	<i>Apocalypse of Zephaniah</i>
<i>Apol.</i>	<i>Apology</i> (Justin)
<i>APOT</i>	R. H. Charles (ed.), <i>The Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha of the Old Testament in English</i> (2 vols.)
<i>As. Mos.</i>	<i>Assumption of Moses</i>
<i>Asc. Isa.</i>	<i>Ascension of Isaiah</i>
<i>ATANT</i>	Abhandlungen zur Theologie des Alten und Neuen Testaments

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<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Augustianum</i>
<i>b.</i>	Babylonian Talmud
<i>BA</i>	<i>Biblical Archaeologist</i>
<i>BAG</i>	W. Bauer, W. F. Arndt, and F. W. Gingrich (eds.), <i>A Greek–English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature</i>
<i>Barn.</i>	<i>Epistle of Barnabas</i>
<i>BASOR</i>	<i>Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research</i>
<i>BCE</i>	Before Common Era
<i>BETL</i>	<i>Bibliotheca ephemeridum theologicarum lovaniensium</i>
<i>BHS</i>	<i>Biblia hebraica stuttgartensia</i>
<i>BHT</i>	Beiträge zur historischen Theologie
<i>Bib.</i>	<i>Biblica</i>
<i>Bib. Ant.</i>	<i>Biblical Antiquities</i> (Pseudo-Philo)
<i>BibLeb</i>	<i>Bibel und Leben</i>
<i>BiKi</i>	<i>Bibel und Kirche</i>
<i>BJRL</i>	<i>Bulletin of the John Rylands University Library of Manchester</i>
<i>BR</i>	<i>Biblical Research</i>
<i>BTB</i>	<i>Biblical Theology Bulletin</i>
<i>BWANT</i>	Beiträge zur Wissenschaft vom Alten und Neuen Testament
<i>BZ</i>	<i>Biblische Zeitschrift</i>
<i>BZAW</i>	Beihefte zur <i>ZAW</i>
<i>BZNW</i>	Beihefte zur <i>ZNW</i>
<i>BZRGG</i>	Beihefte der <i>Zeitschrift für Religions- und Geistesgeschichte</i>
<i>CBQ</i>	<i>Catholic Biblical Quarterly</i>
<i>CBQMS</i>	Catholic Biblical Quarterly Monograph Series
<i>CE</i>	Common Era
<i>CNT</i>	<i>Commentaire du Nouveau Testament</i>
<i>CSCO</i>	<i>Corpus scriptorum christianorum orientalium</i>
<i>CSEL</i>	<i>Corpus scriptorum ecclesiasticorum latinorum</i>
<i>CTM</i>	<i>Concordia Theological Monthly</i>
<i>DBAT</i>	<i>Dielhammer Blätter zum Alten Testament</i>
<i>De Benef.</i>	<i>De Beneficiis</i> (Seneca)
<i>Dial.</i>	<i>Dialogue with Trypho</i> (Justin)
<i>Did.</i>	<i>Didache</i>

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DJD	Discoveries in the Judean Desert
DSSE	G. Vermes, <i>The Dead Sea Scrolls in English</i>
1, 2, or 3 Enoch	Ethiopic, Slavonic, or Hebrew <i>Book of Enoch</i>
<i>Ep. Apost.</i>	<i>Epistula Apostolorum</i>
ESTNT	Exegetische Studien zur Theologie des Neuen Testaments
ET	English Translation
Eth.	Ethiopic
ETL	<i>Ephemerides theologicae lovanienses</i>
ETR	<i>Etudes théologiques et religieuses</i>
EUS	European University Studies
EvQ	<i>Evangelical Quarterly</i>
ExpTim	<i>Expository Times</i>
fr.	fragment
FRLANT	Forschungen zur Religion und Literatur des Alten und Neuen Testaments
FS	<i>Festschriften</i>
GCS	Die Griechischen Christlichen Schriftsteller der Ersten Drei Jahrhunderte
GNS	Good News Studies
HDR	Harvard Dissertations in Religion
HKAT	Handkommentar zum Alten Testament
HKNT	Handkommentar zum Neuen Testament
HNT	Handbuch zum Neuen Testament
HSM	Harvard Semitic Monographs
HSS	Harvard Semitic Studies
HTR	<i>Harvard Theological Review</i>
IB	<i>Interpreter's Bible</i>
ICC	International Critical Commentary
ICS	<i>Illinois Classical Studies</i>
Int.	<i>Interpretation</i>
JBL	<i>Journal of Biblical Literature</i>
JJS	<i>Journal of Jewish Studies</i>
<i>Jos. and Asen.</i>	<i>Joseph and Aseneth</i>
Josephus	
<i>Ant.</i>	<i>Jewish Antiquities</i>
<i>JW</i>	<i>Jewish Wars</i>
<i>JQR</i>	<i>Jewish Quarterly Review</i>
JSHRZ	Jüdische Schriften aus hellenistisch-römischer Zeit

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<i>JSJ</i>	<i>Journal for the Study of Judaism in the Persian, Hellenistic, and Roman Period</i>
<i>JSNT</i>	<i>Journal for the Study of the New Testament</i>
<i>JSNTSup</i>	Journal for the Study of the New Testament Supplement Series
<i>JSP</i>	<i>Journal for the Study of the Pseudepigrapha</i>
<i>JSPSup</i>	Journal for the Study of the Pseudepigrapha Supplement Series
<i>JSS</i>	<i>Journal of Semitic Studies</i>
<i>JTC</i>	<i>Journal for Theology and the Church</i>
<i>JTS</i>	<i>Journal of Theological Studies</i>
<i>Jub.</i>	<i>Book of Jubilees</i>
<i>Ladd. Jac.</i>	<i>Ladder of Jacob</i>
<i>Lat.</i>	Latin
<i>LXX</i>	The Septuagint
<i>m.</i>	Mishnah
<i>Mor. Def. Orac.</i>	<i>Moralia: De Defectu Oraculorum</i> (Plutarch)
<i>MS</i>	Manuscript
<i>MSS</i>	Manuscripts
<i>MT</i>	Masoretic Text
<i>NA<sup>26</sup></i>	E. Nestle, K. Aland, and B. Aland (eds.), <i>Novum Testamentum Graece</i> , 26th edn, 1979
<i>NCB</i>	New Century Bible
<i>NEB</i>	New English Bible
<i>Neot.</i>	<i>Neotestimentica</i>
<i>NIV</i>	New International Version
<i>NLC</i>	New London Commentary
<i>NovT</i>	<i>Novum Testamentum</i>
<i>NovTSup</i>	Novum Testamentum Supplements
<i>NRSV</i>	New Revised Standard Version
<i>NT</i>	New Testament
<i>NTA</i>	E. Hennecke and W. Schneelmelcher (eds.), <i>New Testament Apocrypha</i> (2 vols.)
<i>NTAbh</i>	Neutestamentliche Abhandlungen
<i>NTD</i>	Das Neue Testament Deutsch
<i>NTS</i>	<i>New Testament Studies</i>
<i>OCD</i>	<i>The Oxford Classical Dictionary</i> , 2nd edn, 1970
<i>Odes Sol.</i>	<i>Odes of Solomon</i>
<i>Origen</i>	
<i>Comm. Joh.</i>	<i>Commentarii in Johannis</i>
<i>Comm. Matt.</i>	<i>Commentarii in Matthei</i>

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OT	Old Testament
OTP	James H. Charlesworth (ed.), <i>Old Testament Pseudepigrapha</i> (2 vols.)
OTS	<i>Oudtestamentische Studien</i>
Pan.	<i>Panarion seu adversus lxxx haereses</i> (Epiphanius)
Pap.	Papyrus
Pesiq.	<i>R. Pesiqta Rabbati</i>
PG	J. Migne (ed.), <i>Patrologia graeca</i>
Philo	
Agr.	<i>De Agricultura</i>
Cher.	<i>De Cherubim</i>
Conf.	<i>De Confusione Linguarum</i>
Det.	<i>Quod Deteris Potiori insidiari solet</i>
Fug.	<i>De Fuga et Inventione</i>
Leg.	<i>De Legatione ad Gaium</i>
Leg.All.	<i>Legum Allegoriae</i>
Mig. Abr.	<i>De Migratione Abrahami</i>
Mos.	<i>De Vita Mosis</i>
Mut.	<i>De Mutatione Nominum</i>
Quaest. in Ex.	<i>Quaestiones et Solutiones in Exodum</i>
Quaest. in Gn.	<i>Quaestiones et Solutiones in Genesin</i>
Quis Her.	<i>Quis Rerum Divinarum Heres</i>
Quod Deus	<i>Quod Deus Immutabilis sit</i>
Sac.	<i>De Sacrificiis Abelis et Caini</i>
Som.	<i>De Somniis</i>
Pirqe R. El.	<i>Pirqe Rabbi Eliezer</i>
PL	J. Migne (ed.), <i>Patrologia latina</i>
Pr. Jos.	<i>Prayer of Joseph</i>
Pr Man	Prayer of Manasseh
Praep. ev.	<i>Praeparatio evangelica</i> (Eusebius)
PS	Pseudepigrapha Series
Ps. Clem.	<i>Pseudo Clement</i>
Pss. Sol.	<i>Psalms of Solomon</i>
PTA	Papyrologische Texte und Abhandlungen
PVTG	Pseudepigrapha Veteris Testamenti Graece
Qumran literature	
1Q, 2Q, 3Q, etc.	Numbered caves of Qumran
1Q19 fr. 3	(means) text 19 from Qumran Cave 1, fragment 3
1QapGen.	<i>Genesis Apocryphon</i> of Qumran Cave 1

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1QH	<i>Thanksgiving Hymns</i> from Qumran Cave 1
1QM	<i>War Scroll</i> from Qumran Cave 1
1QS	<i>Rule of the Community</i> from Qumran Cave 1
1QSa	Appendix A ( <i>Rule of the Congregation</i> ) to 1QS
1QSb	Appendix B ( <i>Blessings</i> ) to 1QS
4Q ‘Amram <sup>b</sup>	<i>Testament of Amram</i> from Qumran Cave 4
4QM <sup>a</sup>	<i>War Scroll</i> fragment from Qumran Cave 4
4Q400–5	Shirot ‘Olat Ha- Shabbat, liturgical texts 400–405 from Qumran Cave 4
11QMelch	Melchizedek text from Qumran Cave 11
RAC	<i>Reallexikon für Antike und Christentum</i>
RB	<i>Revue Biblique</i>
Rec.	Recension
Ref. omn. haer.	<i>Refutation omnium haeresium</i> (Hippolytus)
RevQ	<i>Revue de Qumran</i>
RHPR	<i>Revue d’histoire et de philosophie religieuses</i>
RTP	<i>Revue de théologie et de philosophie</i>
SBL	Society of Biblical Literature
SBLDS	SBL Dissertation Series
SBLMS	SBL Monograph Series
SBLSCS	SBL Septuagint and Cognate Studies
SBLSP	SBL Seminar Papers
SBLTT	SBL Texts and Translations
SBT	Studies in Biblical Theology
ScripAeth	Scriptores Aethiopice
<i>Shepherd of Hermas</i>	
Herm. Mand.	<i>Hermas, Mandates</i>
Herm. Sim.	<i>Hermas, Similitudes</i>
Herm. Vis.	<i>Hermas, Visions</i>
Sib. Or.	<i>Sibylline Oracles</i>
SJ	<i>Studia judaica</i>
SJLA	Studies in Judaism in Late Antiquity
SJT	<i>Scottish Journal of Theology</i>
Slav.	Slavonic
SNT	Studien zum Neuen Testament
SNTSMS	Society for New Testament Studies Monograph Series
SPB	<i>Studia postbiblica</i>
SSS	Semitic Study Series
ST	<i>Studia theologica</i>
STDJ	Studies on the Texts of the Desert of Judea

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StudNeot	<i>Studia Neotestamentica</i>
SVTP	<i>Studia in Veteris Testamenti pseudepigrapha</i>
<i>Syh.</i>	<i>Syro-Hexapla</i>
TA	<i>Theologisches Arbeiten</i>
TAQ	E. Lohse (ed.), <i>Die Texte aus Qumran: Hebräisch und Deutsch</i>
TDNT	G. Kittel and G. Friedrich (eds.), <i>Theological Dictionary of the New Testament</i> (10 vols.)
<i>T. Ben.</i>	<i>Testament of Benjamin</i>
<i>T. Dan</i>	<i>Testament of Dan</i>
<i>T. Levi</i>	<i>Testament of Levi</i>
<i>T. Jos.</i>	<i>Testament of Joseph</i>
<i>Test. Abr.</i>	<i>Testament of Abraham</i>
<i>Test. Sol.</i>	<i>Testament of Solomon</i>
Tg.	<i>Targum</i>
<i>Tg. Onq.</i>	<i>Targum Onkelos</i>
<i>Tg. Neof.</i>	<i>Targum Neofiti I</i>
<i>Tg. Ps.-J.</i>	<i>Targum Pseudo-Jonathan</i>
<i>Tg. Yer. I</i>	<i>Targum Yerusalmi I</i>
<i>Tg. Yer. II</i>	<i>Targum Yerusalmi II</i>
Th.	Theodotion
TLZ	<i>Theologische Literaturzeitung</i>
TQ	<i>Theologische Quartalschrift</i>
TRu	<i>Theologische Rundschau</i>
TS	<i>Theological Studies</i>
TSAJ	Texte und Studien zum antiken Judentum
TU	Texte und Untersuchungen
TynBul	<i>Tyndale Bulletin</i>
TZ	<i>Theologische Zeitschrift</i>
UBSGNT <sup>3</sup>	United Bible Societies, <i>The Greek New Testament</i> , 3rd edn, 1983
VC	<i>Vigiliae christiana</i>
VE	<i>Vox Evangelica</i>
VT	<i>Vetus Testamentum</i>
VTSup	Vetus Testamentum Supplements
WBC	Word Bible Commentary
WMANT	Wissenschaftliche Monographien zum Alten und Neuen Testament
WTJ	<i>Westminster Theological Journal</i>
WUNT	Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament

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Apocalypse of John

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*xxii Abbreviations*

*ZAW* *Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft*

*ZBKNT* Zürcher Bibel Kommentare Neue Testament

*ZNW* *Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft*