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THE FOURTH GOSPEL

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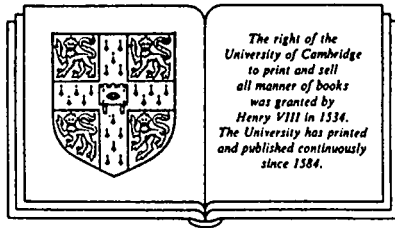
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# HISTORICAL TRADITION IN THE FOURTH GOSPEL

BY

C. H. DODD



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

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NEW YORK PORT CHESTER

MELBOURNE SYDNEY

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Published by the Press Syndicate of the University of Cambridge  
The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1RP  
40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011, USA  
10 Stamford Road, Oakleigh, Melbourne 3166, Australia

© Cambridge University Press 1963

First published 1963  
Reprinted 1965  
First paperback edition 1976  
Reprinted 1979, 1989

ISBN 0 521 04847 8 hard covers  
ISBN 0 521 29123 2 paperback

Transferred to digital printing 1999

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STVDIORVM PARTICIPIBVS  
VIVIS ADHVC ET IN MEMORIAM DEFVNCTORVM  
QVI CANTABRIGIAE  
IN SCHOLA SACRAE THEOLOGIAE  
AB ANNO SALVTIS MCMXXXVII  
VSQVE AD MCMXLIX  
HVIVSMODI QVAESTIONIBVS  
COMMVNITER VACABANT  
GRATVS AC MEMOR  
D. D.  
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## PREFACE

This book embodies the first course of Sarum Lectures in the University of Oxford, delivered in 1954–5. The actual contents of the lectures are represented by the Introduction and Part I, A and B, though the version here given is substantially fuller than the lectures as delivered. The whole work may be regarded as a sequel to my earlier book, *The Interpretation of the Fourth Gospel* (Cambridge, 1953), or as an expansion of the Appendix to that book, entitled ‘Some considerations upon the historical aspect of the Fourth Gospel’.

In the course of fifty years I have learnt much about this gospel from books, much also in conference and discussion with fellow-students of the New Testament—more, certainly, than I could now trace to its sources. But here I have tried to take a fresh look at the gospel itself as it lies before us, with the historical question in mind. Where I have consciously borrowed information or suggestions, I have made my acknowledgements. If through ignorance or forgetfulness I have omitted to do so, I offer my apologies. It cannot but be that many of my observations have been anticipated; *vivant qui ante nos nostra dixerunt!* But such as they are, they are the fruit of an individual approach along one particular line, and I hope they may prove some contribution to the collective effort by which our understanding of the Gospel story must be enlarged.

C. H. D.

OXFORD

15 August 1961

My thanks are due to the Rev. C. F. D. Moule, Lady Margaret’s Professor of Divinity in the University of Cambridge, who did me the great kindness of reading the book in proof. I am indebted to him for many valuable corrections and suggestions.

C. H. D.

22 April 1963

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## AUTHOR'S NOTE

In quoting from books of the New Testament it is my practice to give either the original Greek or my own translation. If the latter should occasionally appear to follow the rendering of the New English Bible, this must be regarded as a coincidence.

C.H.D.