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**WISDOM IN THE Q-TRADITION
THE APHORISTIC TEACHING OF JESUS**

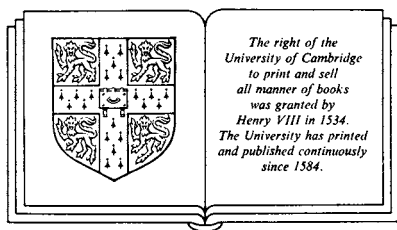
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Wisdom in the Q-tradition

The Aphoristic Teaching of Jesus

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PREFACE

One of the characteristics of *logoi sophōn* ('sayings of the wise') is that they often are viewed less as the creation of individual figures than as the product of a cumulative tradition of learning. While this work is hardly to be compared to such *logoi*, it nevertheless shares the feature that much has been owed to many people during the process of its composition.

In its present form, this study represents a revision of my doctoral dissertation, submitted to the University of London in January 1986. That dissertation was begun under the helpful guidance of Professor Christopher Evans and his successor, Professor Graham Stanton. As both supervisor and editor, Professor Stanton has been a continual encouragement to me, for which I am deeply grateful. The completion of that dissertation extended into my appointments as temporary lecturer in New Testament at the University of Aberdeen and as lecturer at the University of St Andrews. Many of my colleagues at both of these universities have aided me in important ways of which they may be only slightly aware.

For perceptive criticisms and helpful suggestions during the period of revising the thesis for this monograph series, I owe particular thanks once again to Professor Stanton, and also to Professor David Catchpole, Professor J. L. Houlden and Dr Christopher Tuckett. While benefiting from their advice, I am of course solely responsible for the particular views which are expressed and for any deficiencies which may be found. I am also grateful to Ulrike Hellen and Dr Jennifer Fellows of Cambridge University Press for their editorial advice and to Miss E. A. Gilbertson for her kind help in reading the proofs.

Finally, I must publicly acknowledge the patience and encouragement offered by my wife during the long, and seemingly unending, process of 'giving birth' to this work.

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ABBREVIATIONS

For periodicals and serials, the abbreviations of the *Theologische Realenzyklopädie* (Berlin/New York, 1976) have been used. Abbreviations for ancient documents, including the Bible, apocryphal and pseudepigraphal works, the early Christian Fathers and rabbinic writings, follow the system in James H. Charlesworth (ed.), *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha*, I: *Apocalyptic Literature and Testaments* (London, 1982), xliv–1, apart from minor variations which should be self-evident. The system of abbreviation used for the Dead Sea Scrolls follows Joseph A. Fitzmyer, *The Dead Sea Scrolls: Major Publications and Tools for Study* (Missoula, Mont., 1977), pp. 1–53. For Nag Hammadi texts, see C. Tuckett, *Nag Hammadi and the Gospel Tradition* (Edinburgh, 1986), pp. 166–8.

Some abbreviations which are not covered by the above sources include the following:

BDF	Blass, Friedrich, and Debrunner, Albert, <i>A Greek Grammar of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature</i> , trans. & ed. Robert W. Funk (Chicago/London, 1961)
ET	English Translation
Hennecke– Schneemelcher	Hennecke, Edgar, <i>New Testament Apocrypha</i> , I: <i>Gospels and Related Writings</i> ; II: <i>Writings Related to the Apostles, Apocalypses and Related Subjects</i> , ed. W. Schneemelcher, ET by R. McL. Wilson (London, 1963–5)
JSNT	<i>Journal for the Study of the New Testament</i>
JSOT	<i>Journal for the Study of the Old Testament</i>
log.	logion
NIGTC	The New International Greek Testament Commentary (Exeter)
n.s.	new series

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SBL	The Society of Biblical Literature (USA)
Strack– Billerbeck	Strack, Hermann L. and Billerbeck, Paul, <i>Kommen- tar zum Neuen Testament aus Talmud und Midrasch</i> 4 vols. (Munich, 1922–8)
TRE	<i>Theologische Realenzyklopädie</i> (Berlin/New York)