

THE HERMENEUTICS OF CHRISTOLOGICAL PSALMODY IN PAUL

An Intertextual Enquiry

By reexamining the quotation of psalms in Paul, this book offers a fresh interpretation of the New Testament's reception of the Old Testament. Richard Hays' influential *Echoes of Scripture in the Letters of Paul* astutely identified the rhetorical device of metalepsis, or echo, as central to the study of Pauline hermeneutics. Hays' Paul was in sympathetic dialogue with the voice of scripture, but Matthew Scott now challenges this assumption with close readings of echoed psalms voiced by David and Christ. Paul's use of metalepsis in Romans and 2 Corinthians reveals him to be a provocative, even polemical, reader who appropriates the words of David for a Christological purpose. Scott also illustrates how Christ succeeds David as the premier psalmist in Paul and considers whether, in doing so, Christ acts as inheritor or iconoclast.

MATTHEW SCOTT is Adjunct Lecturer in the Department of Theology and Religion, University of Otago, New Zealand.





SOCIETY FOR NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES
MONOGRAPH SERIES

General Editor: Paul Trebilco

158

THE HERMENEUTICS OF CHRISTOLOGICAL PSALMODY IN PAUL: AN INTERTEXTUAL INQUIRY





SOCIETY FOR NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES MONOGRAPH SERIES

Recent titles in the series:

- 137. Paul, the Stoics and the Body of Christ MICHELLE LEE
- 138. The Bridegroom Messiah and the People of God JOCELYN MCWHIRTER
- 139. The Torn Veil
 DANIEL M. GURTNER
- 140. Discerning the Spirits ANDRÉ MUNZINGER
- 141. The Sheep of the Fold EDWARD W. KLINK III
- 142. The Psalms of Lament in Mark's Passion STEPHEN P. AHERNE-KROLL
- Cosmology and Eschatology in Hebrews KENNETH L. SCHENCK
- 144. The Speeches of Outsiders in Acts
 OSVALDO PADILLA
- 145. The Assumed Authorial Unity of Luke and Acts PATRICIA WALTERS
- 146. Geography and the Ascension Narrative in Acts MATTHEW SLEEMAN
- 147. The Ituraeans and the Roman Near East E. A. MYERS
- 148. The Politics of Inheritance in Romans
 MARK FORMAN
- 149. The Doctrine of Salvation in the First Letter of Peter MARTIN WILLIAMS
- 150. Jesus and the Forgiveness of Sins TOBIAS HÄGERLAND
- 151. The Composition of the Gospel of Thomas SIMON GATHERCOLE
- 152. Paul as an Administrator of God in 1 Corinthians JOHN K. GOODRICH
- 153. Affirming the Resurrection of the Incarnate Christ MATTHEW D. JENSEN
- 154. Riches, Poverty, and the Faithful MARK D. MATTHEWS
- 155. Paul and the Rhetoric of Reversal in 1 Corinthians
 MATTHEW R. MALCOLM
- 156. The Genre of Acts and Collected Biographies SEAN A. ADAMS
- 157. The Eschatology of 1 Peter KELLY D. LIEBENGOOD





The Hermeneutics of Christological Psalmody in Paul

An Intertextual Enquiry

MATTHEW SCOTT

University of Otago





CAMBRIDGEUNIVERSITY PRESS

32 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013-2473, USA

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107056350

© Matthew Scott 2014

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 2014

Printed in the United States of America

A catalog record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Scott, Matthew (Pastor)

The hermeneutics of christological psalmody in Paul : an intertextual enquiry / Matthew Scott, University of Otago.

pages cm. – (Society for New Testament Studies monograph series; 158) Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-107-05635-0

1. Jesus Christ – Person and offices – Biblical teaching. 2. Bible.

 $Romans-Criticism,\,interpretation,\,etc.\quad 3.\ Bible.\,Romans-Hermeneutics.$

4. Bible. Psalms - Criticism, interpretation, etc. 5. Bible.

Psalms - Hermeneutics. 6. Bible. Romans - Relation to Psalms. 7. Bible.

Psalms – Relation to Romans. 8. Hays, Richard. Echoes of scripture in the letters of Paul. I. Title.

BS2665.52.S36 2014

227'.06-dc23 2013044418

ISBN 978-1-107-05635-0 Hardback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party Internet Web sites referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on such Web sites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.



CONTENTS

	List	of primary texts pa	ge xi
		nowledgements	xiii
		of abbreviations	ΧV
		nslations	xvii
1	Mei	talepsis and the Christological revision	
-		salmody in Paul	1
	1.1	Introduction	1
	1.2		10
	1.3	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	22
	1.4	* •	
		conclusion	31
2	The	e Davidic psalmist in Romans	33
	2.1	Introduction	33
	2.2	The "givenness" of Davidic authorship	35
	2.3		
		foreclosure	39
	2.4	Romans 11:9–10: Davidic malediction, Pauline censure	48
	2.5	Romans 3:10–18: David's co-option to the voice of Law	56
	2.6	The Davidic psalmist in Romans: preliminary conclusions	59
3	Chi	ristological psalmody in the service of formation:	
		nans 15:1-6	62
	3.1	Introduction	62
	3.2	A Christological subject for Psalm 68:10b in Romans 15:3	64
	3.3	Audience and agenda for Romans 15:3	68
	3.4		74
	3.5	Romans 15:4: Psalm 68 as a source of hope and instruction	86
	3.6	Romans 15:5–6: the outcomes of formation, and its	
		telos in praise	91

ix



x Contents

4	Christological cinema and the eclipse of the Davidic subject: Romans 15:9–12			
	4.1	Introduction	93	
	4.2	A Davidic psalm in Romans: contexts for quotation	97	
	4.3	Romans 15:9b: Christ among the Gentiles	103	
	4.4	Viewing the catena: three speakers and a director	114	
	4.5	Beyond Romans 15:9: the intertextuality of the catena	118	
	4.6	Christ revealed, David eclipsed: the testimony of the		
		psalms in Romans	129	
5	Me	talepsis and the voice of psalmody in 2		
	Cor	rinthians 4	133	
	5.1	Introduction	133	
	5.2	A Christological psalmist in 2 Corinthians 4:13	138	
	5.3	The written subject of psalmody, which is the spirit		
		of faith	154	
	5.4	The quotation in its literary context: Psalm 115:1–2		
		(Psalm 116:10–11 MT)	160	
	5.5	Beyond the distich: metaleptic invocation of Psalm 115	167	
	5.6	Psalm 114 (Psalm 116:1–9 MT) and the		
		morally simple subject	176	
	5.7	The Christological psalmist and the limits of metalepsis	180	
	5.8	Conclusions	185	
6	In o	conclusion: metalepsis and the Christological		
	rev	ision of psalmody in Paul	187	
	6.1	Introduction	187	
	6.2	The Christological subject	189	
	6.3	The Christological psalmist	192	
	6.4	Psalmody and the workings of metalepsis	195	
	6.5	Paul and the hermeneutics of Christological psalmody	198	
	Bib	liographic References	201	
	Ind	- I	217	
	Ind	ex of Scripture References	219	



PRIMARY TEXTS

The texts used in this study are as follows:

Elliger, K and W Rudolph, eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia* (= BHS). Fourth Corrected Edition. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1990. Nestle, E and K Aland, eds. *Novum Testamentum Graece* (= NA²⁷).

Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1993.

Rahlfs, Alfred. *Septuaginta*. 2 vols. Stuttgart: Württembergische Bibelanstalt, 1935.

Classical texts are cited according to the text and translation of the Loeb Classical Library editions.





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many are the debts incurred in a project like this one, once a thesis and now a book: debts of friendship, of judicious critique and of wise counsel. Far more than a supervisor, Professor John Barclay takes pride of place as the consummate *Doktorvater* with whom I racked up debts of all three kinds. John kept me from losing the wood for the trees; his unshakeable conviction that there *was* a wood gave me courage to see the project through.

In Durham University's Department of Theology and Religion I found a collegial welcome, challenging dialogue and lasting friendship. Among many who provoked my thinking I would like to thank Loren Stuckenbruck, Stephen Barton, Walter Moberly and Robert Hayward, and all the members of the lively New Testament Seminar. In their different ways, fellow students Bernhard Nausner, Dean Pinter, Naomi Jacobs and Ben Holdsworth, doctors all before me, kept me sane. A brief visit to the *other* Durham was seminal; thanks particularly to Richard Hays, as gracious and perceptive in person as I had found him in print. Special mention to Hans Arneson, a friend at both Durhams, no less a fan than I of 2 Corinthians.

I am grateful to Durham University for a generous Doctoral Fellowship, and to Universities New Zealand for a William Georgetti Scholarship. Without their support, there would have been no monograph to publish.

It took time for the thesis to become this book. For the gift of time, more than once, my thanks to Dunedin City Baptist Church.

Too numerous to list, the greatest debts I owe to my family: to Daniel, Zachary and Nadia, and to my wife Trish. The road was longer than we thought it would be, but we got there. This book, with all my love, is for you.

xiii





ABBREVIATIONS

NET *The NET Bible 1.0.* Biblical Studies Foundation, 2004 Unless specified, all other abbreviations conform to: Alexander, P H et al., eds. *The SBL Handbook of Style.* Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1999.





TRANSLATIONS

Except where indicated, all translations are my own.

xvii