DIVINE DISCOURSE IN THE
EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS

In this book, Madison N. Pierce analyzes the use of prosopological
exegesis by the author of Hebrews in almost every major quotation
of Scripture. She shows that the author uses Scripture in a consist-
ent way that develops his characterization of God – Father, Son,
and Spirit – that results in a triune portrait of God in Hebrews.
Offering a detailed reading of several passages, she also demon-
strates how the author’s portrayal of God is consistent with later
theological developments. Pierce’s method replaces atomistic
approaches and allows readers to see a clear pattern of usage
across the entire epistle. It offers researchers a tool for examining
quotations of New Testament Scripture and will be of particular
interest to those working in the field of trinitarian theology.

MADISON N. PIERCE is Assistant Professor of New Testament at
Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (TEDS). She is coeditor of
SOCIETY FOR NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES

MONOGRAPH SERIES

General Editor: Edward Adams, Kings College, London

178

DIVINE DISCOURSE IN THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS

Recent titles in the series:
166 The Death of Jesus in Matthew
   Catherine Sider Hamilton
167 Ecclesiology and Theosis in the Gospel of John
   Andrew J. Byers
168 The Book of Revelation and Early Jewish Textual Culture
   Garrick Allen
169 The Origin of Divine Christology
   Andrew Ter Ern Loke
170 Romans 7 and Christian Identity
   Will N. Timmins
171 Inventing Hebrews
   Michael Wade Martin, Jason A. Whitleark
172 Jesus’ Death and Heavenly Offering in Hebrews
   R. B. Jamieson
173 The Role of Emotion in 1 Peter
   Katherine M. Hockey
174 Jesus Christ as the Son of David in the Gospel of Mark
   Max Botner
175 Narrative and Drama in the Book of Revelation
   Lourdes Garcia Urena, Donald Murphy
176 Eschatology and the Saviour
   Sarah Parkhouse
177 The Gospel of John and the Future of Israel
   Christopher M. Blumhofer
Divine Discourse in the Epistle to the Hebrews

The Recontextualization of Spoken Quotations of Scripture

MADISON N. PIERCE

Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
79 Anson Road, #06–04/06, Singapore 079906

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/9781108495417
DOI: 10.1017/9781108849838

© Cambridge University Press 2020
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 2020
Printed in the United Kingdom by TJ International Ltd, Padstow Cornwall

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

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
Names: Pierce, Madison N., author.
Title: Divine discourse in the Epistle to the Hebrews : the recontextualization of spoken quotations of scripture / Madison N. Pierce, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (Teds).
Classification: LCC BS2775.52 .P54 2020 (print) | LCC BS2775.52 (ebook) | DDC 227/.8706–dc23
LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2020000221
LC ebook record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2020000222

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.
To Curtis
Thank you for your constant love and support.
## CONTENTS

**Acknowledgments**  

page xi

1. **The Author’s Exegetical Method and Speech in Hebrews**  
   1.1 Terminology and Methodology  
   1.2 Three Supporting Voices  
   1.3 Conclusion  

2. **Intra-Divine Discourse (1): The Father Addresses the Son**  
   2.1 Hebrews 1:1–14: The Father Speaks to the Son  
   2.2 Hebrews 5:1–10 and 7:1–28: The Father Speaks to the High Priest  
   2.3 Hebrews 8:1–13: The Father Speaks of a New Covenant  
   2.4 Conclusion  

3. **Intra-Divine Discourse (2): The Son Responds to the Father**  
   3.1 Hebrews 2:1–18: Jesus and His Siblings  
   3.2 Hebrews 10:1–10: Christ and His Offering  
   3.3 Conclusion  

4. **Extra-Divine Discourse: The Holy Spirit Speaks to the Community**  
   4.1 Hebrews 3:7–4:11: The Spirit Guides the Community to Rest  
   4.2 Hebrews 10:15–18: The Spirit and the Promise of Forgiveness  
   4.3 Conclusion
## Contents

5 Divine Discourse and the Structure of Hebrews 175  
5.1 Previous Structural Proposals 176  
5.2 Divine Discourse in Hebrews 1:1–4:16 178  
5.3 Divine Discourse in Hebrews 4:11–10:25 180  
5.4 Divine (and Human) Discourse in Hebrews 10:19–13:25 182  
5.5 Divine Discourse “in the Son” 194  
5.6 Conclusion 198  

6 Conclusion 200  
6.1 The Author’s Cast of Characters 200  
6.2 The Father Who Loves 202  
6.3 The Son Who Serves 204  
6.4 The Spirit Who Exhorts and Admonishes 206  
6.5 Three Divine Speakers and the Argument of Hebrews 209  

Bibliography 212  
Primary Sources 212  
Secondary Sources 213  
Scripture and Primary Source Index 226  
Secondary Source Index 234  
Subject Index 237
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Though this book is clearly about three important characters, its cast is actually much larger. These acknowledgments highlight only a few. To my parents and extended family, thank you for modeling many of the attributes that I have needed to complete this project successfully. I love you. To the staff of the Theology and Religion Department at Durham University, thank you for your enthusiasm about my well-being and success. I am grateful for all of you, but special thanks are due to Jane Heath, my internal examiner, who offered very useful feedback during my viva, as well as to Lewis Ayres whose support, advice, and scholarship have been indispensable. Thank you, Lewis. To my colleagues who worked in 37a N Bailey (before or during my time), thank you for your feedback and your friendship. You and your families make up some of my favorite memories in Durham and at SBL. I am especially grateful to Sarah Parkhouse and her ongoing friendship. To my Hebrews colleagues the world over, particularly those who have offered the opportunity to share my work at various conferences, and notably Amy Peeler, thank you for your consistent interest and feedback. Further thanks are due to those who read portions of this book at various stages, such as Bobby Jamieson and Joshua Bloor, as well as Bryan Dyer, who read this work in its entirety. To Michelle Knight, my dearest friend, thank you for everything. You remain one of God’s greatest gifts to me. To David Moffitt, my external examiner, mentor, and friend, I am so grateful for your careful and incisive reading of this project at various stages. The improvements that your comments and scholarship have made are immeasurable. To Joey Dodson, thank you for affirming my calling and (nascent) abilities at a time when I was in doubt. Your advice and advocacy for the last decade are the reason I am here today. Thank you for reading this manuscript and offering feedback – as well as introducing me to my beloved Hebrews many years ago. To Francis Watson, thank you for
Acknowledgments

being an exemplar among supervisors. Your enthusiasm and attentiveness through this process have been remarkable. Your direct guidance on my work, while indispensable, is somehow rivaled by what you have modeled to me about how to be a scholar, mentor, colleague, and most of all reader of Scripture. Thank you so much, Francis. To those at Cambridge University Press who have overseen publication of this monograph – Eddie Adams, Beatrice Rehl, Eilidh Burnett, and the anonymous reviewer – thank you for all of your work.

Finally, to Curtis Pierce, my favorite, thank you for moving across the world to support my dream. Thank you for placing your career on hold and for caring for me in every way through this process. I cannot imagine finishing this work without you and Izzy – and now Isla. I cherish our days in Durham reflecting and dreaming about our lives together so much. So many of those dreams have now become a reality. I love you beyond measure.