



Four Views on the Apostle Paul (Counterpoints: Bible and Theology)

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The apostle Paul was a vital force in the development of Christianity. Paul's historical and religious context affects the theological interpretation of Paul's writings, no small issue in the whole of Christian theology.

Recent years have seen much controversy about the apostle Paul, his religious and social context, and its effects on his theology. In the helpful Counterpoints format, four leading scholars present their views on the best framework for describing Paul's theological perspective, including his view of salvation, the significance of Christ, and his vision for the churches.

Contributors and views include:

- Reformed View: Thomas R. Schreiner
- Catholic View: Luke Timothy Johnson
- Post-New Perspective View: Douglas Campbell
- Jewish View: Mark D. Nanos

Like other titles in the Counterpoints: Bible and Theology collection, *Four Views on the Apostle Paul* gives theology students the tools they need to draw informed conclusions on debated issues.

General editor and New Testament scholar Michael F. Bird covers foundational issues and provides helpful summaries in his introduction and conclusion. New Testament scholars, pastors, and students of Christian history and theology will find *Four Views on the Apostle Paul* an indispensable introduction to ongoing debates on the apostle Paul's life and teaching.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Michael F. Bird (PhD, University of Queensland) is lecturer in theology at Ridley Melbourne College of Mission and Ministry in Melbourne, Australia. He is the author of *Jesus and the Origins of the Gentile Mission*; *The Saving Righteousness of God: Studies on Paul, Justification, and the New Perspective*; *Evangelical Theology*; *Bourgeois Babes, Bossy Wives, and Bobby Haircuts: A moderate Case for Gender Equality in Ministry* and editor of *The Apostle Paul: Four Views*. He is also a co-blogger of the New Testament blog "Euangelion."

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Thomas R. Schreiner (PhD, Fuller Theological Seminary) is James Buchanan Harrison Professor of New Testament and associate dean of Scripture and interpretation at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. The author of numerous books, he is the preaching pastor of Clifton Baptist Church in Louisville, Kentucky.

Luke Timothy Johnson (Ph.D., Yale) is the R.W. Woodruff Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at Candler School of Theology at Emory University. His research concerns the literary, moral, and religious dimensions of the New Testament, including the Jewish and Greco-Roman contexts of early Christianity (particularly moral discourse), Luke-Acts, the Pastoral Letters, and the Letter of James. A prolific author, Dr. Johnson has penned numerous scholarly articles and more than 25 books. His 1986 book *The Writings of the New Testament: An Interpretation*, now in its second edition, is widely used in seminaries and departments of religion throughout the world.

A former Benedictine monk, Dr. Johnson is a highly sought-after lecturer, a member of several editorial and advisory boards, and a senior fellow at Emory University's Center for the Study of Law and Religion. He received the prestigious 2011 Louisville Grawemeyer Award in Religion for his most recent book, *Among the Gentiles: Greco-Roman Religion and Christianity* (2009, Yale University Press), which explores the relationship between early Christianity and Greco-Roman paganism.

Douglas Campbell is a New Testament professor at Duke Divinity School. His main research interests comprise the life and thought (i.e. theology and its development) of Paul with particular reference to soteriological models rooted in apocalyptic as against justification or salvation-history. However, he is interested in contributions to Pauline analysis from modern literary theory, from modern theology, from epistolary theory, ancient rhetoric, ancient comparative religion, modern linguistics and semantic theory, and from sociology. His recent publications include *The Rhetoric of Righteousness in Romans 3:21-26*, and he edited *The Call to Serve: Biblical and Theological Perspectives on Ministry in Honour of Bishop Penny Jamieson*. Dr. Campbell has also written *The Quest for Paul's Gospel: A Suggested Strategy* (2005), and *The Deliverance of God: An Apocalyptic Rereading of Justification in Paul* (2009).

Mark D. Nanos is Soebbing Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence, Rockhurst University. Visit Mark's website at www.marknanos.com.

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