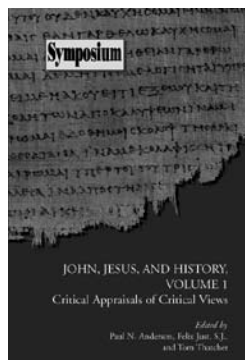




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JOHN, JESUS, AND HISTORY, VOLUME 1

Critical Appraisals of Critical Views

Paul N. Anderson, Felix Just, S.J., and Tom Thatcher, editors

Over the last two centuries, many scholars have considered the Gospel of John off-limits for all quests for the historical Jesus. That stance, however, creates a new set of problems that need to be addressed thoughtfully. The essays in this book, reflecting the ongoing deliberations of an international group of Johannine and Jesus scholars, critically assess two primary assumptions of the prevalent view: the *dehistoricization of John* and the *de-Johannification of Jesus*. The approaches taken here are diverse, including cognitive-critical developments of Johannine memory, distinctive characteristics of the Johannine witness, new historicism, Johannine-Synoptic relations, and fresh analyses of Johannine traditional development. In addition to offering state-of-the-art reviews of Johannine studies and Jesus studies, this volume draws together an emerging consensus that sees the Gospel of John as an autonomous tradition with its own perspective, in dialogue with other traditions. Through this challenging of critical and traditional assumptions alike, new approaches to John's age-old riddles emerge, and the ground is cleared for new and creative ways forward.



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“I am deeply impressed by the first volume of the John, Jesus, and History Project with its critical appraisals of different views. It announces a new direction in Johannine scholarship, concentrating on the many still unsolved and disputed historical questions in the Fourth Gospel, especially its relation to the real Jesus of Nazareth and its messianic claim. Because the Jewish background of the Fourth Gospel is rediscovered, doors are opened for a new approach to Jesus traditions in the Johannine corpus.”

—Martin Hengel, *Professor of New Testament Emeritus, University of Tübingen*

“Inviting some of the best Johannine scholars to deal with some of the most burning and central historical issues in the Gospel of John is a winning recipe! These articles seriously engage with the problems at hand and do so with the finesse and academic integrity that are befitting of the best of Johannine scholarship.”

—Jan van der Watt, *University of Pretoria, South Africa*



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