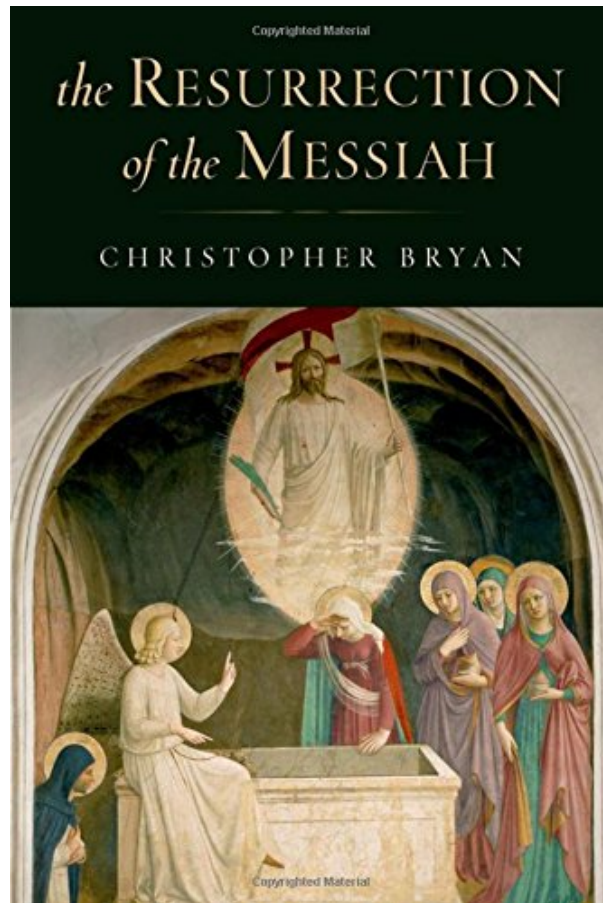


THE RESURRECTION OF THE MESSIAH BY CHRISTOPHER BRYAN



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Review

"This is an exciting contribution to the literature and immensely readable. It is particularly strong in presenting the Gospel texts as performed text and in exploring some of the questions provoked by such a reading, with reference to classical and modern exemplars. Bryan has a large appreciation of the way theatre works and his references to both Greek drama and Shakespeare are effective and illuminating. The breadth of reference throughout is stimulating and heartening in a work that also pays such close attention to text."--Fr. Peter Allan CR, Lecturer and Vice-Principal, the College of the Resurrection

"As in the earlier *Render to Caesar*, Christopher Bryan constructs straightforward, consecutive and easily traceable arguments, and writes strikingly clear prose-with an occasional touch of whimsy. These are uncommon virtues in the academic world. Indeed, he has actually hewn a good read through the dense exegetical thickets that scholarship has cultivated around the Resurrection-the thorns and brambles are there for those vocationally committed to dealing with them, but relegated to the plentiful footnotes."--Robert Jenson, Senior Scholar, Center of Theological Inquiry (ret.)

"Bryan offers not only an elegant and erudite exposition of what the NT says about Jesus' resurrection and the good grounds for believing it but also a survey of numerous ancillary areas." --The Catholic Biblical Quarterly

About the Author

Christopher Bryan, sometime scholar of Wadham College, Oxford, is C.K. Benedict Professor of New Testament Emeritus at the University of the South. Since his semi-retirement in 2008 he continues to write

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THE RESURRECTION OF THE MESSIAH BY CHRISTOPHER BRYAN PDF

In *The Resurrection of the Messiah*, Christopher Bryan combines literary, historical, and theological approaches in a study of the doctrine of the Resurrection. The book is divided into three parts. The first section provides a careful and sympathetic description of first-century Jewish and pagan opinions and beliefs about death and what might follow. This is followed by a presentation of a general account of early Christian claims about the death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth.

The second part of the book offers a detailed, full-length commentary on and exegesis of the main New Testament texts that speak of Jesus' death and resurrection: 1 Corinthians 15 and the narratives in the four canonical gospels. As a framework for this commentary, Bryan utilizes the pattern of apostolic preaching presented by Paul and then echoed by each of the four evangelists, namely the formula "Christ died, Christ was buried, Christ has been raised, Christ appeared."

The final section of the book is spent discussing and evaluating various proposals that have been made by those attempting to explain the data in ways that differ from the traditional Christian explanation. Bryan also considers various theological and ethical implications of accepting the claim "Jesus Christ has been raised from the dead." Throughout his study, Bryan exhibits a willingness to face hard questions as well as an appropriate reverence for a faith that for almost two thousand years has enabled millions of people to lead lives of meaning and grace.

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Another great book on Jesus Christ's Resurrection!

By Richard C. Woodhouse

I just finished reading this new book by Scholar Chrisopher Bryan. Once again another great book I have had the pleasure to read this year. This volume is both a kind of Biblical Commentary and Historical and Theological Essay combined. Professor Bryan covers the New Testament passages that have to do with the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. Well, specifically Paul's and the Gospel Passages. Then there are a number of great chapters on the historical and literary questions and details, on the historical question of the Resurrection itself. I found this to be the best part of the book and his arguments to be cogent and fair minded. I admit to struggling with the miraculous aspects of scripture. Yet it is that part of the Bible that is the most important in my opinion. It ties in with questions of Meaning, Theodicy and Power. Is there hope for us all? Does God have real Power? I think our culture lives in real denial of Death, and its horrific finality. Much of the life after death ideas that many people hold, are simplistic and not thought through very well. Much of it borders on Gnostic ideas of the evil nature of physical life. That is not The Christian view! This world and reality is seen as good and very important. Much of the Bible teaches that this World is to be RE-Created! Now of course this is just about impossible to conceptualize. The fact that the first people who claimed to be witnesses of these events, went on to suffer and even die for it, gives weight to what they say. In the essays at the end of the book, Professor Bryan brings up some very good arguments for the basic truth of the New Testament witness to the Resurrection of Jesus. He brings up the counter views of scholars such as Crossan, Bultman and others and makes good arguments, countering their skeptical theories. Of course by the very nature of Historical study. Knock down proof is just not possible in most historical investigation. Then there is always the questions of all of our personal biases. Everyone comes to this subject with pre-held biases of a philosophical, Theological and spiritual nature. As the great German Theologian Wolfhart Pannenberg, has often pointed out. The Resurrection will always be debatable and the final answer will only be when the promised Resurrection of all peoples happens. The purely historical argument is that it is highly probable that Jesus Christ was raised from the Dead, in my opinion. But it takes a faith commitment to go on from there, and to say that "God" Raised Him from the Dead. Some Contemporary Theologians say that that

in itself is the definition of who and what God is. God is the Reality that raised Jesus from the dead and promises to do the same for the rest of Humanity in the future. Teasing out all the ramifications of this belief, is what Christian Theology is about. I highly recommend this book. Thanks for taking the time to read my Review.

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful.

A very comprehensive survey

By W. Cheung

This is a scholarly work. It dissects the biblical texts in great details, and explores various exegetical and philological dimensions with great skills. The arguments for the validity of the accounts are standard (cf. *The Resurrection of the Son of God (Christian Origins and the Question of God, Vol. 3)* and *The Resurrection of Jesus: A New Historiographical Approach*), but the intense milking of the original texts is very rewarding.

The last chapter explores the meaning of it all. If we accept that the resurrection of Jesus is historical fact, then what is its significance? In less than twenty pages (pp 173-189), it makes sense of the whole Easter story. It is nothing gratuitous at all. Once it is pointed out, that it becomes so obvious. Truly inspiring.

Five stars.

0 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Five Stars

By Brian Clayton

Great seller. nice book. Fast shipping. Thanks!

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