



Sacred Tradition in the New Testament: Tracing Old Testament Themes in the Gospels and Epistles

Stanley E. Porter

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"This collection of essays engages a perennial issue within the field of New Testament studies: the relationship of the earliest Christian literature to the heritage of its sacred traditions. In critical dialogue with recent scholarship, Porter clarifies the tricky methodological issues of how the New Testament cites, alludes to, and echoes scriptural texts. His insightful but provocative findings about the use of certain traditional texts and images by early Christians and by Jesus himself will no doubt stimulate further significant scholarly debate."

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"Porter leads us into a fresh and stimulating understanding of the New Testament's appropriation of the sacred traditions of Israel's Scriptures. This is more than just another book on the New Testament's use of the Old. Porter's decision to focus on the titles of Jesus and broad themes makes the book practically a miniature New Testament theology, with the great virtue of helping us perceive the rich unity of the Bible. This is a book that deserves, and will reward, a thoughtful reading."

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"Porter's *Sacred Tradition in the New Testament* brings much-needed nuance and definition to a very important phenomenon in New Testament literature, especially with reference to the popular but often ill-defined term *intertextuality*. Porter not only clarifies the relevant vocabulary and methods, but he also discusses several important texts and themes that relate to Jesus, his self-understanding, and the Christology that comes to expression in the New Testament. Anyone interested in the topic will want to engage this carefully researched and well-written book."

--**Craig A. Evans**, John Bisagno Distinguished Professor of Christian Origins, Houston Baptist University

"Ranging more widely than traditional treatments of the Old Testament in the New, Porter's study illustrates the broad role such traditions played in shaping the way Jesus was understood by New Testament authors and in shaping Jesus's own self-understanding. This is a significant contribution on much-debated issues."

--**Stephen Westerholm**, professor of early Christianity, McMaster University

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