



How on Earth Did Jesus Become a God?: Historical Questions about Earliest Devotion to Jesus

Larry W. Hurtado

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In *How on Earth Did Jesus Become a God?* Larry Hurtado investigates the intense devotion to Jesus that emerged with surprising speed after his death. Reverence for Jesus among early Christians, notes Hurtado, included both grand claims about Jesus' significance and a pattern of devotional practices that effectively treated him as divine. This book argues that whatever one makes of such devotion to Jesus, the subject deserves serious historical consideration.

Mapping out the lively current debate about Jesus, Hurtado explains the evidence, issues, and positions at stake. He goes on to treat the opposition to -- and severe costs of -- worshiping Jesus, the history of incorporating such devotion into Jewish monotheism, and the role of religious experience in Christianity's development out of Judaism. The follow-up to Hurtado's award-winning *Lord Jesus Christ* (2003), this book provides compelling answers to queries about the development of the church's belief in the divinity of Jesus.

How on Earth Did Jesus Become a God?: Historical Questions about Earliest Devotion to Jesus Details

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From Reader Review How on Earth Did Jesus Become a God?: Historical Questions about Earliest Devotion to Jesus for online ebook

Robert Schut says

The author treated the subject very evenly throughout the book. He showed that the devotion to Jesus by the early Christian community was a natural response to the idea that he was treated as divine from the beginning of their origin and not something that was an afterthought. His book answers questions that many might have today about their behavior being the "cause" of Jesus' divinity rather than the "result."

Roar says

I'm not very knowledgeable in the area of "the historical Jesus," but to me this seems to be a good contribution! I didn't finish the book, though...

Dick Pickett says

Excellent study of Christian origins.

Aswindo says

Dalam buku ini Larry Hurtado menyelidiki penyembahan luar biasa terhadap Yesus yang muncul secara sangat cepat sesudah kematianNya. Hurtado memperhatikan bahwa penghormatan kepada Yesus di antara orang Kristen mula-mula dulu dilakukan dengan dua cara, yaitu mengakui secara besar-besaran bahwa Yesus memiliki arti yang penting serta menetapkan cara-cara penyembahan yang secara efektif memberlakukan Yesus sebagai Tuhan. Buku ini menunjukkan bahwa apapun pendapat orang tentang penyembahan kepada Yesus itu, persoalan tersebut patut mendapat pertimbangan historis yang serius.

Vincent says

Excellent body of work from Dr. Hurtado

Highly recommend this volume from Dr. Hurtado. The reader will find this material challenging and thought provoking, a wonderful addition to your Biblically based library.

Wyatt Graham says

Larry Hurtado provides a clear case for early devotion to Jesus. He also engages with scholarship that would

disagree with him in a clear and fair manner. At the end of the day, Hurtado seems to have the stronger case. Yet this book was written 2005 and other arguments probably have come to light since this time. For example, Kirk's 2016 book on the Man Jesus Christ probably requires a response (I have yet to read it).

Jorge says

El autor revisa la evidencia histórica sobre la comprensión de Jesús cómo Dios entre los primeros cristianos. Muestra claramente el proceso desde un enfoque de las ciencias sociales y no teológico. Un libro erudito, fácil de leer y accesible para los no especialistas

Jonathan Cast says

Excellent defense of a controversial thesis; that the Jerusalem church, already before Paul's conversion, already worshipped Jesus as divine. Must-read for anyone interested in the historical development of the idea of Jesus' divinity.

C.J. says

In How on Earth Did Jesus Become a God? Larry Hurtado investigates the intense devotion to Jesus that emerged with surprising speed after his death. Reverence for Jesus among early Christians, notes Hurtado, included both grand claims about Jesus' significance and a pattern of devotional practices that effectively treated him as divine. This book argues that whatever one makes of such devotion to Jesus, the subject deserves serious historical consideration.

Brent Wilson says

I got turned onto Larry Hurtado through referral by a BYU professor, so I was curious what kind of scholarship he was doing. Turns out he looks carefully a group of NT scholars who focus on how Jesus was seen among the earliest converts - kind of an indirect way of getting at the "historical Jesus." In fact these scholars redefine the criteria for evidence of what can tell us something meaningful about Jesus - more sociological/ anthropological evidence, less about figure-detail issues in historical context. This volume was okay, but I want to keep reading Hurtado's other work; I have a feeling I haven't hit the vein of gold yet!
