

Contents

Preface	vi
Introduction: The Sad State of Biblical Studies	1
Chapter 1: Jesus' Conflicts	5
A New Point of View: Jesus' Word	5
Disturbing Deeds of Liberation	9
A Religion of Hope and Gladness	14
The Sacred Right of the Poor	20
Under Surveillance	23
Parallels in Luke's Gospel	25
<i>The Human Being as above All Law</i>	26
<i>Abolition of All Manner of Discrimination</i>	26
Chapter 2: Jesus' Power and Strength	28
Miracles	28
<i>God's Language for Everybody</i>	28
<i>Signs of Liberation</i>	29
<i>Good News for the Downtrodden</i>	31
<i>Signs of an Abundance of Love</i>	34
<i>Signs in the Community</i>	38
<i>Signs of Service and of Relationship with the Father</i>	39
Jesus in League with Satan?	41
<i>A Strange Person</i>	41
<i>A Strange Community</i>	42
<i>Subverting the Prevailing Order</i>	43
<i>Rejection and Repression</i>	45
Chapter 3: Jesus and the Oppressed	47
Jesus and Woman	47
<i>Women in the Time of Jesus</i>	47

<i>Christians and Women</i>	51
What Is a Poor Person Worth?	56
<i>What Is of Real Value: God in the Hearts of the Poor</i>	56
<i>“I Want You to Observe”</i> : The Gulf Is Unbridgeable	58
Chapter 4: Confrontation with the Powers	60
Jesus and Wealth	60
<i>Skirting the Issue: The Interpreters</i>	60
<i>Scriptural Meaning of “Rich”</i>	63
<i>Meaning of “Rich” in Hellenized Judaism</i>	64
<i>A Rich Person? Impossible!</i>	66
<i>God or Money?</i>	68
<i>The Way of the Cross: Complete Renunciation</i>	69
Jesus and Power	72
<i>The Interests at Stake</i>	72
<i>“To God What Is God’s”</i>	75
Behind the Mask of Holiness	76
<i>Front Seats in the Synagogue</i>	76
<i>Devouring the Savings of Widows</i>	78
<i>Remain the Last One of All</i>	79
Chapter 5: The Way of the Cross	80
Let’s Talk about a Murder	80
The Agony	80
The Arrest	83
The Trial	86
Peter’s Denial	93
Jesus before Pilate	94
Chapter 6: And They Crucified Him	102
The Crucified One	102
Jesus’ Death	106
Chapter 7: The Resurrection	117
Differences in the Accounts	117
Heart and Soul in the Telling	118

Structure of Mark's Account	119
Similar Forms	120
No Rising without a Passion	123
<i>The Rising of the Accursed One</i>	123
<i>Invalid Testimony</i>	124
<i>Call to the Deserters</i>	124
An Unpredictable God	124
Liberation from Every Encumbrance	126
Triumph of Life	126

Works Cited**131**