

Contents

Preface: Claims and Disclaimers	7
1. The Gospel as the Power of God	11
The Issue	
Faith in Christ and Belief in Miracles	
“Divine Men” in Mark’s World	
Mark as Interpreter of the Miracle Stories	
Epiphany Christology in the Miracle Stories	
2. The Gospel as the Weakness of Jesus	49
The Humanness of Jesus in Mark	
Paul and the Early Christian Kenosis Christology	
The Kenosis Christology of Hebrews	
The Kenosis Christology of Revelation	
Kenosis Christology in the Pre-Synoptic Tradition	
3. The Gospel as Gospel	73
The Struggle of Two Opposing Christologies	
Mark Affirms Both Christologies	
Messianic Secret, Gospel Form, and Christological Language	
4. The Gospel as Language	91
Paradoxical Language	
Surface Paradox and Depth Paradox	
The Variety of Kinds of Valid Language	
The Order of Language and the Order of Being	
Language and Pictures	
Paradox and the Language of Ultimacy	
5. The Gospel as Paradox	115
Paradox and the Language of Religion	
Paradox and the Language of Science	
Paradox, Life, and Literature	
Paradox and the Language of Love	
Paradox as the Language of Commitment	
Paradox, Human Finitude, and Sin	
Paradoxical Language and Logic	
Notes	135