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## MATTHEW AND HIS CHRISTIAN CONTEMPORARIES

*Matthew and his Christian Contemporaries* compares the author of Matthew's Gospel with a selection of contemporary Christian authors and texts. Recent Matthean scholarship has highlighted the distinctiveness of this early Christian writer by emphasizing his clear Jewish perspective on early Christianity. The author of Matthew has therefore frequently been perceived as both Jewish and Christian: his Christian standpoint is couched in terms of observance and fulfillment of the Mosaic Law as well as faith in Jesus as the Messiah.

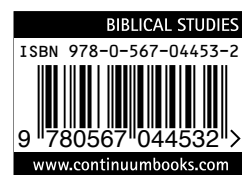
This presents an area for discussion in New Testament studies as much of the religious literature contemporary with Matthew displays a diminished relevance of the Mosaic Law. In this book the contributors seek to establish the distinctiveness of Matthew by comparing his theological perspective with the documents many believe to have been his major sources - Mark and Q - and with the two remaining Gospels, the Pauline epistles, and other early Christian texts. The discussion is drawn to a close by assessing Matthew's distinctive portrayal of Jesus in the light of historical Jesus studies.

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