



# Paul and the Gentile Problem

By Matthew Thiessen

Download now

Read Online ➔

## Paul and the Gentile Problem By Matthew Thiessen

*Paul and the Gentile Problem* provides a new explanation for the apostle Paul's statements about the Jewish law in his letters to the Romans and Galatians. Paul's arguments against circumcision and the law in Romans 2 and his reading of Genesis 15-21 in Galatians 4:21-31 belong within a stream of Jewish thinking which rejected the possibility that gentiles could undergo circumcision and adopt the Jewish law, thereby becoming Jews. Paul opposes this solution to the gentile problem because he thinks it misunderstands how essentially hopeless the gentile situation remains outside of Christ. The second part of the book moves from Paul's arguments against a gospel that requires gentiles to undergo circumcision and adoption of the Jewish law to his own positive account, based on his reading of the Abraham Narrative, of the way in which Israel's God relates to gentiles. Having received the Spirit (*pneuma*) of Christ, gentiles are incorporated into Christ, who is the singular seed of Abraham, and, therefore, become materially related to Abraham. But this solution raises a question: Why is it so important for Paul that gentiles become seed of Abraham? The argument of this book is that Paul believes that God had made certain promises to Abraham that only those who are his seed could enjoy and that these promises can be summarized as being empowered to live a moral life, inheriting the cosmos, and having the hope of an indestructible life.

↓ [Download Paul and the Gentile Problem ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online Paul and the Gentile Problem ...pdf](#)

# Paul and the Gentile Problem

*By Matthew Thiessen*

## **Paul and the Gentile Problem** By Matthew Thiessen

*Paul and the Gentile Problem* provides a new explanation for the apostle Paul's statements about the Jewish law in his letters to the Romans and Galatians. Paul's arguments against circumcision and the law in Romans 2 and his reading of Genesis 15-21 in Galatians 4:21-31 belong within a stream of Jewish thinking which rejected the possibility that gentiles could undergo circumcision and adopt the Jewish law, thereby becoming Jews. Paul opposes this solution to the gentile problem because he thinks it misunderstands how essentially hopeless the gentile situation remains outside of Christ. The second part of the book moves from Paul's arguments against a gospel that requires gentiles to undergo circumcision and adoption of the Jewish law to his own positive account, based on his reading of the Abraham Narrative, of the way in which Israel's God relates to gentiles. Having received the Spirit (*pneuma*) of Christ, gentiles are incorporated into Christ, who is the singular seed of Abraham, and, therefore, become materially related to Abraham. But this solution raises a question: Why is it so important for Paul that gentiles become seed of Abraham? The argument of this book is that Paul believes that God had made certain promises to Abraham that only those who are his seed could enjoy and that these promises can be summarized as being empowered to live a moral life, inheriting the cosmos, and having the hope of an indestructible life.

## **Paul and the Gentile Problem** By Matthew Thiessen Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1221402 in Books
- Published on: 2016-03-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 6.50" h x 1.20" w x 9.40" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 336 pages

 [Download Paul and the Gentile Problem ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Paul and the Gentile Problem ...pdf](#)

## Editorial Review

### Review

"Thiessen presents a rich volume in which he offers a systematic understanding of Paul's solution to 'the gentile problem.' This is a bold volume, which certainly provides food for thought for further debates [A] creative and stimulating contribution to the important conversation about the role of the apostle to the nations within his first century context."--*The Enoch Seminar*

"Matthew Thiessen's re-reading of Paul - bold, learned, and comprehensive - presents an apostle compelled by his apocalyptic convictions to reimagine the relationship of the nations to Israel's god, to the patriarch Abraham, and to Abraham's seed, the Christ. Seemingly intractable passages of Galatians and of Romans shift suddenly into sharp focus. With *Paul and the Gentile Problem*, Thiessen moves New Testament scholarship into a new age." --Paula Fredriksen, Distinguished Visiting Professor of Comparative Religion, the Hebrew University, Jerusalem

"Matthew Thiessen demonstrates the implications of reading Paul within Second Temple Judaism; moreover, he eschews the traditional impulse to find something wrong in Judaism to understand Paul. By maintaining a historically responsible reading of Paul, one that identifies his target audience as Christ-following non-Jews, Thiessen delivers on several central issues in Pauline studies, including how Paul defined his non-Jews as Abraham's seed and conceptualized their receipt of pneuma, identifying the so-called Jew in Romans 2, and decoding the enigmatic allegory of Galatians 4. Uniquely illuminating is Thiessen's interpretation of Paul's understanding of the promise to Abraham that his seed would be like the stars." --Mark D. Nanos, co-editor of *Paul within Judaism: Restoring the First-Century Context to the Apostle*

"Drawing on his wide knowledge of ancient Judaism, Thiessen here reframes Paul's theology of his gentile mission, insisting that his polemics are directed only against gentiles attempting the impossible, not against Jews, Judaism, or Jewish practices as such. This combination of fresh thinking and deep research is exactly what we need: it generates many original proposals which are bound to provoke new and important debate." --John Barclay, Lightfoot Professor of Divinity, Durham University

### About the Author

**Matthew Thiessen** received his Ph.D from Duke University in 2010. His first book, *Contesting Conversion*, won the prestigious Manfred Lautenschlaeger Award for Theological Promise (2014). He has also won the Society of Biblical Literature's Regional Scholar Award (2014). He is currently Associate Professor of Religious Studies at McMaster University.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Victor Kohlmeier:**

Have you spare time for any day? What do you do when you have considerably more or little spare time? Sure, you can choose the suitable activity to get spend your time. Any person spent their very own spare time to take a wander, shopping, or went to typically the Mall. How about open or maybe read a book allowed Paul and the Gentile Problem? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You understand beside you can spend your time using your favorite's book, you can cleverer than before. Do you agree with its opinion or you have other opinion?

#### **Jeffrey Sandoval:**

Typically the book Paul and the Gentile Problem has a lot details on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of advantage. The book was authored by the very famous author. Mcdougal makes some research previous to write this book. This book very easy to read you may get the point easily after scanning this book.

#### **Michael Colburn:**

Your reading 6th sense will not betray you actually, why because this Paul and the Gentile Problem book written by well-known writer who really knows well how to make book that can be understand by anyone who have read the book. Written in good manner for you, dripping every ideas and producing skill only for eliminate your hunger then you still question Paul and the Gentile Problem as good book not simply by the cover but also with the content. This is one publication that can break don't ascertain book by its handle, so do you still needing one more sixth sense to pick this kind of!? Oh come on your reading sixth sense already alerted you so why you have to listening to yet another sixth sense.

#### **Jerry Sonnier:**

This Paul and the Gentile Problem is brand new way for you who has curiosity to look for some information because it relief your hunger associated with. Getting deeper you in it getting knowledge more you know or else you who still having tiny amount of digest in reading this Paul and the Gentile Problem can be the light food to suit your needs because the information inside this book is easy to get by means of anyone. These books acquire itself in the form and that is reachable by anyone, yep I mean in the e-book application form. People who think that in guide form make them feel tired even dizzy this e-book is the answer. So there is absolutely no in reading a publication especially this one. You can find actually looking for. It should be here for you actually. So , don't miss the item! Just read this e-book style for your better life and knowledge.

**Download and Read Online Paul and the Gentile Problem By  
Matthew Thiessen #YBO83UN25J1**

# **Read Paul and the Gentile Problem By Matthew Thiessen for online ebook**

Paul and the Gentile Problem By Matthew Thiessen Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Paul and the Gentile Problem By Matthew Thiessen books to read online.

## **Online Paul and the Gentile Problem By Matthew Thiessen ebook PDF download**

**Paul and the Gentile Problem By Matthew Thiessen Doc**

**Paul and the Gentile Problem By Matthew Thiessen Mobipocket**

**Paul and the Gentile Problem By Matthew Thiessen EPub**