

# Contents

*Abbreviations* / x

- I Trajectories of Conversations with Paul and Others / 1
- 2 The Contribution of Traditions to Paul's Theology (1993) / 18
  - The Need for a Framework of Interpretation* / 18
  - The Cultural Context that Informed Paul's Experience* / 21
  - The Influence of Scriptural Interpretation in the Formulation of Paul's Theological Statements* / 24
  - The Interaction between Scriptural Interpretation and Events of Everyday Life* / 27
  - New and Old in Paul's Theology* / 29
  - The Shape of Paul's Theology* / 31
  - Conclusion* / 35
- 3 The Rule of Faith in Romans 12:1—15:13 (1995) / 39
  - Introduction: Interpretive Tendencies in the Understanding of the Letter* / 39
  - The Diatribe Style as an Indirect Witness to What Paul is Not Saying* / 42
  - The Situation of Paul's Addressees in Romans 12–15* / 44
    - Political Factors* / 44
    - Theological Factors* / 45
    - Social Factors: The Weak and the Strong in First-Century Roman Society* / 48
  - The Identity of the Weak and the Strong in Romans 14–15* / 51
  - The Rule of Faith: Norms for the Believing Community* / 58
  - The Failure of the Romans to Accept One Another: Boasting in Distinction and Ignoring Common Allegiance to Christ* / 63
  - Conclusion: Paul's Theology of Faith in Romans* / 65
- 4 Divergent Images of Paul and His Mission (2000) / 67
  - Examples from the Reception of Romans in the Twentieth Century* / 67
  - Paul, Champion of the Gentiles: The Partisan Paul* / 71
  - Continuity Between Romans 3–4 and Romans 9–11* / 74

- Romans 9 and the “Surprise” Ending to Romans 11* / 75  
*Recontextualizing Paul’s Statements in Romans 9* / 81  
*Divergent Understandings of the Significance of Paul’s Gentile Mission as a Factor in the Roman Context* / 85  
*The Inclusive Paul: The Purpose of God for Jews and also for Gentiles* / 88
- 5 “All God’s Beloved in Rome!”: Jewish Roots and Christian Identity (2004)** / 91  
*Structure and Content in Romans 8:14—11:36* / 91  
*Jewish versus Christian Identity?* / 96  
*Christian Identity and Negative Self-Designation* / 98  
*Diversity in Christian Identity* / 102
- 6 “As Having and as Not Having”: Paul, Circumcision, and Indifferent Things in 1 Corinthians 7:17–32a (2006/7)** / 106  
*Introduction* / 106  
*Transformation in Christ* / 107  
*The Process: The Interaction between Continuity and Transformation* / 116  
*Resocialization and Reversal of Values* / 119  
*Circumcision, Transformation, and Christ-Identity* / 123
- 7 Unity and Diversity in the Church: Transformed Identities and the Peace of Christ in Ephesians (2008)** / 127  
*Introduction* / 127  
*Unity is Both a Cause for Celebration and a Process to Be Worked At* / 128  
*The New Anthropos is Not a “Third Entity”* / 132  
*Ephesians Constructs an Alternative Society in Implicit Contrast with Roman Imperialistic Claims* / 135  
*The Reconciliation Advocated Involves Diverse Communities of Christ-Followers* / 138  
*Being in Christ and Israelite Identity are Interdependent in Ephesians* / 143  
*Conclusion* / 144
- 8 The Addressees of Paul’s Letter to the Romans: Assemblies of God in House Churches and Synagogues (2010)** / 146  
*Introductory Issues* / 146  
*Historical Issues and Possible Inferences Arising from These* / 148  
*Interpretative Factors* / 149  
*The Approach Adopted in this Study* / 149  
*Evidence Concerning the Historical Context Prior to Paul’s Writing to the Romans* / 151  
*The Evidence from the Letter Concerning Those Whom Paul Addresses* / 153  
*Evidence Concerning the Addressees within Romans 9–11* / 157  
*The Weak and the Strong in Romans 14:1—15:13* / 159  
*The Collection and the Jerusalem Aspect of Romans* / 164  
*Conclusion* / 166

**9 “Let us Maintain Peace” (Rom 5:2): Reconciliation and Social Responsibility (2011) / 169**

*Introduction: Why Focus on Reconciliation in Paul / 169*

*The Source of Paul’s Imagery of Reconciliation / 173*

*Locating Reconciliation Language within the Structure of Romans / 174*

*Inter-Group Conflict among the Roman Christ-Followers / 175*

*Reconciliation in Practice / 178*

*Reconciliation and Paul’s Purpose in Romans / 182*

*Conclusion: The Pursuit of Peace / 184*

**IO Universality and Particularity in Paul’s Understanding and Strategy of Mission (2011) / 187**

*Introduction / 187*

*Commonality in Paul’s Teaching / 188*

*Common Content across Paul’s Letters / 190*

*Imitation in Paul / 191*

*Common Destiny—Conformity with the Image of Christ / 192*

*Being Linked with Christ for Paul Means Being Inducted into a Jewish Symbolic Universe / 195*

*Universality and Particularity in First-Century Judaism / 196*

*Philo / 196*

*Philo and Paul: Commonality and Difference / 197*

*The Contextuality of Paul’s Universal Mission—Recognizing the Limits / 199*

*Conclusion / 201*

**II “I Rate All Things as Loss”: Paul’s Puzzling Accounting System: Judaism as Loss or the Re-evaluation of All Things in Christ? (2012) / 203**

*Introduction / 203*

*“Remain as you were when called”: Reading 1 Corinthians 7:20 in Context / 205*

*Circumcision and Glorifying in the Flesh (Gal 6:11–16) / 209*

*“I rate all things as loss”: Philippians 3:8 / 212*

*Re-evaluating All Things in Christ: The Rhetoric of Pauline Comparisons / 215*

*The Re-evaluation of All Things in Christ: A New Paradigm for Pauline Studies? / 218*

*Bibliography / 225*

*Index of Scriptural Passages / 257*

*Index of Modern Authors / 263*