

# SOME THOUGHTS ON HERMENEUTICS ARISING FROM THE PSALMS

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## *The messianic hope and the Psalms*

The absence of the term 'Messiah' from the OT.  
'Anointed' in the Psalms

1. The original setting
2. The compilation of the Psalms
3. The Psalms as Christian Scripture

## *The three stages in interpretation of the Psalms*

The importance of the second stage

Examples of re-interpretation

1. Qumran
2. Paul
3. Patristic rewriting

Compiling the Psalter

1. Collective re-interpretation
2. Other additions and changes

The rationale for re-interpretation: Psalm 2

1. The original sense
2. The perpetuity of the monarchy and the ruler
3. In the light of Jesus

## *The implications for interpretation*

1. The Christian understanding of the Psalms
2. The Christian understanding of the Old Testament  
The laws in Leviticus
3. The Christian understanding of the Bible →

## *Mediaeval interpretation and the task of interpretation today*

The four senses of Scripture

Applied to Psalm 114

The rationale

1. The literal sense
2. The allegorical sense
3. The moral sense
4. The anagogical sense

But is all this in the psalm?

## *Meaning and application*

Four moments in the pattern of dying and rising with Christ

David Steinmetz on the mediaeval approach

Applied to Matthew 20:1-16

Aspects of meaning and fields of possible meaning

1. What underlies the original text
2. The New Testament sets the parameters
3. Application to Leviticus

## *Conclusion*