

# Contents

<i>Foreword</i>	ix
<i>Preface</i>	xi
<i>Introduction</i>	xiii

## **Part I: Reading Synoptic Gospels with Critical Tools and Perspectives**

1. Genre of the Gospels	3
2. The Formation of the Synoptic Gospels	12
3. Reading the Synoptic Gospels with New Literary Tools	33

## **Part II: Socio-Political and Religio-Cultural Locations of the Jesus Movement**

1. Political Conditions of First Century Palestine	59
2. Socio-Religious and Cultural Conditions of First Century Palestine	67
3. Economic Condition for First Century Palestine	81
4. Importance of Social History, Sociological and Cultural Studies in Understanding the Jesus Movement	88

## **Part III: Formative Factors of the Jesus Movement**

1. Infancy Narratives	103
2. The Movement of John the Baptist	121
3. Baptism and Temptation of Jesus	128

## **Part IV: A. Teachings of Jesus and His Movement**

1. Basileia Teachings of Jesus	137
2. Parabolic Teachings of Jesus	141
3. Discourses of Jesus	149
4. Disciples and Discipleship	161
5. Ekklesia Sayings of Jesus	166
6. The Prayers of Jesus	170

**Part IV: B. Praxes of Jesus – Fore-Taste of the *Basileia* of God**

1. Life Style of Jesus	179
2. Miracles of Jesus	183
3. Confrontations of Jesus	189
4. Formation of an Inclusive Community	196
5. Jesus and the New Temple Motif in the Synoptic Gospels	201

**Part V: The Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus**

1. Formation of the Passion Narratives	209
2. Self-Giving Life of Jesus	213
3. Meaning of Suffering and Cross in the Synoptic Gospels	216
4. Formation of Resurrection Narratives	219
5. Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus	225

**Part VI: Jesus of the Jesus Movement**

1. Self-Understanding of Jesus	235
2. Gospel Writers' Christological Interpretations of the Life and Death of Jesus	243
3. The Historical Jesus in Modern Scholarship	254

**Part VII: Exegesis**

Modular Exegesis from the Gospels	265
<i>Selected Bibliography</i>	277