



# Crucified and Resurrected: Restructuring the Grammar of Christology

By Ingolf U. Dalfert



**Crucified and Resurrected: Restructuring the Grammar of Christology** By Ingolf U. Dalfert

This major work, now available in English, is considered by many to be one of the finest and most significant contributions to modern Christology. Preeminent scholar and theologian Ingolf Dalfert argues for a radical reorientation of Christology for historical, hermeneutical, and theological reasons. He defends an orthodox vision of Christology in the context of a dialogue with modernity, showing why the resurrection, not the incarnation, ought to be the central idea of Christological thinking. His proposal is both pneumatological and Trinitarian, and addresses themes such as soteriology, the doctrine of atonement, and preaching.

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### **Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

#### From the Inside Flap

In *Crucified and Resurrected*, Ingolf Dalferth reorients Christology from the traditional focus on the incarnation to the original focus on the resurrection. Dalferth explains that Christology is about God, not a particular past event of history, and it is about the activity of divine love in resurrection rather than about incarnation. Resurrection is not merely about the crucified Jesus but about God, who through his salvific presence creates life from death and good out of evil for his creatures. Dalferth articulates the main features of a grammar of Christology so as to state, clearly and systematically, the consequences of the christological transformation of theology. He shows that a dogmatic explication of the Christian faith has to follow a path of thought that leads from the resurrection to the cross, from the cross to the life of Jesus, and from there to the understanding of God, which, when given a new and rearticulated form, leads to the understanding of salvation. Dalferth also offers a critical account of contemporary debates about the sacrificial understanding of Jesus's death and its relevance for understanding contemporary Christian life. In the process, he explores how Christology has fared in modernity, introducing readers to the works of an exhaustive number of interlocutors both friendly to and suspicious of the orthodox model.

Dalferth's proposal is both pneumatological and trinitarian and addresses themes such as soteriology, the doctrine of atonement, and preaching. The result is a faithful restating of orthodox Christology in a modern key. *Crucified and Resurrected* was first published by Mohr Siebeck as *Der auferweckte Gekreuzigte* in 1994 and has been translated by Jo Bennett.

#### From the Back Cover

This major work, now available in English, is considered by many to be one of the finest and most significant contributions to modern Christology. Preeminent scholar and theologian Ingolf Dalferth argues for a radical reorientation of Christology for historical, hermeneutical, and theological reasons. He defends an orthodox vision of Christology in the context of a dialogue with modernity, showing why the resurrection, not the incarnation, ought to be the central idea of christological thinking.

"*Crucified and Resurrected* is a work of rare distinction, offering a penetrating analysis of the elements and entailments of the Christian confession of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Its anatomy of Christology is undergirded by a sense that the beauty and significance of Christian thought and practice derive from the uniqueness of their object. This is theological reflection of a very high order, whose appearance in English is warmly to be welcomed."

--John Webster, University of St. Andrews

"This admirable translation makes Ingolf Dalferth's already-classic christological work on cross and resurrection available in English for the first time, with a new preface that situates it within the trajectory of the author's developing thought. What we have here is a study that returns us to the startling novelty of early resurrection belief and from there penetratingly expounds the 'grammar' and gift of its christological implications. A profound, original, and challenging account."

--Sarah Coakley, University of Cambridge

"With this book, now available in English as *Crucified and Resurrected*, Ingolf Dalferth has propounded a conception of dogmatic Christology that attempts to take the problems and requirements of modernity into account. Dalferth follows Eberhard Jüngel's hermeneutically oriented Christology and, with the help of

analytical philosophy, carries it further in terms of trinitarian theology. The doctrine of the Trinity unfolds the act of faith as a concrete hermeneutical event. In this way, Christ comes into view as an image of faith involved in history. Christology is thus not one theological theme alongside others; it is the grammar of the Christian faith."

--**Christian Danz**, University of Vienna

#### About the Author

**Ingolf U. Dalferth** (DrTheol, University of Tübingen), the author of over forty books, is Danforth Professor of Philosophy of Religion at Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, California. He is also professor emeritus in the faculty of theology at the University of Zurich.

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**Barbara Watson:**

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