

Cambridge University Press  
0521609380 - Kerygma and Didache: The Articulation and Structure of the  
Earliest Christian Message  
James I. H. McDonald  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

SOCIETY FOR NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES

*MONOGRAPH SERIES*

General Editor: R. McL. Wilson F.B.A.

Associate Editor: M. E. Thrall

37

*KERYGMA AND DIDACHE*

Cambridge University Press

0521609380 - *Kerygma and Didache: The Articulation and Structure of the Earliest Christian Message*

James I. H. McDonald

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

# *Kerygma and Didache*

The articulation and structure of the  
earliest Christian message

**JAMES I. H. McDONALD**

Lecturer in Religious Studies

Moray House College, Edinburgh

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

CAMBRIDGE

LONDON · NEW YORK · NEW ROCHELLE

MELBOURNE · SYDNEY

Cambridge University Press  
 0521609380 - Kerygma and Didache: The Articulation and Structure of the  
 Earliest Christian Message  
 James I. H. McDonald  
 Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
 The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS  
 The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK  
 40 West 20th Street, New York NY 10011-4211, USA  
 477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia  
 Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain  
 Dock House, The Waterfront, Cape Town 8001, South Africa

<http://www.cambridge.org>

© Cambridge University Press 1980

This book is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception  
 and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,  
 no reproduction of any part may take place without  
 the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1980  
 First paperback edition 2004

*A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library*

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication Data

McDonald, James Ian Hamilton.  
*Kerygma and didache.*

(Monograph series – Society for New Testament  
 Studies; 37)

A revision of the author's thesis, University of  
 Edinburgh, 1974.

Bibliography: p.

Includes indexes.

1. Kerygma. 2. Theology – Early church, ca. 30–600.  
 I. Title. II. Series: Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas.  
 Monograph series; 37.

BS2545.K43M23 1979 251 77-95446

ISBN 0 521 22055 6 hardback

ISBN 0 521 60938 0 paperback

Cambridge University Press  
0521609380 - Kerygma and Didache: The Articulation and Structure of the  
Earliest Christian Message

James I. H. McDonald

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

TO JENNY

Cambridge University Press  
 0521609380 - *Kerygma and Didache: The Articulation and Structure of the  
 Earliest Christian Message*  
 James I. H. McDonald  
 Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

## CONTENTS

Preface	
Abbreviations	
<b>Introduction</b>	
The problem of <i>kerygma</i> and <i>didache</i>	1
Towards a structural analysis of <i>kerygma</i> and <i>didache</i>	7
An operational model for early Christian preaching and teaching	10
<b>1 <i>Propheteia</i></b>	12
The phenomenon of prophecy	12
Basic forms of Old Testament prophecy	13
The formal structure of the preaching of John	17
The formal structure of the preaching of Jesus	19
Prophecy and the origins of early Christian preaching and teaching	28
<b>2 <i>Paraclesis</i> and homily</b>	39
Popular preaching in the Graeco-Roman world	39
Popular preaching in the Jewish tradition	43
The homily in the preaching and teaching of Jesus	48
<i>Paraclesis</i> and homily in the early Christian church	50
<b>3 <i>Paraenesis</i> and <i>catechesis</i></b>	69
<i>Paraenesis</i> in the Graeco-Roman world	69
<i>Paraenesis</i> in the Jewish tradition	73
<i>Paraenesis</i> in the ministry of John	79
<i>Paraenesis</i> in the ministry of Jesus	80
<i>Paraenesis</i> in the early church	87
<b>4 <i>Paradosis</i></b>	101
Tradition in the hellenistic world	101
Tradition in Israel	102
Jesus and tradition	104
Tradition in the early church	107

Cambridge University Press  
0521609380 - Kerygma and Didache: The Articulation and Structure of the  
Earliest Christian Message

James I. H. McDonald

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

*Contents*

<b>Conclusion</b>	126
<b>Notes</b>	133
<b>Bibliography</b>	205
<b>Index of authors</b>	219
<b>Index of scripture passages</b>	224

Cambridge University Press  
0521609380 - Kerygma and Didache: The Articulation and Structure of the  
Earliest Christian Message  
James I. H. McDonald  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

## PREFACE

This book originated as a thesis presented to the University of Edinburgh in 1974 for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Since then it has been substantially revised and rewritten. At all stages in its development, I have been indebted to the advice and encouragement of Professor Hugh Anderson of the University of Edinburgh. I am grateful to the editors of the S.N.T.S. Monograph Series for accepting the work for publication: to Professor Matthew Black, Principal of St Mary's in the University of St Andrews, for initial guidance, and to Professor R. McL. Wilson, of the same University, for much help while the manuscript was being prepared for the publishers; and to Dr David Hill, of the University of Sheffield, for the benefit of his criticism at an earlier stage. My indebtedness to the world of scholarship is, however, much wider than I can readily identify here. I can only hope that the acknowledgements in the notes and bibliography go some way towards indicating the extent to which I have relied on the labours of others. For any omissions and misinterpretations I crave the reader's indulgence.

I acknowledge the help I have received from many modern translations of the Bible, and while I have sometimes translated from the Greek myself and have not used any one version consistently, I am aware of having used the Revised Standard Version (1952) more frequently than any other.

From the time this work was in its earliest stages, my wife has been a constant source of strength and encouragement, and her contribution has included the typing of several drafts of the entire manuscript. To her the end product is affectionately dedicated.

Finally, it is a pleasure to acknowledge the friendly helpfulness and efficiency of the staff of Cambridge University Press.

*Edinburgh*  
*St Andrew's Day, 1977*

I. McD.

## ABBREVIATIONS

A & G	W. F. Arndt and F. W. Gingrich, <i>A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament</i> , 1957
A.N.C.L.	<i>Ante-Nicene Christian Library</i>
A.N.E.T.	J. B. Pritchard (ed.), <i>Ancient Near Eastern Texts relating to the Old Testament</i> , Princeton, N.J., 1950
B.A.	<i>Biblical Archaeologist</i> , Cambridge, Mass. (now Missoula, Montana)
B.A.S.O.R.	<i>Bulletin of the American School of Oriental Research</i> , New Haven, Conn.
<i>Beginnings</i>	F. J. Foakes-Jackson and K. Lake (edd.), <i>The Beginnings of Christianity</i> , London, 1920–33
B.F.P.S.	C. Westermann, <i>Basic Forms of Prophetic Speech</i> , Eng. tr., London, 1967
B.J.R.L.	<i>Bulletin of the John Rylands Library</i> , Manchester
B.Z.	<i>Biblische Zeitschrift</i> , Paderborn
B.Z.A.W.	<i>Beihefte der Zeitschrift für alttestamentliche Wissenschaft</i>
C.B.Q.	<i>Catholic Biblical Quarterly</i> , Washington, D.C.
D.B.S.	<i>Supplément au Dictionnaire de la Bible</i> V, Paris.
<i>Ency. Bib.</i>	<i>Encyclopaedia Biblica</i> , London, 1899–1903
E.R.E.	<i>Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics</i> , Edinburgh, 1908–26
<i>Ev. Th.</i>	<i>Evangelische Theologie</i> , München
<i>Exp. T.</i>	<i>Expository Times</i> , Edinburgh
F.G.T.	V. Taylor, <i>The Formation of the Gospel Tradition</i> , London, 1933, r.p. 1964
H.J.	<i>Hibbert Journal</i> , London
H.N.T.	<i>Handbuch zum Neuen Testament</i> , Tübingen
H.S.T.	R. Bultmann, <i>History of the Synoptic Tradition</i> , Eng. tr., Oxford, 1963, 2nd ed. 1968
H.T.R.	<i>Harvard Theological Review</i> , Cambridge, Mass.
H.U.C.A.	<i>Hebrew Union College Annual</i> , Cincinnati



### Abbreviations

<i>I.C.C.</i>	<i>International Critical Commentary</i> , Edinburgh
<i>Int.</i>	<i>Interpretation: a Journal of Bible and Theology</i> , Richmond, Va.
<i>Int. Bib.</i>	<i>Interpreter's Bible</i> , New York, Nashville, 1952–7
<i>I.T.Q.</i>	<i>Irish Theological Quarterly</i> , Dublin
<i>J.B.L.</i>	<i>Journal of Biblical Literature</i> , New Haven, Boston, Philadelphia
<i>J.E.H.</i>	<i>Journal of Ecclesiastical History</i> , London
<i>J.J.S.</i>	<i>Journal of Jewish Studies</i> , Cambridge
<i>J.Q.R.</i>	<i>Jewish Quarterly Review</i> , London, Philadelphia
<i>J.R.</i>	<i>Journal of Religion</i> , Chicago
<i>J.S.S.</i>	<i>Journal of Semitic Studies</i> , Manchester
<i>J.S.J.</i>	<i>Journal for the Study of Judaism</i> , Leiden
<i>J.T.S.</i>	<i>Journal of Theological Studies</i> , Oxford
<i>Mélanges M. Goguel</i>	M. Goguel (Festschrift), <i>Aux sources de la tradition chrétienne</i> , Neuchâtel, 1950
<i>Mélanges B. Rigaux</i>	B. Rigaux (Festschrift), <i>Mélanges bibliques en hommage au R. P. Béda Rigaux</i> , Gembloux, 1970
<i>M.M.</i>	B. Gerhardsson, <i>Memory and Manuscript, Oral Tra- dition and Written Transmission in Rabbinic Judaism and Early Christianity</i> , Lund, 1961
<i>N.C.E.</i>	<i>New Catholic Encyclopaedia</i> , New York, 1967–74
<i>Nov. T.</i>	<i>Novum Testamentum</i> , Leiden
<i>N.R.T.</i>	<i>Nouvelle Revue Théologique</i> , Paris, Louvain
<i>N.T.S.</i>	<i>New Testament Studies</i> , Cambridge, Eng.
<i>O.C.D.</i>	<i>Oxford Classical Dictionary</i>
<i>Peake</i>	M. Black and H. H. Rowley (edd.), <i>Peake's Com- mentary on the Bible</i> , London, 1962
<i>P.G.</i>	J. P. Migne (ed.), <i>Patrologia Graeca</i> , Paris, 1857–64
<i>Rab. Anth.</i>	C. G. Montefiore and H. Lowe (edd.), <i>A Rabbinic Anthology</i> , London, 1938
<i>R.d'H.E.</i>	<i>Revue d'Histoire Ecclésiastique</i> , Louvain
<i>R.G.G.</i>	<i>Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart</i> , Tübingen
<i>S.J.T.</i>	<i>Scottish Journal of Theology</i> , Edinburgh
<i>S.M.R.</i>	C. F. D. Moule (ed.), <i>The Significance of the Mess- age of the Resurrection for Faith in Jesus Christ</i> , London, 1968.
<i>S.O.T.P.</i>	J. H. Robinson (ed.), <i>Studies in Old Testament Prophecy</i> , Edinburgh, 1950
<i>S.S.M.</i>	W. D. Davies, <i>The Setting of the Sermon on the Mount</i> , Cambridge, 1964

Cambridge University Press  
 0521609380 - Kerygma and Didache: The Articulation and Structure of the  
 Earliest Christian Message  
 James I. H. McDonald  
 Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

*Abbreviations*

<i>St. Th.</i>	<i>Studia Theologica</i> , Lund
<i>T.D.N.T.</i>	<i>Theological Dictionary of the New Testament</i> , ed. G. F. Kittel (Eng. tr. of <i>Theologische Wörterbuch zum Neuen Testament</i> ), Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1964–76
<i>T.L.Z.</i>	<i>Theologische Literaturzeitung</i> , Leipzig
<i>T.T.</i>	B. Gerhardsson, <i>Tradition and Transmission in Early Christianity</i> , Lund, 1964
<i>T.U.</i>	<i>Texte und Untersuchungen</i> , Berlin
<i>V. Chr.</i>	<i>Vigiliae Christianae</i> , Amsterdam
<i>V.T.</i>	<i>Vetus Testamentum</i> , Leiden
<i>V.T.S.</i>	<i>Vetus Testamentum Supplement</i>
<i>Z.A.W.</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für die Alttestamentliche Wissenschaft</i> , Berlin
<i>Z.N.W.</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für die Neutestamentliche Wissenschaft</i> , Berlin
<i>Z.T.K.</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für Theologie und Kirche</i> , Tübingen