

Cambridge University Press
0521609348 - The New Testament Concept of Witness
Allison A. Trites
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

SOCIETY FOR NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES
MONOGRAPH SERIES

GENERAL EDITOR
MATTHEW BLACK, D.D., F.B.A.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
R. McL. WILSON

31

THE NEW TESTAMENT CONCEPT OF WITNESS

Cambridge University Press
0521609348 - The New Testament Concept of Witness
Allison A. Trites
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

THE NEW TESTAMENT
CONCEPT OF
WITNESS

ALLISON A. TRITES

*Associate Professor of Biblical Studies
Acadia Divinity College, Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia*

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

CAMBRIDGE

LONDON • NEW YORK • MELBOURNE

Cambridge University Press
 0521609348 - The New Testament Concept of Witness
 Allison A. Trites
 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 1977

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 1977
 First paperback edition 2004

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

Library of Congress cataloguing in publication data

Trites, Allison A. 1936–
 The New Testament concept of witness.

(Monograph series – Society for New Testament studies; 31)

Bibliography: p.

Includes index.

1. Witness bearing (Christianity) – Biblical teaching.
2. Witnesses – Biblical teaching. I. Title. II. Series: Studiorum
 Novi Testamenti Societas.
 Monograph series; 31.

BS2545.W54T74 268'.5 76-11067

ISBN 0 521 21015 1 hardback
 ISBN 0 521 60934 8 paperback

Cambridge University Press
 0521609348 - The New Testament Concept of Witness
 Allison A. Trites
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page vii</i>
<i>Abbreviations</i>	viii
1 Introduction	1
2 The witness terminology of secular Greek	4
3 The witness terminology of the Septuagint	16
4 The use of controversy in the Old Testament	20
5 The controversy in Isaiah 40–55	35
6 The idea of witness in other Jewish writings	48
7 The witness terminology of the New Testament	66
8 The concept of witness in the Fourth Gospel	78
9 The concept of witness in the Book of Acts	128
10 The concept of witness in the Book of Revelation	154
11 The idea of witness elsewhere in the New Testament	175
12 Conclusion	222
Appendix: The use of witnesses and evidence in rabbinical literature	231
<i>Bibliography</i>	240
<i>Index of references</i>	255

Cambridge University Press
0521609348 - The New Testament Concept of Witness
Allison A. Trites
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

PREFACE

I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Beaverbrook Foundation, the American Philosophical Society and the Canada Council for their financial support of this research; to Principal G. H. Davies and Dr G. Pearce of Regent's Park College for their guidance during the early stages of the investigation; to Professor G. D. Kilpatrick, the Rev. D. E. Whiteley and Professor A. R. C. Leaney for their comments on an earlier draft (my thesis); to Professor C. F. D. Moule and Dr Colin Hemer for their helpful advice in preparing the manuscript for publication; to Dr M. R. Cherry and Dr A. J. Langley of Acadia Divinity College for their encouragement and to the college itself for granting me a sabbatical to complete my revision and prepare the manuscript for publication; and to St Deiniol's Library, Hawarden and Tyndale House, Cambridge for the use of their research facilities. I cannot sufficiently express my gratitude to Dr G. B. Caird, Principal of Mansfield College, Oxford, whose acute and constructive criticism of my work was invaluable; I am also grateful for the editorial suggestions of Professors Matthew Black and Robert Wilson of St Andrews University, Scotland. Above all I owe a debt of gratitude to my family, both English and Canadian, for their interest and concern and to Eugenie my wife, whose love and patience have sustained me throughout the preparation of this book.

Acadia University, Wolfville, N.S.

ALLISON A. TRITES

Cambridge University Press
 0521609348 - The New Testament Concept of Witness
 Allison A. Trites
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

ABBREVIATIONS

- ABR* *Australian Biblical Review*
Aeg *Aegyptus*
 Arndt & Gingrich W. F. Arndt and F. W. Gingrich, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*, Cambridge, 1957.
ASTI *Annual of the Swedish Theological Institute*
ATR *Anglican Theological Review*
AUSS *Andrews University Seminary Studies*
BC *The Beginnings of Christianity* (ed. F. J. Foakes Jackson, K. Lake and H. J. Cadbury), 5 vols., London, 1920-33.
BETS *Bulletin of the Evangelical Theological Society*
Bib *Biblica*
BJRL *Bulletin of the John Rylands Library*
 Blass & Debrunner F. Blass and A. Debrunner, *A Greek Grammar of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (tr. and ed. F. W. Funk), Cambridge, 1961
BR *Biblical Research*
BS *Bibliotheca Sacra*
BZ *Biblische Zeitschrift*
BZAW Beihefte zur *Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft*
CBQ *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*
 CBSC Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges
 CGT Cambridge Greek Testament
CIG *Corpus Inscriptionum Graecarum* (ed. A. Boeckh *et al.*), Berlin, 1828-77
CJT *Canadian Journal of Theology*
CN *Coniectanea Neotestamentica*
EeT *Église et Théologie*
EQ *Evangelical Quarterly*
ETL *Ephemerides Theologicae Lovanienses*
EvTh *Evangelische Theologie*
ExpT *Expository Times*
GR *Gordon Review*
HJ *Hibbert Journal*
HTR *Harvard Theological Review*
IB *The Interpreter's Bible* (ed. G. A. Buttrick), 12 vols., New York, 1952-7
 ICC The International Critical Commentary
IDB *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible* (ed. G. A. Buttrick), 4 vols., New York, 1962.

Cambridge University Press
 0521609348 - The New Testament Concept of Witness
 Allison A. Trites
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

ABBREVIATIONS

<i>Int</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>
<i>ITQ</i>	<i>Irish Theological Quarterly</i>
<i>JBL</i>	<i>Journal of Biblical Literature</i>
<i>JES</i>	<i>Journal of Ecumenical Studies</i>
<i>JTS</i>	<i>Journal of Theological Studies</i>
LCL	Loeb Classical Library
Liddell & Scott	H. G. Liddell and R. Scott, <i>A Greek-English Lexicon</i> (revised by H. S. Jones), Oxford, 1940
MNTC	The Moffatt New Testament Commentary
Moulton & Milligan	J. H. Moulton and G. Milligan, <i>The Vocabulary of the Greek Testament</i> , London, 1930
<i>MTB</i>	<i>McMaster Theological Bulletin</i>
<i>NovT</i>	<i>Novum Testamentum</i>
<i>NRT</i>	<i>Nouvelle Revue Théologique</i>
<i>NTA</i>	<i>New Testament Abstracts</i>
<i>NTS</i>	<i>New Testament Studies</i>
Peake	<i>Peake's Commentary on the Bible</i> ² (ed. M. Black and H. H. Rowley), London, 1962
<i>PEQ</i>	<i>Palestine Exploration Quarterly</i>
<i>RB</i>	<i>Revue Biblique</i>
<i>RE</i>	<i>Review and Expositor</i>
<i>RHPR</i>	<i>Revue d'histoire et de philosophie religieuses</i>
<i>RQ</i>	<i>Restoration Quarterly</i>
<i>RSPT</i>	<i>Revue des Sciences Philosophique et Théologique</i>
<i>RTA</i>	<i>Religious and Theological Abstracts</i>
<i>RTP</i>	<i>Revue de Théologie et de Philosophie</i>
<i>RTR</i>	<i>Reformed Theological Review</i>
SBT	Studies in Biblical Theology
<i>Sc</i>	<i>Scripture</i>
<i>SEA</i>	<i>Svensk Exegetisk Årsbok</i>
<i>SJT</i>	<i>Scottish Journal of Theology</i>
Strack-Billerbeck	H. L. Strack and P. Billerbeck, <i>Kommentar zum Neuen Testament aus Talmud und Midrasch</i> , 5 vols., Munich, 1922
STRT	Studia Theologica Rheno-Traiectina (ed. H. W. Obbink, A. A. van Ruler and W. C. van Unnik).
<i>StudEv</i>	<i>Studia Evangelica</i>
<i>TaL</i>	<i>Theology and Life</i>
<i>TB</i>	<i>The Tyndale Bulletin</i>
<i>TDNT</i>	<i>Theological Dictionary of the New Testament</i> (ET of <i>TWNT</i> , tr. and ed. G. W. Bromiley), Grand Rapids, 1964ff.
<i>TF</i>	<i>Theological Forum</i>
<i>Them</i>	<i>Themelios</i>
<i>TT</i>	<i>Theology Today</i>

Cambridge University Press
0521609348 - The New Testament Concept of Witness
Allison A. Trites
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

ABBREVIATIONS

- TU* *Texte und Untersuchungen zur Geschichte der altchristlichen Literatur*
TWNT *Theologisches Wörterbuch zum Neuen Testament* (ed. G. Kittel; now G. Friedrich), Stuttgart, 1933ff.
VE *Vox Evangelica*
VT *Vetus Testamentum*
WTJ *Westminster Theological Journal*
ZNW *Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft*