

OPSOMMING

Die kanoniese benadering van B.S. Childs deur

GUSTAV FREDRICH CLAASSEN
Promotor: Professor W.S. Prinsloo
Departement Ou Testament
Fakulteit Teologie (Afdeling B)
Universiteit van Pretoria

DOCTOR DIVINITATIS

Dit is meer as dertig jaar gelede dat Childs (1964) sy belangrike artikel *Interpretation in Faith* gepubliseer het. Dit het die begin ingelei van 'n nuwe fase in die Ou-Testamentiese navorsing. Talle verdere publikasies van Childs het die lig gesien. Sy publikasies het baie reaksie uitgelok. Die kanoniese benadering van Childs sou tot 'n debat lei wat steeds nie uitgewoed is nie.

Hierdie studie poog om 'n evaluering van die benadering van B. S. Childs te maak. As 'n hipotese word gestel dat die kanoniese benadering van Childs hom nog steeds in die hoofstroom van die historiese kritiek bevind. Childs maak nog steeds van die resultate van die histories-kritiese metode gebruik. Dit word gedoen teenoor aannames dat Childs a-histories werk en sy eie siening dat die kanoniese benadering 'n paradigmaskuif verteenwoordig.

Die hipotese word uitgewerk aan die hand van die volgende werkswyse: Na inleidende opmerkings volg 'n bespreking van die plek wat Childs inneem in die navorsing oor die kanon. Dit word gevolg deur 'n gedeelte wat aandag gee aan outobiografiese gegewens oor Childs, sy belangrikste publikasies en die ontwikkeling van sy kanoniese benadering. 'n Uiteensetting van Childs se benadering gegee aan die hand van kernkonsepte volg hierna. Om Childs as 'n kind van sy tyd te sien word daar gekyk na die invloed wat sy

mentors op hom gehad het asook ooreenkomste wat hy met ander teoloë en nie-teoloë het. Ten einde Childs in perspektief te sien word reaksie op sy benadering vervolgens aan die orde gestel. Reaksie op die benadering van Childs word geëvalueer in die daaropvolgende deel. Indien Childs nie 'n paradigmaskuif verteenwoordig nie, wat is dan sy relevansie vir die toekomstige debat? Die laaste hoofstuk is 'n konklusie wat die bydrae van Childs evalueer en die moontlike implikasies van die kanoniese benadering vir die toekoms bespreek.

Die studie bevestig die feit dat die kanoniese benadering hom nog steeds binne dieselfde kader as die historiese kritiek bevind. Childs is in die implementering van sy benadering afhanklik van die resultate van die histories-kritiese metode. Om hierdie rede kan Childs nie geëtiketteer word dat hy a-histories werk nie. Die aanspraak wat gemaak word dat hy 'n paradigmaskuif bewerkstellig het, gaan ook nie op nie. Dit neem egter niks weg van die feit dat B. S. Childs 'n monumentale bydrae tot die Ou-Testamentiese wetenskap gemaak het nie.

SUMMARY

The canonical approach of B.S. Childs

by

Gustav Fredrich Claassen

Promotor: Professor W.S. Prinsloo

Old Testament Department

Theology Faculty (B)

University of Pretoria

DOCTOR DIVINITAS

It is more than thirty years ago since Childs (1964) published his important article *Interpretation in Faith*. This article introduced the start of a new phase in Old-Testamentical research. A number of other publications by Childs have since seen the light. His publications have elicited wide reaction. The canonical approach of Childs would lead to a debate that has still not abated.

This study attempts to evaluate B.S. Childs' approach. It is hypothesised that the canonical approach by Childs still finds itself in the mainstream of historical criticism. Childs still uses the results of the historical critical method. This is done in contrast to the suppositions that Childs operates a-historically and to his own view that the canonical approach represents a paradigm move.

The above hypothesis was developed using the following methodology: Introductory comments followed by a discussion of Childs' place in canonical research. Subsequently, autobiographical data on Childs, his most important publications and the development of his canonical approach are presented. It is followed by a discussion of his approach in view of fundamental concepts. To view Childs as a child of his time, regard must be had to the influence of his mentors on him and the similarities he

shared with theologians and non-theologians. To place Childs' approach into perspective, reaction to the approach is discussed and evaluated. If Childs does not represent a paradigm move, what then is his relevance for future debate? The final chapter is a conclusion of the study where Childs' contribution is evaluated and possible implications of the canonical approach for the future are discussed.

The study confirms the fact that the canonical approach still finds itself in the same cadre as the historical criticism. Childs depends on the result of the historical critical method for the implementation of his approach. He can therefore not be labelled as a-historical. Furthermore, claims that he accomplished a paradigm move can not be sustained. However, the fact that Childs made a monumental contribution to Old-Testamentical scholarship can never be negated.

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