



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
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MARK AS CONTRIBUTIVE AMANUENSIS OF 1 PETER?
AN INQUIRY INTO MARK'S INVOLVEMENT
IN LIGHT OF FIRST-CENTURY LETTER WRITING

A Thesis

Presented to

the Department of New Testament Studies

in the Faculty of Theology, University of Pretoria

In Fulfillment of

the Requirements for the Degree of

Philosophiae Doctor

by

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2008

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Primarily, this thesis is dedicated to God, our Father. Many people have been involved in the completion of this work, although it bears my name. I will never forget the love and help I have been given by my supervisor, Professor Gert J. Steyn, without whom, I believe, this work could not have been brought into the world. To him I owe an immense debt of gratitude for his guidance accompanied by an exemplary degree of dedication and interest, for suggesting numerous fruitful lines of enquiry, and for saving me from the many errors I could have made. I express also my sincere appreciation to Professor A. B. du Toit for his helpful counsel and comments upon this work, as well as my gratitude to Professor B. Paul Wolfe at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (USA), who introduced me to the world of NT scholarship. This thesis owes a great deal to the works of Professor E. Randolph Richards.

I would like to give special thanks to Korean colleagues in Pretoria; especially, to Drs. Eun-Chul Shin and Hyukjung Kwon, and to Revs. Young-Jin Kim, Jeong-Gun Seo, Tae-Hyun Kim, Jae-Soon Kim, Shin-Man Kang, Jeong-Wook Shin, Yong-Joon Kim, and Jae-Suk Han who have studied together. I am also grateful to those in Korea, especially, to Rev. Sam-Bong Kim, the senior pastor of Daehan church, Rev. Byoung-Nam Yoon, the senior pastor of Hanseo church, all members of these churches, and my friends, Jeong-Bin Kim and Eun-Joo Song. I wish to give thanks to Dr. Walter McKay and Mr. Laurence Shee for polishing my English. Mrs. A.

Bezuidenhout at the library of the University of Pretoria deserves my thanks for assistance with the international lending service. I am also grateful to Mrs. Rina Roos at the Faculty of Theology Student Administration.

I give special thanks to my family in Korea, to my parents, mother in-law, brothers, brothers in-law, and sisters in-law. Finally, I thank my wife, Sunhee, and our two children, Yoojin and Yoonho, who in times past have followed me around Korea, through the United States and South Africa, and now to Germany. Without their daily prayers, encouragement, and patience this dissertation could never have been completed.

April 2008 in Pretoria

SUMMARY

This study investigates Mark's involvement in the writing of 1 Peter in light of the practice of first century letter writing. Many scholars argue that 1 Peter originated from within a Petrine group in Rome that included Silvanus and Mark, ignoring the possibility that Peter might have employed an amanuensis while composing his epistle, a prominent practice of first century letter writers. By contrast, a considerable number of scholars contend that 1 Peter was penned by an amanuensis, appealing to the reference in 1 Pet 5:12, *Dia. Silouanou/ u`mi/n tou/ pistou/ avdelfou/(w`j logi,zomai(diV ovli,gwn e;graya*, and identifying Silvanus as its amanuensis. However, the Greco-Roman epistolary evidence shows that the formula *gra,fw dia, tinoj* identified *only* the letter-carrier.

This work explores Mark's involvement in composing 1 Peter from five angles by means of a historical and comparative approach. The five criteria are the dominant practice of using an amanuensis in first-century letter writing, the noteworthy employment of an amanuensis by Paul as a contemporary of Peter, historical connections, linguistic connections, and literary connections. Chapter 2 surveys the major proposals regarding the authorship of 1 Peter.

Chapter 3 examines first century letter writing and presents the findings as

a practical and supportive background for this work. The role of an amanuensis in Greco-Roman antiquity was classified as a transcriber, contributor, and composer. An amanuensis' role as a contributor was the most common in Greco-Roman antiquity.

Chapter 4 explores the process of Paul's letter writing in light of first century letter writing, with regard to Peter's employment of an amanuensis. It is most likely that Paul and Peter allowed an amanuensis to have a free hand if he was a gifted and a trusted colleague of them. This probability is supported by the instances that Cicero, Atticus, Quintus, and Alexander the Great employed their amanuenses as contributors.

Chapter 5 investigates the close relationship between Peter and Mark through their ministry based on 1 Pet 5:13 and the references to Mark in the early church, including Papias' note reported by Eusebius, and presents these as evidence of a historical connection between two individuals.

Chapter 6 explores the syntactic correlation, the distinctive features of terminology, and the significant and frequent use of w^j for a simile between 1 Peter and Mark's Gospel and presents them as possible evidence with the implication of linguistic connections between them.

Chapter 7 examines the common Old Testament quotations (allusions) in 1 Peter and the Gospel of Mark and their conflated and integrated use of the OT and presents them as possible evidence implying a literary connection between them. 1 Peter and Mark's Gospel outstandingly emphasize the suffering of Christ and apply the imagery of the rejected stone of Ps 118 (LXX 117):22 and that of the suffering servant of Isa 53 to His suffering.

This work concludes that Mark was the contributive amanuensis for 1 Peter with Peter allowing more than a free hand in the composition.



KEY WORDS

- Letter
- Amanuensis
- Contributor
- Transcriber
- Composer
- Papyrus
- Papias
- Quotation
- Allusion
- LXX

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AB	Anchor Bible
ANF	Ante-Nicene Fathers
ANTC	Abingdon New Testament Commentary
BECNT	Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament
<i>Bib</i>	<i>Biblica</i>
<i>BJRL</i>	<i>Bulletin of the John Rylands University Library of Manchester</i>
BNTC	Black's New Testament Commentaries
<i>CBQ</i>	<i>Catholic Biblical Quarterly</i>
<i>CBR</i>	<i>Currents in Biblical Research</i>
ECC	Eerdmans Critical Commentary
EKK	Evangelisch-katholisch Kommentar
<i>ExpTim</i>	<i>Expository Times</i>
GNS	Good News Studies
Hermeneia	Hermeneia: A Critical and Historical Commentary
HNTC	Haper's New Testament Commentaries
ICC	International Critical Commentary
IVP	InterVarsity Press

IVPNTC	IVP New Testament Commentary
<i>JBL</i>	<i>Journal of Biblical Literature</i>
<i>JETS</i>	<i>Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society</i>
<i>JSNT</i>	<i>Journal for the Study of the New Testament</i>
JSNTSup	Journal for the Study of the New Testament Supplement Series
<i>JTS</i>	<i>Journal of Theological Studies</i>
NAC	The New American Commentary
NCB	New Century Bible
<i>Neot</i>	<i>Neotestamentica</i>
NIBC	New International Bible Commentary
NICNT	The New International Commentary on the New Testament
NIGTC	New International Greek Testament Commentary
<i>NovT</i>	<i>Novum Testamentum</i>
NovTSup	Supplements to Novum Testamentum
NPNF	Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers
<i>NTS</i>	<i>New Testament Studies</i>
P. Fay	Fayu/m Towns and their Papyri
PG	Patrologia Graeca
PL	Patrologia Latina
Plut. Cato Ygr.	Plutarch, Cato the Younger
P. Mich	Michigan Papyri
P. Oxy	Oxyrhynchus Papyri
<i>Sem</i>	<i>Semeia</i>
SP	Sacra Pagina
<i>SWJT</i>	<i>Southwestern Journal of Theology</i>

TNTC	Tyndale New Testament Commentaries
<i>TynB</i>	<i>Tyndale Bulletin</i>
VR	<i>Vox Reformata</i>
WBC	Word Biblical Commentary
WUNT	Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament



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