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How God Became Jesus: The Real Origins of Belief in Jesus' Divine Nature---A Response to Bart D. Ehrman

Michael F. Bird, Dr. Craig A. Evans, Simon Gathercole, Charles E. Hill, Chris Tilling
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Michael F. Bird, Dr. Craig A. Evans, Simon Gathercole, Charles E. Hill, Chris Tilling : How God Became Jesus: The Real Origins of Belief in Jesus' Divine Nature---A Response to Bart D. Ehrman before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How God Became Jesus: The Real Origins

of Belief in Jesus' Divine Nature---A Response to Bart D. Ehrman:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Eclectic GrammyVery good.9 of 12 people found the following review helpful. A balanced view of both the theological and historical issues of the humanity and divinity of Jesus of Nazareth.By James G Sliney JrThis work by multiple experts filled in a number of gaps in my knowledge and understanding of the theological issues of the simultaneous humanity and divinity of Jesus of Nazareth. This theological paradox reminded me of a parallel paradox in Modern Physics with regard to the paradox of light which is both a particle and a wave.This work by Michael F. Bird, et al provides a solid theological counter balance to Bart D. Ehrman's work "How Jesus Became God". Ehrman claims to be looking at the topic from an historical point of view, but Bird et al ably critique his view of the history of the topic.8 of 11 people found the following review helpful. EssentialBy KlartopaQuite thorough, well-explained. Dismantles Ehrman, politely disclosing a host of logical fallacies in his methodology and categories as well as Ehrman's misrepresentation through card-stacking and biased translation. One of the writers is a bit tough to read, the others lucid, but the content is still worthy of 5 stars. If only the Learning Company (Great Courses) would let these guys do a course. Alas!

In his recent book *How Jesus Became God: The Exaltation of a Jewish Preacher From Galilee* historian Bart Ehrman explores a claim that resides at the heart of the Christian faith that Jesus of Nazareth was, and is, God. According to Ehrman, though, this is not what the earliest disciples believed, nor what Jesus claimed about himself. The first response book to this latest challenge to Christianity from Ehrman, *How God Became Jesus* features the work of five internationally recognized biblical scholars. While subjecting his claims to critical scrutiny, they offer a better, historically informed account of why the Galilean preacher from Nazareth came to be hailed as the Lord Jesus Christ. Namely, they contend, the exalted place of Jesus in belief and worship is clearly evident in the earliest Christian sources, shortly following his death, and was not simply the invention of the church centuries later.

From BooklistIn 2014, well-known author of biblical exegesis, Bart D. Ehrman published *How Jesus Became God: The Exaltation of a Jewish Preacher from Galilee*. In it, he posits that the concept of Jesus as God evolved over time. Five biblical scholars gather here to refute that theory. Although its preferable to have read Ehrmans book before tackling this one, the authors do a relatively even-handed job of stating Ehrmans case before attempting to demolish it. The topics they discuss include divinization in the ancient world, the Christological claims of the synoptic Gospels, and burial practices at the time of Jesus death (even those sympathetic to Ehrmans case would probably agree that his discussion of the empty tomb contains too much conjecture.) This book, while putting forth arguments well worth examining, is weakened by the fact it contains five voices, and dry, scholarly ones at that. Ehrman has mastered the art of writing in a style suitable for general audiences, making his book more accessible. Still, the two deserve consideration together, and the publisher of this volume has cleverly used a cover image in the same style and color as Ehrmans book, which may help lead interested readers in the right direction. --Ilene Cooper 'This is a helpful collection of essays by first-rate scholars abreast of the latest research. Anyone who wants a reliable historical account of how early Christians came to see Jesus as God should read this book.' -- Richard Bauckham, Emeritus Professor of New Testament, University of St Andrews, UK'This set of studies comprise a readable and lively response to Ehrman's book on how Jesus came to be regarded as in some sense divine. Collectively, they identify controversial issues and offer cogently put alternative views that deserve to be noted and that show that the scholarly discussion remains in play.' -- Larry Hurtado, Emeritus Professor of New Testament Language, Literature and Theology, University of EdinburghAbout the AuthorMichael F. Bird (PhD, University of Queensland) is lecturer in theology at Ridley Melbourne College of Mission and Ministry in Melbourne, Australia. He is the author of *Jesus and the Origins of the Gentile Mission*; *The Saving Righteousness of God: Studies on Paul, Justification, and the New Perspective*; *Evangelical Theology*; *Bourgeois Babes, Bossy Wives, and Bobby Haircuts: A moderate Case for Gender Equality in Ministry* and editor of *The Apostle Paul: Four Views*. He is also a co-blogger of the New Testament blog "Euangelion."