

Max Whitaker

## Is Jesus Athene or Odysseus?

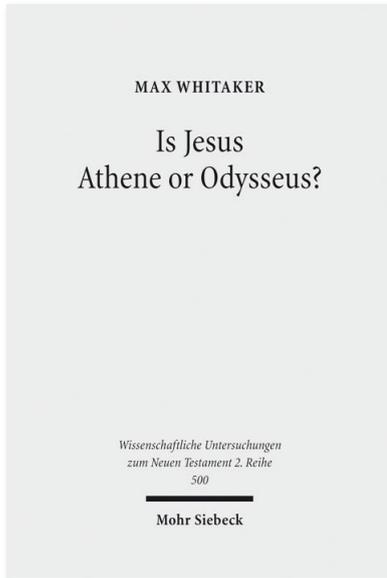
Investigating the Unrecognisability and Metamorphosis of Jesus in his Post-Resurrection Appearances

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In this study, Max Whitaker investigates the intriguing accounts of Jesus' resurrection appearances through the lens of Greco-Roman narratives. In both canonical and apocryphal accounts of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances, Jesus appears in an unrecognisable form to other characters, including people who knew him well just before his death. The motif of a character appearing in an unrecognisable form to people he or she knows well is one which exists in folk literature, and in Greco-Roman and Jewish literature from a range of genres. The author investigates a range of stories in which characters appear in an unrecognisable or metamorphic form, and summarises patterns and themes. This throws new light on how Jesus' post-resurrection stories would have been understood by their original audiences.

**Max Whitaker** Born 1975; 1995 BSc, 1997 MSc in mathematics from Waikato University; 1997-2005 working as statistician and computer programmer; 2009 BTheol from Otago University; 2016 PhD from Otago University; currently Priest in the parish of North Dunedin, in the Anglican Diocese of Dunedin, New Zealand.



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Mohr Siebeck

Mohr Siebeck GmbH & Co. KG  
Postfach 2040  
D-72010 Tübingen  
[info@mohrsiebeck.com](mailto:info@mohrsiebeck.com)  
[www.mohrsiebeck.com](http://www.mohrsiebeck.com)