The speeches of outsiders in Acts: poetics, theology and historiography

How does Luke's portrait of the outsider help in exploring the theology and historiography of Acts? Previous studies of the author and his work have concentrated on the speeches given by insiders - members of the early Christian church - but until now the speeches of the outsiders have been mar...

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How does Luke's portrait of the outsider help in exploring the theology and historiography of Acts? Previous studies of the author and his work have concentrated on the speeches given by insiders - members of the early Christian church - but until now the speeches of the outsiders have been marginalised by scholars in the field. Osvaldo Padilla takes an intriguing approach by concentrating on the direct speech of such figures, arguing that the portrayal of outsiders to a religious movement should not be neglected when considering the author's viewpoint. By exploring the place of outsiders in Old Testament and Second Temple literature, then offering comparisons with the depictions found in Acts, Padilla provides an insightful take on the subject that will prove invaluable to scholars and students of biblical and early Christian studies.

The speeches of outsiders in Acts: uncharted territory; Method; Structure and procedure -- The current state of research on the speeches of Acts. Ferdinand Christian Baur; Henry Joel Cadbury; F.F. Bruce; Martin Dibelius; Marion Soards; Todd Penner -- The speeches of outsiders in selected biblical and Second Temple narrative literature. Ezra; Daniel; First and Second Maccabees; Third Maccabees; Judith; Josephus; Other writings -- The Gamaliel speech. Context; The narrative and the speech; The function of the speech -- The speech of Galio. Context; The narrative and speeches at Corinth; The function of the speech of Galio -- The speeches of Demetrius and the Ephesian town clerk. Context; The narrative and speeches at Ephesus; The speech of Demetrius; The speech of the town clerk -- The speeches of Claudius Lysias, Tertullus, and Festus. Context; The narrative and written speech of Claudius Lysias; The narrative and speech of Tertullus; The speech of Festus -- The speeches of outsiders and the historical context of Luke-Acts' readers: a community in need of identity reassurance; The speeches of outsiders and the historiographic orientation of Luke-Acts.
POETICS. 239. the crisis of traditional rhetoric and its replacement, at the end of the eighteenth century and the beginning of the nineteenth, by a set of romantic notions, literary works have been considered, so to speak, as acts of unilateral communication. According to this theory, the active function is given over to the sender of the message; the narrating subject, often identified with the author, has gained a dominant position. directives = speech acts that are to cause the hearer to take a particular action, e.g. requests, commands and advice. commissives = speech acts that commit a speaker to some future action, e.g. promises and oaths. expressives = speech acts that express the speaker's attitudes and emotions towards the proposition, e.g. congratulations, excuses and thanks. declarations = speech acts that change the reality in accord with the proposition of the declaration, e.g. baptisms, pronouncing someone guilty or pronouncing someone husband and wife. Political Speaking. Politicians often speak in a manner...