

## PREFACE

This volume on Paul and his opponents follows on from the previous volume, *The Pauline Canon*, ed. Stanley E. Porter (PAST 1; Leiden: Brill, 2004), as the second in the Pauline Studies series published by Brill Publishers of Leiden. The reception to the first volume of this projected five (or more) volume series has been very encouraging, and I wish to thank those who have used the book for their comments regarding that volume, as well as the larger project. Like its predecessor, this volume brings together a number of different papers by leading scholars in recent discussion of the topic of Paul and his opponents. The balance of this volume is reflective of the general tenor of current discussion of the topic of Paul and his opponents. Subsequent volumes currently scheduled to appear are as follows:

Volume 3: Paul the Theologian

Volume 4: Paul's World

Volume 5: Paul: Jew, Greek and Roman

As I mentioned in the first volume, I would like to invite any scholars interested in making contributions to one or more of these volumes to be in contact with me regarding submission. Contact information is provided below. The topics of the volumes are being defined and interpreted broadly, so that papers that deal, for example, with clearly related subjects, such as the Paul of the Letters and of Acts, we hope will be able to find a home in these collections of papers. Papers for the third and fourth volumes are already being gathered for publication, in anticipation of the appearance of these volumes in a timely manner to keep the series moving forward with one volume appearing each year. We are also beginning to assess topics for future volumes, should the series be extended due to scholarly and readerly interest in it and its contribution to the wider field of Pauline studies. Suggestions for such volumes are always welcome.

I would again like to thank all of the individual authors for their worthy contribution to this second volume of essays in the PAST series. There is little overlap in the contributors from the first to the second volume (the present editor excepted), but this is not intentional. Multiple submissions by scholars with wide-ranging interests are welcome. This

volume brings a number of important voices into conversation in this one volume on this important topic. Many, if not most, scholars would not be able to do their work if it were not for their institutions that support them. I wish, on the authors' behalf, to thank their institutions for such tangible efforts, as well as the intangible encouragement and environments that enable such scholarship to take place. I would also like to thank the several people at Brill, including Louise Schouten, Hans van der Meij, and Mattie Kuiper, who have continued to be an encouragement as this project not only took shape but has continued to develop and come to timely fruition. My sincere hope is that this volume will make a significant contribution to the topic of Paul's opponents.

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