

Contents

ABBREVIATIONS	ix
FOREWORD by Walter J. Ong, S.J.	xiii
PREFACE	xv
1. THE PRE-CANONICAL SYNOPTIC TRANSMISSION	1
Rudolf Bultmann's Model of Evolutionary Progression	2
Birger Gerhardsson's Model of Passive Transmission	8
Oral Transmission as Process of Social Identification and Preventive Censorship	14
The Dominant Paradigm of Linearity	32
2. MARK'S ORAL LEGACY	44
Oral Voices and Values	45
Oral Syntax and Story	64
Orality and Actuality, Mythology and Mythoclasm	70
Oral Pluralism Versus Oral Gospel	77
3. MARK AS TEXTUALITY	90
Textuality as Disorientation	91
Textuality as Reorientation	105
The Gospel as Written Parable	117
Textuality as Agent of Alienation and Liberation	129
4. ORALITY AND TEXTUALITY IN PAUL	140
The Oral Gospel	141

Contents

The Written Law	151
The Oral Matrix of the Righteousness of God	165
The Rupture of Oral Synthesis	168
5. DEATH AND LIFE IN THE WORD OF GOD	184
Textuality and the Death of the Messiah	185
The Oral Equation of the Earthly Jesus with the Living Lord	199
The Written Gospel as Counterform to Oral Speech	207
Parabolic Gospel—Oral Tradition—Jesus, the Parabolist	211
BIBLIOGRAPHY	227
I Orality and Textuality, Literary Criticism, Philosophy, and Mythology	227
II Biblical Scholarship	239
INDEX OF PASSAGES	248
INDEX OF AUTHORS	252