

# LEARNING FROM JESUS

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**BIBLE STUDY TEXTBOOK SERIES**

**LEARNING FROM JESUS**

by

**Seth Wilson**

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A compilation of published and unpublished materials.

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Generally quotations of scripture are taken from the American Standard Version (1901).

## FOREWORD AND DEDICATION

A few words must be included to acknowledge the work of Lynn Gardner in producing this book. It would be impossible to overstate my appreciation for his efforts.

He and brother Don DeWelt originally urged the publication of this collection of studies. Brother Gardner undertook the work of assembling, organizing and editing the entire book. He has freely given an incredible amount of time and labor to this project, doing everything he could to make it as complete and usable as possible. His constant kindness, cheerfulness and spirit of good will have made it especially easy and pleasant for all concerned to work with him.

He encouraged and directed Mrs. Carla Scott, Mrs. Debbie Johnson and Mrs. Nancy Page in the big task of typing reams of pages. Mrs. Page did much additional work on the indexes. Many thanks go to these sisters, also to Mrs. Barbara Gardner for all the ways in which she helped her husband to complete this production. Don DeWelt has been very helpful and spent valuable time from his very busy life to make these studies available in as usable form as they are.

Lynn Gardner was one of my most perceptive and devoted students in the study of the Gospels. He continued his studies until now he has become an outstanding teacher in this subject and related fields of study. I appreciate having him as a colleague in the same department and often draw upon his superior scholarship. With humility and a genuine desire to serve, he has always been a good and beloved brother who strengthens and encourages others.

*I gratefully dedicate this book to Lynn Gardner as one who most appreciates and exemplifies in his own life the truths studied herein.*

—Seth Wilson

## PREFACE

Our Lord Jesus invited, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me: for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30). Seth Wilson has written this book to help the reader learn more fully to know and trust Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God and to submit to His will and authority.

These practical studies set forth in everyday language the important truths about Jesus: who He is, what He taught, what He accomplished and how we should respond to Him. They are not technical academic essays filled with difficult theological terms nor are they superficial off-the-cuff type of lessons. This book represents a lifetime of careful serious study and effective preaching and college teaching of the Life of Christ.

Many will find this book profitable. Any person who wants to study and understand the Gospels better can find guidance and inspiration in these pages. The man who wants to preach Christ more effectively will find valuable sermon-building material. The Sunday School teacher will find here a resource book and study guide for practical help in teaching the Life of Christ. It will be useful to college teachers and students as a text or collateral reading text for courses in the Gospels and Life of Christ.

These studies are not just factual analyses of the Gospel passages. Every effort is made to correctly understand the author's intended meaning in each passage studied. Also the leading principles are applied personally and practically to the reader's life.

Seth Wilson teaches and serves as Academic dean at Ozark Bible College, Joplin, Missouri. He has served in these capacities since 1940 in Ozark Christian College, Bentonville, Arkansas and continued in Ozark Bible College as it moved to Joplin, Missouri in 1944. He has taught many subjects with the major emphasis being in Life of Christ, Hermeneutics and Greek.

As dean he has been the key man in shaping the philosophy of Ozark Bible College as a school committed to training a ministry for the church. Emphasis has been given to teaching students why they can believe in God, Christ and the Bible; how to understand the Bible; the basic content of the Bible; and tools for effectively proclaiming the Christian message.

In his teaching ministry, Mr. Wilson has been a motivator and teacher of preachers, teachers, missionaries and Christian workers now serving all over the world. Many of his students look back to

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their study of the Life of Christ under Seth Wilson as a life-changing experience. They came to realize they were saved by grace not by law. They came to see in a personal way the truth Paul expressed: "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I that live, but Christ liveth in me" (Gal. 2:20). Some of his best sermons were spontaneous outpourings of his soul in the classroom. Such times manifested real depth because of the hours of study he had put in the night before as well as the years before.

Studies in the Gospels at The Cincinnati Bible Seminary in Cincinnati, Ohio under R. C. Foster developed his interest and disciplined his mind in his early training. His knowledge of the subject has grown while teaching the Life of Christ in the college classroom for thirty-six years.

He has communicated his faith outside the classroom through preaching, teaching in Christian workers' and youth camps, speaking in conferences and by conducting hundreds of clinics on church leadership. His concern for people is evident in the time he takes to personally answer letters and to give wise counsel to individuals and churches.

Mr. Wilson has written extensively, primarily short articles and essays such as those collected in this book. He wrote the weekly lesson for the *Christian Standard* during the years 1944-1948. Since 1954 he has contributed weekly the background for the lesson in *The Lookout*. Many of the articles in this book originally appeared in the *Christian Standard*, *The Lookout* or *The Bible Teacher and Leader*, all published by Standard Publishing of Cincinnati, Ohio. These articles have appeared at various times over the last thirty years. Many have been revised and duplicated in mimeographed form for extensive classroom and general distribution.

As a student at Ozark Bible College, I received over forty semester hours of classroom instruction under Seth Wilson. I confess a deep indebtedness to him for the better understanding I gained of Christianity through the study of the Life of Christ under his teaching. Now as a fellow teacher at Ozark Bible College I have been privileged to organize and to edit the essays, outlines and charts in this book. I am responsible for the selection of the books listed under "For Further Study" after each essay.

Seth Wilson practices one of the mottos of his life: "The Word of Christ taught in the Spirit of Christ." This book is presented with the prayer that "the word of Christ [will] dwell in you richly" (Col. 3:16). "That Christ be formed in you" (Gal. 4:19) and that you "may grow up in all things into him, who is the head, even Christ" (Eph. 4:15).

Lynn Gardner

July, 1977



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