

# INSIGHTS INTO COMPLEX RELATIONSHIPS

Few scholars have so shaped the contemporary debate on the relation of early Christianity to early Judaism as E. P. Sanders, and no one has produced a clearer or more distinctive vision of that relationship as it was expressed in the figures of Jesus of Nazareth and Paul the apostle.

Gathered for the first time within one cover, Sanders presents formative essays that show the structure of his approach and the insights that it produces into Paul's relationship to Judaism and the Jewish law. Sanders addresses matters of definition ("common Judaism," "covenantal nomism"), diversity (the Judaism of the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Diaspora), and key exegetical and historical questions relative to Jesus, Paul, and Christian origins in relationship to early Judaism.

These essays show a leading scholar at his most erudite as he carries forward and elaborates many of the insights that have become touchstones in New Testament interpretation.

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E. P. SANDERS was professor of religion successively at McMaster, Oxford, and Duke Universities and is a fellow of the British Academy and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has written numerous landmark books, including, from Fortress Press, *Jewish Law from Jesus to the Mishnah: Five Studies* (1990; Fortress edition 2016); *Judaism: Practice and Belief, 63 BCE–66 CE* (1992; Fortress edition 2016); *Paul: The Apostle's Life, Letters, and Thought* (2015); *Jesus and Judaism* (1985); and the national award winning *Paul and Palestinian Judaism: A Comparison of Patterns of Religion* (1977).