

Jesus *the* Purifier

**John's Gospel and the Fourth Quest
for the Historical Jesus**

Craig L. Blomberg



Baker Academic

a division of Baker Publishing Group
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Contents

Preface	ix
Abbreviations	xiii
Introduction	xvii
1. The Original Quest for the Historical Jesus	1
2. No Quest and New Quest?	33
3. Launching the Third Quest with a Jewish Jesus	69
4. The Jesus Seminar and Its Kin: A Step Back in Time	105
5. Has the Third Quest Played Itself Out?	135
6. Foreshadowing the Fourth Quest: Rehabilitating the Gospel of John	179
7. Purification, Baptism, and Transformation in John 1–4	223
8. Purification Starting to Change in John 5–11	259
9. Ritual Purity Fades Away in John 12–21	291
10. Purity and the Historical Jesus of the Synoptics	333
Conclusion	373
Index of Authors	383
Index of Scripture and Other Ancient Writings	391