

Perhaps the most significant thing about this scholarly, readable, and useful book is that its author allows Newman to have the last word, when he writes, 'The Catholic revival in Anglicanism must, like all movements, as Newman discerned, change in order to remain the same'.

JOHN COULSON

THE MESSIANIC SECRET edited by Christopher Tuckett. *Issues in Religion and Theology 1*. Fortress Press and SPCK. 1983. Pp. xi and 148 p/b £3.50

Aimed at students, teachers, clergy and general readers, these key studies are selected because they are neither too long nor too technical, and they are not otherwise easily available. Brief biographical details introduce the authors and there is a bibliography and an index of references. The papers are arranged in chronological order as follows: N.A. Dahl, *The Purpose of Mark's Gospel* (1958).

J.B. Tyson, *The Blindness of the disciples in Mark* (1961).

T.A. Burkhill, *Mysterious Revelation* (1963).

G. Strecker, *The Theory of the Messianic Secret in Mark's Gospel* (1964). (E.T. by C. Tuckett).

E. Schweizer, *The Question of the Messianic Secret in Mark* (1965). (E.T. by C. Tuckett).

U. Luz, *The Secrecy Motif and the Markan Christology* (1965). (E.T. by R. Morgan).

W.C. Robinson Jr., *The Quest for Wrede's Secret Messiah* (1973).

J.D.C. Dunn, *The Messianic Secret in Mark* (1974).

H. Räisänen, *The Messianic Secret in Mark's Gospel* (1976). (E.T. by C. Tuckett).

Christopher Tuckett provides an excellent introduction with a full critical assessment of Wrede's seminal study and the way in which aspects of it have been accepted, modified or refuted. The essays selected for reproduction and translation in the volume are shown to be interesting examples of one possible line of argument with its merits or limitations. One fruitful development in recent research results from the separation of different types of material linked by Wrede in his original study.

Since discussion of the Messianic secret involves hypotheses about the origin, purpose and Christology of the Gospel of Mark, the collection serves as a useful survey of Markan studies in the last 25 years. Dr. Tuckett makes it clear that historical questions cannot be ignored since the genre gospel relates kerygma to the historical Jesus, but he thinks that useful insights can be gained by applying the techniques of literary critics and sociologists, and by examining comparable material (e.g. from Nag Hammadi) which may provide a background against which to read the Gospel.

MARGARET PAMMENT

MAGISTERIUM: TEACHING AUTHORITY IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. by Francis A. Sullivan, S.J. *Gill and Macmillan*.

The term, magisterium, has often been used to designate the official groups (and the Pope) who were regarded as determining Catholic orthodoxy. Fr. Sullivan has very properly reverted to the earlier usage: "magisterium" means doctrinal authority, not those who exercise that authority.

He begins by pointing to the conviction that, by God's grace, the Church will be maintained in the truth of divine revelation, that she is thus indefectible, and in her ultimate and irreversible doctrinal judgments, infallible. This implies coherence with the original apostolic witness, which is preserved not exclusively in the texts of Scripture but in the living Tradition which is not exhausted by those texts. It is, however, to be borne in mind that linguistic expressions of Catholic truth are related to contingent and changing cultures. John XXIII pointed out, in inaugurating Vatican II, that while the truth remained identical its linguistic formulations could change with time and