

CONTENTS

Foreword by John Dominic Crossan	IX
Preface	XIII
INTRODUCTION	1
CHAPTER 1	5
WOMEN AND EARLY CHRISTIAN MEALS AND ASSOCIATIONS	
Voluntary Associations: Cultic and Community Contexts	11
Funerary Meals as the Context for Women's Participation in the Process of Christian Origins	18
CHAPTER 2	21
WOMEN'S FUNERARY RITUALS, MEALS, AND LAMENT IN ANTIQUITY	
Women, Death, and Burial in Ancient Greece	23
Women, Death, and Burial in Ancient Rome	27
Women's Ritual Lamentation of Greco-Roman Gods and Heroes	32
Stereotypes of Women's Rituals: Noble Death Scenes	35
Hellenized Death Scenes in Jewish Literature	39
Stereotypes of Women's Rituals: Tomb Visitation and Magic	40
Women and Funerary Rituals in Judaism and Palestine	44
Women, the Cult of the Dead, and Early Christianity	56
CHAPTER 3	65
CELEBRATORY MEALS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND MEALS OF JESUS' PRESENCE	
<i>From Jesus to Q, the Didache, and the Eucharist</i>	
Open Commensality and the Parable of the Feast: Celebratory Meals in the Movement of the Historical Jesus	65

Meals with “Tax Collectors and Sinners” (Q 7:33-34)	69
The Children of the Marketplace (Q 7:31-32)	74
“Let the Dead Bury Their Own Dead” and the Fatherhood of God	77
Meals of Jesus’ Presence: From the <i>Didache</i> to the Eucharist	84
 CHAPTER 4	 89
THE EUCHARIST AND MEALS FOR THE DEAD	
Jesus, Women, and Meals: Social Conflict at Table and Funerary Rituals	89
Feedings of Thousands: Eucharists and Funerary Meals	90
Dogs on the Floor with the Syro-Phoenician Woman (Mark 7:24-30; Matt 15:21-28)	92
The Woman, Anointing, Burial, and a Meal: The End of Mourning?	98
Last Supper Traditions: Memorial Meals for the Dead	106
The Eucharist and Meals for the Dead: Some Conclusions	109
 CHAPTER 5	 111
THE PASSION STORY AS A LAMENT STORY FOR THE DEAD	
Women Witnesses at the Cross and the Tomb	112
Jesus’ Death as a Heroic and Noble Death	113
He Was Buried, He Was Raised on the Third Day	114
Women at the Crucifixion	119
Oral Lamentation and the Passion Narrative	124
Resurrection Traditions and Continuing Conflict	128
Could Women’s Lamentation and Grief Lead to “Resurrection Faith”?	130
Jesus, History, and Lament	131
 CONCLUSION	 133
Notes	139
Bibliography	201
Scriptures Index	249
Ancient Sources Index	254
Subject/Names Index	257