

## The Earliest Material in the NT

- Aramaic expressions
- Confessional fragments
- Christological hymns

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## Earliest Material in the NT

- Kerygma = preaching, proclamation.
- Preaching of early church described in Acts, but Acts was written long after the events.
- Letters of Paul earliest documents to be written; they preserve earlier material.
  - Comes from worship setting.
  - Requires a judicious use of form criticism.

2

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- Aramaic expressions: *Abba, maranatha*.
  - Shows early church called Jesus “Lord”
  - Contradicts W. Bousset, *Kyrios Christos*

3

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- Aramaic expressions: *Abba, maranatha*.
- Confessional fragments
  - “Jesus is Lord” - Rom. 10:9-10
  - Larry Hurtado: early church was “binitarian.”
  - Romans 1:3-4; 1 Corinthians 15:3-5

4

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- Aramaic expressions: *Abba, maranatha*.
- Confessional fragments
- Christological hymns
  - “V” pattern: descends and ascends
  - Phil. 2:6-11; Heb. 1:2-4; Col. 1:15-20; 1 Tim. 3:16; John 1:1-14.
- Shows that the early church (before Paul) had a very high Christology.

5