

Sequela Christi or Christian Discipleship – a Permanent Condition in the New Testament

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Abstract

The spiritual guidance is the fundamental issue of how the Christian tradition has promoted and understood the path to holiness. In Christianity, the relationship between master and apprentice presents the salvation as the way the so-called heavy *sequela Christi*. This expression, by the radicalism and singularity refers to the experience of the disciples in „to follow”. In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus acts as a charismatic leader or teacher (*didaskalos*), which requires his disciples to break family and social ties, obeying unconditionally His call. Master-apprentice relationship is characterized as an intimate and continuous relationship of two employees in a spiritual relation. The disciple is invited to share entirely the life of the master. Gospels reveals master's dual typology. The first model, the charismatic type, refers to the fact that the disciple must follow and imitate the life of master. The spiritual direction, in other words, means more than sending a theoretical content, because the disciple is called to imitate the master's model, namely his lifestyle. The second model, which has the type of lesson in the foreground, claims that an experienced master in the spiritual life requires his disciples to follow his advice and instruction. Thus, proto-Christian literature recognizes in the person of Jesus two „figures”: master of wisdom and spiritual master (teacher - *didaskalos*). These figures were not, of course, invented by Christianity, but they remain two ways of spiritual formation present in the Mediterranean world at the time.