

Christology in *Hearers of the Word*

(An abstract)

Christine Lee

Postdoctoral Research

Graduate School of Religion

Chung Yuan Christian University

Taiwan

In *Hörer des Wortes*, Karl Rahner declared that his consideration there was to work on the philosophy of religion as a preparation for the construction of theology. The theory of this book was based on the “metaphysics of Knowledge” (*Erkenntnismetaphysik*) which Rahner had discussed in *Geist in Welt*, and it approached the understanding of the Word of God and the construction of Theology from the human existence. His theological method there was therefore labeled an “anthropological turn.” Rahner adapted in fact Heidegger’s “analysis of *Dasein*” as part of his structure of anthropology and epistemology, but more basically the theory of Rahner was based on Christian theology and creation theology. And from this basis he went on to discuss the imperative relation between Christology and the existence of Man in *Hörer des Wortes*, which has now become a new model for developing Christology.

On the one hand, we admit that Rahner has provided a proper epistemological structure for Christian thinking, which in turn offers a reference for inter-religion and interdisciplinary dialog. Yet, on the other hand, the model is to be queried if we use it from a Protestant standpoint, for there are insolvable differences between the theological grammars

of Catholic and Protestant traditions.

In this article the method of Rahner's model and his concept of "anonymous Christian" will be discussed. And the related theories by S. Kierkegaard will be adopted as the Protestant position, so as to modify Rahner's model.