

## **Nietzsche's Jesus: the ambiguity of a polemic**

Alexandre Marques Cabral\*

### **Abstract**

The main goal of this article is to explicit the ambiguity constitutive of the nietzschean approach of Jesus of Nazareth. This ambiguity is due to the fact that Nietzsche considered Jesus as a vital type contrary to Christianity and, at the same time, considered them both as symptoms of decadence. In order to understand this apparent contradiction, it's key to define what Nietzsche understands as decadence and how this concept appears under multiple forms in his analysis. Considering this, Jesus' decadence refers to a declining type that doesn't use *ressentiment* as a mean to convert culture to his vital type in dissolution, as it happens with Christianity. Therefore, Jesus appears as the paradigm of a decadence type that enables the genesis of a real typological metamorphosis. This metamorphosis is the condition of possibility for overcoming the degenerated physiological type who has become the norm in the Western world since Socrates, and for the appearance of the overman.

**Key-words:** *decadence*; will to power; Jesus of Nazareth; christianism.

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\* Doutorando em Filosofia pela UERJ.