

## THE MATTHEW EFFECT

Unto every one that hath shall be given, but from him that hath not shall be taken away: Robert K. Merton and the "Matthew effect" in Science.

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R. K. Merton was one of the initiators of modern bibliometry and as such he had a broad interest in the definition of scientific primacy. In this seminar, I'll discuss the "Matthew effect" that was defined by Merton in

1968, and I shall narrate the stories of old and modern examples. I shall conclude with an examination of the consequences and branchings of this effect in our world.