

Vera Hirschmann

Die Kirche der Reinen

Kirchen- und sozialhistorische Studie zu den Novatianern im 3. bis 5. Jahrhundert

[The Church of the Pure. A Study in the Social and Church History Study of Third to Fifth Century Novatians.]

Published in German.

When the so-called Decian persecution of Christians came to an end in the year 251 in Rome, an intra-church drama began to unfold, first causing an uproar in the Roman community and later spreading to all Christians in the Roman Empire. Propagating a »pure« church with no room for sinners, Novatian founded a separate church that quickly drew followers from all over the Roman world. Who were these believers who appear to have influenced the development of Christianity in large parts of western Asia Minor? Their teachings were uncomfortable, strict and rigorous and their perception of God often was considered merciless. Nevertheless, the Novatians had an attractiveness that allowed them to survive despite hostilities and persecutions. Vera Hirschmann investigates why the Novatians were that appealing, consciously avoiding to classify the Novatian Church as a heresy right at the outset, but rather as a real alternative for many Christians.

Vera Hirschmann Geboren 1967; Studium der Alten Geschichte, Mittelalterlichen Geschichte und Latein; 1996 Magister; 2001 Promotion; seit 2003 Wiss. Mitarbeiterin am Wissenschaftlich-Theologischen-Seminar der Universität Heidelberg im Projekt »Pepouza and Tymion Archaeological Surface Survey«.



2015. XV, 229 pages. STAC 96

ISBN 978-3-16-153958-9
sewn paper 89,00 €

ISBN 978-3-16-153959-6
eBook PDF 89,00 €

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