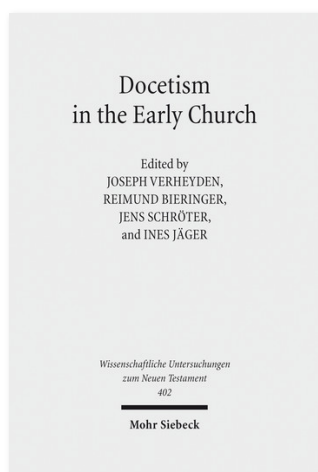


Docetism in the Early Church

The Quest for an Elusive Phenomenon

Ed. by Joseph Verheyden, Reimund Bieringer, Jens Schröter, and Ines Jäger

[Doketismus in der frühen Kirche. Auf der Suche nach einem flüchtigen Phänomen.]



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This volume studies the ways modern research has tried to detect traces of Docetism in ancient sources, including the gospels and the Johannine epistles and several second-century authors. As a concept, Docetism is often used in scholarly literature for denoting loosely connected or even quite different phenomena or doctrines that all have to do with defining the nature of Christ and the reality of the incarnation and passion of Jesus. The essays presented here approach the topic from a new angle by focusing on the ancient documents themselves instead of staying on a purely theoretical or dogmatic level, while at the same time critically re-examining the historical contexts in which these were produced and first circulated. In some cases, this serves to once more reveal the hidden agendas that have guided modern scholars in their discussion of these topics.

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