

Studien und Texte zu Antike und Christentum / Studies and Texts in Antiquity and Christianity

Edited by Liv Ingeborg Lied, Christoph Marksches, Martin Wallraff, and Christian Wildberg
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This series is dedicated to researching the whole spectrum of antique Christianity in its diverse manifestations and contexts from its beginnings until around the seventh century. Included are studies on classical histories of dogmas, ideas and theology as well as examinations of social history, the formation of relevant institutions, and the piety and mindset of antique Christianity. Special emphasis is given to research exploring how ancient Christianity interacted and contended with contemporary Judaism and its Greco-Roman environment. For that reason, theological volumes find their place alongside studies from the neighbouring classical disciplines of ancient history, classical and ancient eastern philology, archaeology and ancient philosophy. A variety of formats, such as monographs, text editions, conference volumes and collections of essays by individual authors, are published within the STAC series.

ISSN: 1436-3003 - Suggested citation: STAC

Last updated: 08/02/2023. Prices are subject to change.

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Waldner, Katharina

Die Erfindung des Martyriums

Wahrheit, Recht und religiöse Identität in Hellenismus und Kaiserzeit

2023. Approx. 300 pages.
forthcoming in March

ISBN 9783161523403
sewn paper approx. 70,00 €

ISBN 9783161526527
eBook PDF approx. 70,00 €

Katharina Waldner reconstructs the invention of early Christian martyrdom by looking back on a long and contingent history of a discourse. This discourse deals with the relationship between political power, truth, and religion by using (counter) narratives of juridical procedures. The author starts with an analysis of the narrative representation of the trial and death of Socrates by Plato in the context of Athenian religion. A thorough reading of relevant passages in the book of Daniel and 1 and 2 Maccabees then reconstructs the rhetorics of religious conflicts in Hellenistic Palestine. After that, Waldner deals with Jewish and early Christian texts on persecution and martyrdom in imperial times (1st and 2nd century). They can now be understood in a more differentiated way; beyond this, the author provides new insights into the rhetorical construction of an individual and collective religious identity by Jewish, pagan and Christian actors as well.

Coping with Religious Change in the Late-Antique Eastern Mediterranean

Ed. by Eduard Iricinschi and Chrysi Kotsifou

2023. Approx. 300 pages.
forthcoming in August

ISBN 9783161539206
sewn paper approx. 75,00 €

ISBN 9783161539213
eBook PDF approx. 75,00 €

The authors of this volume explore the variety of religious responses to political, social, textual and ritual changes that occurred in the late antique Eastern Mediterranean. The volume addresses the issue of »coping with religious change« from the multiple perspectives of archaeology, art history, epigraphy, textual analysis, and papyrology. How did religious subjects adapt to the Hellenization and Romanization of Judea and Asia Minor, the Christianization of the Roman Empire, and the Islamic conquest of Palestine, Egypt and North Africa? When changes happened to their societies, how much did late antique subjects borrow from the new cultural environment? This volume will fill a gap in contemporary historical debates on how to conceptualize change in late antique religions. In doing so, it recreates a dynamic image of the Roman world in late antiquity, a world which adopted changes and adapted to new political, social, and religious situations.

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Pilarski, Annemarie

Der Libellus Carminum des Eugenius von Toledo

Poesie als Lebensbewältigung und spirituelle Praxis

2023. Approx. 550 pages.
forthcoming in March

ISBN 9783161610073
sewn paper approx. 120,00 €

ISBN 9783161621161
eBook PDF approx. 120,00 €

Commenting on and analysing the Libellus Carminum of the seventh century Visigothic bishop and poet Eugenius of Toledo, Annemarie Pilarski argues that in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages, writing and reading religious poetry could be perceived as a spiritual practice, but also as a general way of coping with life and its existential conditions and crises.

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Mohr Siebeck

Studien und Texte zu Antike und Christentum / Studies and Texts in Antiquity and Christianity

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The Nag Hammadi Codices as Monastic Books

Edited by Hugo Lundhaug and Christian H. Bull

2023.
forthcoming in March

ISBN 9783161622328
sewn paper

ISBN 9783161622335
eBook PDF

Since their discovery in 1945, the significance of the texts contained in the thirteen papyrus manuscripts now known as the Nag Hammadi Codices has been fiercely debated. In the history of scholarship, the texts have primarily been analyzed in light of the contexts of their hypothetical Greek originals, which in a majority of cases have been thought to have been authored in the second and third centuries CE in a variety of contexts. The articles in this volume take a different approach. Instead of focusing on hypothetical originals, they ask how the texts may have been used and understood by those who read the Coptic papyrus codices in which the texts have been preserved and take as their point of departure recent research indicating that these manuscripts were produced and used by early Egyptian monastics. It is shown that the reading habits and theological ideas attested historically for Upper Egyptian monasticism in the fourth and fifth centuries resonate well with several of the texts within the Nag Hammadi Codices.

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Christian H. Bull/Hugo Lundhaug: Monastic Readings of the Nag Hammadi Codices – Lance Jenott: Peter's Letter to Philip: Textual Fluidity in a New Testament Apocryphon – Ingvild Sælid Gilhus: Ascetic Readings in Codex II from Nag Hammadi – René Falkenberg: The 'Single Ones' in the Gospel of Thomas: A Monastic Perspective – André Gagné: The Gospel of Thomas in a Monastic Context: Reading the Text as a Spiritual Exercise – Hugo Lundhaug: »This is the Teaching of the Perfect Ones«: The Book of Thomas and Early Egyptian Monasticism – Kristine Toft Rosland: »Not as Moses Said« Revisited: Christ as Interpreter of Scripture in the Apocryphon of John – Kimberley A. Fowler: Eschatology in Nag Hammadi Codex II: A Monastic Reading of the Hypostasis of the Archons (NHC II,4) and On the Origin of the World (NHC II,5) – Paul Linjamaa: Why Monks Would Have Read the Tripartite Tractate: A New Look at the Codicology of Nag Hammadi Codex I – Tilde Bak Halvgaard: The Thunder: Perfect Mind and the Notion of Epinoia in Early Christianity – Dylan M. Burns: The Nag Hammadi Codices and Graeco-Egyptian Magical and Occult Literature – Christian Askeland: Translation Technique in the Coptic Version of Plato's Republic – Christian H. Bull: Plato in Upper Egypt: Greek Philosophy and Monastic Origenism in the Coptic Excerpt from Plato's Republic (NHC VI,5)

Rothschild, Clare K.

The Muratorian Fragment

Text, Translation, Commentary

Volume 132
2022. XX, 462 pages.

ISBN 9783161611742
sewn paper 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161611759
eBook PDF 114,00 €

This volume offers an introduction, critical edition, and fresh English translation of the Muratorian Fragment. In addition to addressing questions of authorship, date, provenance, and sources, Clare K. Rothschild carefully analyzes the text's language, composition, genre, and possible functions with reference to a breathtaking range of scholarly positions and findings from the eighteenth century to the present. She also investigates its position within the eclectic eighth-century Muratorian Codex (Ambr. I 101 sup.). A line-by-line philological commentary draws attention to literary, philosophical, and religious aspects of the individual traditions represented. This study should be of interest to scholars of the New Testament and early Christian literature, as well as experts on the emergence of the canon and historians of the Latin Medieval West.

Universum Hermeticum

Kosmogonie und Kosmologie in hermetischen Schriften

Herausgegeben von Niclas Förster und Uwe-Karsten Plisch



Mohr Siebeck

Volume 131
2021. IX, 308 pages.

ISBN 9783161576157
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161576164
eBook PDF 89,00 €

This volume focuses on cosmological and cosmogonical concepts in hermetic writings and studies their syncretistic origins, subject matter and impact from an interdisciplinary perspective. In doing so, it incorporates articles from various fields of research and academic disciplines.

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From Protology to Eschatology

Competing Views on the Origin and the End of the Cosmos in Platonism and Christian Thought

Edited by Joseph Verheyden, Geert Roskam, and Gerd Van Riel

Volume 130
2022. VII, 262 pages.

ISBN 9783161610097
sewn paper 79,00 €
ISBN 9783161610417
eBook PDF 79,00 €

This volume contains the proceedings of an international conference held in Leuven in June 2017 as a follow-up to a previous meeting that dealt with views on the origin of the cosmos in Greek philosophical and early Christian tradition (published in STAC 104, 2017). The second conference focused on how both traditions have reflected on the end or the goal towards which the cosmos is moving. The Judeo-Christian concept of a creation with temporal development and the philosophical notion of the eternity of the world evidently represent two very different positions. Yet there are also clear signs of convergence and of the latter influencing the former. The essays show there is common interest in reflecting not only on the principles that govern cosmology and on how the cosmos is reverting on its principles, but also on the answers provided in each tradition.

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Andrea Falcon: Eternalism in Aristotle and After – *Alain Lerooult*: L'interprétation proclienne de la création de la partie immortelle de l'âme humaine dans le *Timée* de Platon – *Marije Martijn*: The (Meta)physics of Eating One's Children: Proclus' Interpretation of the Myth of Er – *Marc-Antoine Gavray*: Éternité ou génération? La controverse entre Simplicius et Jean Philopon sur l'origine du monde – *Jörg Frey*: From Eternal Life to the Word That Was in the Beginning: The Logic of Johannine Theology – *Einar Thomassen*: Protology and Eschatology in Gnostic Thought – *John D. Turnert*: »Where the Beginning Is, There Shall Be the End«: Protology and Personal Eschatology in the Platonizing Sethian Apocalypses *Zostrianos* and *Allogenes* – *Benjamin Gleede*: »Above the Starry Canopy«: Spatial and Non-Spatial Patristic Perspectives on the Christian Hope for Afterlife – *George Van Kooten*: »Mind the Ontological Gap!«: The Collateral Loss of the Pauline-Stoic Creation »From God« in the Joint Attack of the Arian-Nicene »From Nothing« on the Platonic Creation »From Disorderly Matter«

Dealing with Difference

Christian Patterns of Response to Religious Rivalry in Late Antiquity and Beyond

Edited by Geoffrey D. Dunn and Christine Shephardson

Volume 129
2021. XI, 300 pages.

ISBN 9783161610714
sewn paper 99,00 €
ISBN 9783161610721
eBook PDF 99,00 €

Religious rivalry exists where groups of people distinguish themselves from others on the basis of differing beliefs and practices touching identity and life's meaning. These differences were addressed in a variety of ways, depending on levels of tolerance: ranging from violence, which captures most attention, through polemic and debate to compromise and negotiation. While all sought to resolve rivalry, the means chosen could involve either an escalation or de-escalation of the conflict. In the early centuries of its existence, Christianity reacted both to internal differences between members and to external differences with non-Christians. In fresh case studies, the essays in this volume examine not only patterns of escalation of rivalry but also emphasise strategies adopted that sought to de-escalate tensions.

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Geoffrey D. Dunn/Christine Shephardson: Introduction

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Silke-Petra Bergjan: From Rivalry to Marginalisation: Tomus ad Antiochenos and the Paulinus Group in Antioch – Majastina Kahlos: Heresy Test and the Barbarian Other – Jesse A. Hoover: »A City Founded in a Brother's Blood«: Connecting Augustine and the Donatist Church – Geoffrey D. Dunn: Ecclesiastical Rivalry between Rome and Constantinople in the Early Fifth Century: Boniface I's Diplomatic Efforts to De-escalate the Competition and Conflict about Perigenes of Corinth – Wendy Mayer: Using the Past to Reconcile the Present: The Diplomatic Correspondence Presented in Theodore of Trimitheus' Vita Iohannis – Chiara Tommasi: Early Christianity in the Celestial Empire: A Foreign Religion between Acceptance and Competition

Part Two: Strategies of Escalation

Chris L. de Wet: Cain's Disease: Murder, Medicine, and Pedagogy in John Chrysostom's Reading of the Cain and Abel Story – Pauline Allen: Post-mortem Polemics: The Literary Persecution of Severus of Antioch (512–18) – Bronwen Neil: Rivalries in Rome: Damnatio memoriae and Forbidden Books in the Letters of Pope Hormisdas (514–23) – Christine Shepardson: Remembering the Saints: John of Ephesus' Commentarii and the Polarisation of the Chalcedonian Conflict – Hajnalka Tamas: Hagiography, Liturgy, and Christian Identity in Aquileia from the Sixth to the Eighth Centuries – Alan H. Cadwallader: The Devil's Rap Sheet: Protean Descriptions in the Story of St Michael of Chonai

Lied, Liv Ingeborg

Invisible Manuscripts: Textual Scholarship and the Survival of 2 Baruch

Volume 128
2021. XVIII, 320 pages.

ISBN 9783161606724
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161606731
eBook PDF

In this critical exploration of the role of manuscripts in textual scholarship, Liv Ingeborg Lied studies the Syriac manuscript transmission of 2 Baruch. These manuscripts emerge as salient sources to the long life of 2 Baruch among Syriac speaking Christians, not merely witnesses to an early Jewish text. Inspired by the perspective of New Philology, Lied addresses manuscript materiality and paratextual features, the history of ownership, traces of active readers and liturgical use, and practices of excerption and re-identification. The author's main concerns are the methodological, epistemological and ethical challenges of exploring early Jewish writings that survive only in Christian transmission. Through engagement with the established academic narratives, she retells the story of 2 Baruch and makes a case for manuscript- and provenance-aware textual scholarship.

van 't Westeinde, Jessica

Roman Nobilitas in Jerome's Letters

Roman Values and Christian Asceticism for Socialites

Volume 127
2021. XII, 287 pages.

ISBN 9783161593437
sewn paper 89,00 €

ISBN 9783161606823
eBook PDF 89,00 €

Jerome of Stridon argued that 'the most distinguished privilege loses its prestige when lavished on a crowd' (*Ep.* 66.7). Recent imperial changes left the senatorial aristocracy with a devaluation of their order. When a number of its *illustres* showed an appetite for asceticism, Jerome took up his quill to offer them a *nobilitas*- model that preserved their exclusivity through appropriation of Christian asceticism. Jessica van 't Westeinde shows how Jerome's design restored the Roman exclusivist notion of *nobilitas* as an antidote to the opening up of senatorial rank to 'country boors' by creating a status group of Christian elites. The *nouveau riche* may have attempted to enter this social circle, but they could never attain the same level of perfection as the *illustres*. As such, Jerome offered a 'Christian ascetic' *nobilitas*- model that embodies continuation which breathes Roman aristocratic status culture of the *illustres*.

Durner, Florian

Die Trostschriften des Ambrosius von Mailand

Consolatio mortis im Denken der Spätantike

Volume 126
2021. XVI, 402 pages.

ISBN 9783161606663
sewn paper 109,00 €

ISBN 9783161606670
eBook PDF 109,00 €

At the transition from pagan antiquity to Christian late antiquity, people wrestled with different patterns of interpretation and means of consolation in the face of death. In this period, Ambrose of Milan represents an important voice attempting to make dying and consolation fruitful as a pastoral concern for the growing Christian community. Florian Durner traces this quest and examines Ambrose's innovative views on death, afterlife and resurrection in his writings. By interpreting the treatise »De bono mortis,« which is discussed here in detail for the first time, the author shows how Ambrose integrates death into Christian existence contrary to Neoplatonist appropriation. Through the comprehensive presentation of the form and function of a »theology of consolation,« Florian Durner contributes to an understanding of the fusion of pagan philosophy, rhetoric, and Christian theology in late antiquity.

Stanton, Greg

Unity and Disunity in Greek and Christian Thought under the Roman Peace

Volume 125
2021. XII, 360 pages.

ISBN 9783161607790
sewn paper 99,00 €
ISBN 9783161607806
eBook PDF 99,00 €

The Roman élite of the first two centuries wanted the ethnic groups in the Roman Empire not to disturb the peace that the Romans had established, the *Pax Romana*. In this study, Greg Stanton explores what Greeks under Roman control thought about unity at several levels, beginning with the smallest entity, Greek cities, and moving through the Roman Empire and humankind to the universe. The Christian writers from Augustus to the early Severan rulers had some distinctive ideas on unity, such as the unity of God and harmony among churches, but they treated other ideas such as the unity of humankind similarly to Greek orators and philosophers. Also of interest is the extent to which writers inclined to Stoicism or Platonism, or those committed to Christian belief, were intent on seeing practical outworkings of their beliefs on unity and disunity.

Stroumsa, Guy G.

The Crucible of Religion in Late Antiquity

Selected Essays

Volume 124
2021. X, 305 pages.

ISBN 9783161606915
sewn paper 99,00 €
ISBN 9783161607783
eBook PDF 99,00 €

The religious revolution of late antiquity and its intertwined religious history are reflected in a broad array of new forms of religious belief and practice, of which Christianity is only the most perceptible one. It is represented in the passage from polytheistic systems to monotheistic and dualist ones, as well as in the move from rituals centred upon sacrifices in temples to rituals established upon scriptures, in churches, synagogues, or mosques. This double dynamism of beliefs and rituals sheds light on the transformations of religious ethos. Guy G. Stroumsa's two-part volume reflects this double argument. The essays all focus on central aspects, such as in Part I on mental aspects of religion in the Roman Empire, as expressed in early Christian texts and traditions, and in Part II on religious communication across the empire's cultures and communities.

Gray, Allison L.

Gregory of Nyssa as Biographer

Weaving Lives for Virtuous Readers

Volume 123
2021. XIII, 290 pages.

ISBN 9783161575587
sewn paper 99,00 €
ISBN 9783161575594
eBook PDF 99,00 €

In this study, Allison L. Gray analyzes three biographical narratives by the fourth-century Christian theologian Gregory of Nyssa (335–395 CE). When the *Life of Moses*, the *Life of Macrina*, and the *Life of Gregory Thaumaturgus* are examined in light of Greco-Roman rhetoric, biography, hagiography, and the history of education, it becomes evident that Gregory's attention to audience is critical to understanding the texts' form and function. Gregory recounts the lives of exemplary figures to inform his readers about lived virtue while simultaneously preparing them to be skilled readers and interpreters. He adopts and adapts familiar rhetorical and literary techniques to imagine, construct, and teach a new sort of ideal audience, training Christians to interpret Scripture. This study contributes to a more complete picture of how early Christian biographical writing shaped an emerging Christian *paideia*.

Barth, Susanne

Tätige Nächstenliebe in Werk und Wirken Gregors des Großen

Volume 122
2021. XIII, 449 pages.

ISBN 9783161563034
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161589508
eBook PDF 104,00 €

When Gregory the Great became pope at a time of political and religious crisis, he assumed responsibility for what had formerly been imperial duties. As Susanne Barth shows in this thorough historical analysis of his complete works, both his writings and deeds pay testimony to this fact. With the grace of charity evolving into a central aspect of Gregory's theology, he describes church as a community of reciprocal care. In the end, the benefit of the proximate – the *utilitas proximi* – becomes the ultimate touchstone for ethical action, which likewise determined Gregory's own work.

Narsai

Rethinking his Work and his World

Edited by Aaron M. Butts, Kristian S. Heal, and Robert A. Kitchen

Volume 121
2020. XV, 290 pages.

ISBN 9783161593499
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161598081
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Narsai († ca. 500) was a founding theologian of the Church of the East. Active first at the School of the Persians in Edessa and later at the School of Nisibis, Narsai creatively synthesized his native Syriac tradition with the newly translated works of Antiochene theology and exegesis. In a time of theological upheaval, his works helped forge a new theological tradition in Syriac. This groundbreaking collection of original essays refocuses attention on this fascinating Late Antique thinker and illustrates his importance for understanding Christianity in Late Antiquity. The essays highlight Narsai's contributions to exegesis, asceticism and moral formation, Jewish-Christian relations, liturgical theology, and place his work and thought within the cultural and intellectual world of two leading Christian centers in the Roman-Persian frontiers in the fifth century.

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Aaron M. Butts: Narsai's Life and Work – Daniel Becerra: Exegesis, Askesis, and Identity: Narsai's Mēmrā on the Parable of the Ten Virgins – Adam H. Becker: Names in Ferrous Water: Ritual and the Mediating Power of the Divine Name in Narsai's Mēmrā – Dmitrij F. Bumazhnov: Jewish-Christian Anti-Paulinism and Merkabah Mysticism around the Schools of Edessa and of Nisibis: Narsai's Polemics against Deniers of Biblical Studies in Context – Jeff W. Childers: In Search of Jesus: Performative Christology in Narsai's Mēmrā on Baptism – Phillip Michael Forness: The Construction of Metrical Poetry in the Homilies of Narsai of Nisibis and Jacob of Serugh – Kelli Bryant Gibson: An Early Syriac Apologia Crucis Mēmrā 54 'On the Finding of the Holy Cross' – Kristian S. Heal: Narsai and the Scriptural Self – Robert A. Kitchen: The Ascetic Narsai: Ascetical and Monastic Practice and Theology in the Mēmrā of Narsai – Craig E. Morrison: The Faculty of Discernment in Narsai – Ellen Muehlberger: Extraordinary Conceptions: Insemination and Theories of Reproduction in Narsai's Thought – Eva M. Rodrigo Gómez: Painting Metaphors as a Means of Theological Expression in Narsai – Erin Galgay Walsh: »How the Weak Rib Prevailed«: Eve and the Canaanite Woman in the Poetry of Narsai – J. Edward Walters: Where Soul Meets Body: Narsai's Depiction of the Soul-Body Relationship in Context

Kingreen, Sarah-Magdalena

Tertullians Schrift »Adversus Valentinianos«

Die argumentative Widersetzung Tertullians gegen die Valentinianer als ein in rhetorischer Perspektive geschlossenes Werk

Volume 120
2020. XIV, 496 pages.

ISBN 9783161596025
sewn paper 119,00 €
ISBN 9783161596032
eBook PDF 119,00 €

Sarah-Magdalena Kingreen analyzes Tertullian's »Adversus Valentinianos« from a rhetorical perspective and shows that he uses the two parts of an ancient speech, exordium and narratio, to refute the credibility of the Valentinian doctrine and consciously pursues this as a literary strategy.

Hypatia of Alexandria

Her Context and Legacy

Ed. by Dawn LaValle Norman and Alex Petkas

Volume 119
2020. XIV, 343 pages.

ISBN 9783161549694
sewn paper 114,00 €
ISBN 9783161589546
eBook PDF 114,00 €

Sixteen hundred years after her death (d. 415 CE), the legacy of Hypatia of Alexandria's life, teaching, and especially her violent demise, continue to influence modern culture. Through a series of focused articles, this volume takes a fresh look at the most well-known ancient female philosopher under three aspects: first, through the evidence provided by her most famous pupil, Synesius of Cyrene; next, by placing her in her late antique cultural context, and, finally, through analysis of her reception both ancient and modern. Though the sources are meager, Hypatia's influence on her students and wider culture guaranteed that she remained an important figure throughout the centuries, albeit one ranging from chaste Neoplatonist to conniving witch. Along with its eleven new essays, this volume also includes a new translation of all the principal ancient sources touching on Hypatia.

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Dawn LaValle Norman/Alex Petkas: Introduction: The Timeliness of Hypatia

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Hypatia in her Ancient and Modern Reception

Joshua Fincher: Hypatia's Sisters? Gender and the Triumph of Knowledge in Nonnus' Dionysiaca – Victoria Leonard: The Ideal (Bleeding?) Female: Hypatia of Alexandria and Distorting Patriarchal Narratives – Edward Watts: Hypatia and her Eighteenth-Century Reception – Cédric Scheidegger Laemmle: Starring Hypatia: Amenábar's Agora and the Topology of Reception

Häfele, Wolfgang

Krankheit und ihre Behandlung

Studien zu Sophronios von Jerusalems Wundern der Heiligen Kyros und Johannes

Volume 118
2020. X, 295 pages.

ISBN 9783161591921
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161591938
eBook PDF 104,00 €

What is illness and in what way does Christian understanding of it differ from that handed down from pre-Christian antiquity? Wolfgang Häfele analyses *The Miracles of Saints Cyrus and John*, written by the subsequent patriarch of Jerusalem, Sophronios, between 610 and 614 AD. This text is commonly yet unjustly thought to harbour a certain hostility towards doctors and medicine. While Sophronios does sharply criticise the conduct of the contemporary medical (and by then Christian) elite, he also appreciates what contemporary medicine is capable of and uses the latter's approaches to describe diseases. However, a second major aspect of illness becomes apparent in the text, particularly when it comes to diseases of the soul: illness and its treatment as metaphor.

Langworthy, Oliver B.

Gregory of Nazianzus' Soteriological Pneumatology

Volume 117
2019. XIII, 187 pages.

ISBN 9783161589515
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161589522
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Oliver B. Langworthy examines the interaction of soteriology and pneumatology in Gregory of Nazianzus' thought. He shows that this interaction, Gregory's soteriological pneumatology, is a coherent, significant, but under-examined area of Gregory's thought. His study engages in a chronological treatment of a wide range of Gregory's prose and poetic works. This allows for the particular character of Gregory's soteriological pneumatology to emerge, notably his emphasis on the experience of the Spirit. The result is a more complete and nuanced picture of Gregory's theological investment in a divine and »truly holy« Spirit that is operative in the salvation of the believer.

Martyrs and Archangels

Coptic Literary Texts from the Pierpont Morgan Library

Ed. by Matthias Müller and Sami Uljas

Volume 116
2019. XVI, 481 pages.

ISBN 9783161569944
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161569951
eBook PDF 104,00 €

The three hitherto unpublished Coptic literary texts edited and translated here derive from the famous monastery of St Michael at Hamuli and currently belong to the collections of the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York. The first work, a *passio* of a soldier named Phoibamon, is a native Coptic composition that provides a prime example of the so-called 'epic' type of Egyptian martyrdom literature. The second text, another martyrdom of three saintly soldiers, Theodore, Leontius, and Panigerus, represents anciently translated literature and shows interesting deviations from the more standard mould of Coptic martyrdoms. The third and final work edited here is a sermon on St Michael the Archangel attributed to Archelaos, a bishop of the town of Neapolis. These fascinating stories and discourses are of notable interest to students of early Christianity as well as to Coptologists and Egyptologists.

Stenger, Jan R.

Johannes Chrysostomos und die Christianisierung der Polis

»Damit die Städte Städte werden«

Volume 115
2019. IX, 270 pages.

ISBN 9783161569739
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161569746
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Was it possible to live a Christian life in the ancient polis? This question was a recurring one for the church fathers. One particularly vocal critic of urban life in late antiquity was John Chrysostom (c. 349–407), who was active in two of the most vibrant metropolises of the time, Antioch and Constantinople. Jan R. Stenger examines how Chrysostom portrayed the city in his homilies and writings as well as the rhetorical strategies that the preacher employed in order to transform the polis into a Christian community.

Mihálykó, Ágnes T.

The Christian Liturgical Papyri: An Introduction

Volume 114
2019. XV, 451 pages.

ISBN 9783161557866
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161575525
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Liturgical papyri are prime witnesses to the history of liturgy and the religious and theological currents in late antique Egypt. These items from the third to ninth century preserve hundreds of Greek and Coptic hymns, prayers, and acclamations, most otherwise unknown but some still recited by the Coptic Church. Ágnes T. Mihálykó offers the first extensive introduction to the liturgical papyri, facilitating the reader's access to them with a detailed inventory of edited manuscripts and an extensive discussion of their date and provenance. She also examines liturgical papyri as the first preserved liturgical manuscripts, describing their material features, the ways they were used, the early history of the liturgical books, and their languages. She reveals how liturgical texts were written down and transmitted and locates these important manuscripts in the book culture of late antique Egypt.

Praying and Contemplating in Late Antiquity

Religious and Philosophical Interactions

Ed. by Eleni Pachoumi and Mark Edwards

Volume 113
2018. VIII, 229 pages.

ISBN 9783161561191
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161565946
eBook PDF 94,00 €

The present volume is focused on the interactions and syncretistic tensions between religion and philosophy in Late Antiquity. A variety of papers examine issues of personal religious attitudes, initiation to the mysteries, Orphism, notions of theurgy, magic, the philosopher's quest for intimacy or union with the divine, magic and Christianity, the role of prayer in philosophical texts, and oracles, dream-visions and divination. The contributions include a wide range of specialisations, such as Neoplatonism, Chaldaean Oracles, Theurgy, Patristic literature, Christian religious texts and Manichaeism.

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John Dillon: Prayer and Contemplation in the Neoplatonic and Sufi Traditions – *Eleni Pachoumi:* Magico-religious and Philosophical Interactions in Proclus' Theurgic Unions – *John Finamore:* Reason and Irrationality: Iamblichus on Divination through Dreams – *Mark Wildish:* Iamblichus on the Language of Prayer – *Wayne Hankey:* Prayer's Mediation in Boethius' Consolation – *John Hilton:* Public and Private Prayer in the Works of the Emperor Julian – *Mark Edwards:* Primitive Christianity and Magic – *Bronwen Neil:* Dream-visions, Prophecy and Contemplation in Origen's Contra Celsum – *Annemaré Kotzé:* Augustine Addressing God and Man in the Confessions – *Matthew Dickie:* The Meaning of Initiation in Late Antiquity – *Lech Trzcionkowski:* Hieroi Logoi in 24 Rhapsodies. The Orphic Codex? – *Philip Bosman:* The End of the Ancient Oracles: From Deception to Dangerous Demons

Scriptures, Sacred Traditions, and Strategies of Religious Subversion

Studies in Discourse with the Work of Guy G. Stroumsa

Ed. by Moshe Blidstein, Serge Ruzer, and Daniel Stökl Ben Ezra

Volume 112
2018. VII, 284 pages.

ISBN 9783161550010
sewn paper 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161562594
eBook PDF 99,00 €

The articles in this volume discuss polemically charged re-evaluations of the religious traditions and scriptures of the Western world, employed throughout the centuries in various religious contexts. These studies consider new religious outlooks not as glosses on inherited traditions, but as acts of power exercised in the struggle for identity: contestation, appropriation, interpretation and polemics against the religious »other«, involving, sometimes covertly, critiques of inherited tradition. The volume outlines a typology of the variety of attested strategies, highlighting cases of borderline extremes involving subversions of mainstream forms of belief as well as elucidating more moderate avenues of interaction. Most of the studies were presented at a 2016 conference in Jerusalem honouring Guy G. Stroumsa, a renowned scholar of early Christianity and Late Antiquity, recipient of many scholarly awards, including the Leopold Lucas Prize 2018.

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Wilson, Kenneth M.

Augustine's Conversion from Traditional Free Choice to »Non-free Free Will«

A Comprehensive Methodology

Volume 111
2018. XXIV, 388 pages.

ISBN 9783161557538
sewn paper 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161562860
eBook PDF 99,00 €

The consensus view asserts Augustine developed his later doctrines ca. 396 CE while writing *Ad Simplicianum* as a result of studying scripture. His early *De libero arbitrio* argued for traditional free choice refuting Manichaean determinism, but his anti-Pelagian writings rejected any human ability to believe without God giving faith. Kenneth M. Wilson's study is the first work applying the comprehensive methodology of reading systematically and chronologically through Augustine's entire extant corpus (works, sermons, and letters 386–430 CE), and examining his doctrinal development. The author explores Augustine's later theology within the prior philosophical-religious context of free choice versus deterministic arguments. This analysis demonstrates Augustine persisted in traditional views until 412 CE and his theological transition was primarily due to his prior Stoic, Neoplatonic, and Manichaean influences.

The Nag Hammadi Codices and Late Antique Egypt

Ed. by Hugo Lundhaug and Lance Jenott

Volume 110
2018. XII, 508 pages.

ISBN 9783161539732
sewn paper 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161552472
eBook PDF 114,00 €

This volume showcases the new trend in scholarship to treat the Nag Hammadi Codices as sources for Christianity and monasticism in late antique Egypt rather than for Gnosticism. The essays situate the Nag Hammadi Codices and their texts in the context of late antique Egypt, treating such topics as Coptic readers and readings, the difficulty of dating early Greek and Coptic manuscripts, scribal practices, the importance of heavenly ascent, asceticism, and instruction in Egyptian monastic culture, the relationship of the texts to the Origenist controversy and Manichaeism, the continuity of mythical traditions in later Coptic literature, and issues relating to the codices' production and burial. Most of the essays were originally presented at the conference »The Nag Hammadi Codices in the Context of Fourth- and Fifth-Century Christianity in Egypt,« organized by the ERC-financed project *New Contexts for Old Texts: Unorthodox Texts and Monastic Manuscript Culture in Fourth- and Fifth-Century Egypt (NEWCONT)*, at the University of Oslo in December 2013.

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Krautheim, Frauke

Das öffentliche Auftreten des Christentums im spätantiken Antiochia

Eine Studie unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der Agonmetaphorik in ausgewählten Märtyrerpredigten des Johannes Chrysostomos

Volume 109
2018. XI, 304 pages.

ISBN 9783161553691
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161557743
eBook PDF 89,00 €

Christianity gained a foothold in Antioch during the first century and the metropolis became an important centre for the spread of Christianity, although Hellenistic elements did still shape it in the fourth century. A diverse entertainment culture set the tone in public life and ensured the cohesion of the city's heterogeneous population, as Christian preacher John Chrysostom was to find out. An astute observer of his surroundings, he chose metaphors picking up on aspects of city life to intelligibly and engagingly relay his sermons' messages. Frauke Krautheim analyses the strategies he employed to enable Christianity to compete with existing topographical, cultural and religious realities, and thus underpin identity with the Christian faith. She pays particular attention to Chrysostom's use of Agon metaphors, a typical Hellenistic rhetorical device, in a selection of his sermons on the martyrs.

Hübner, Reinhard M.

Kirche und Dogma im Werden

Aufsätze zur Geschichte und Theologie des frühen Christentums
Hrsg. v. Roland Kany

Volume 108
2017. VIII, 496 pages.

ISBN 9783161557606
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161559662
eBook PDF 104,00 €

This is a collection of fourteen essays written by Reinhard M. Hübner over a period of half a century on topics such as the beginnings of church ministry, the corpus of letters ascribed to Ignatius of Antioch, Monarchianism, the primordial meaning of the expression »Catholic Church«, the problem of Hellenization, writings and ideas by Apollinaris of Laodicea, Gregory of Nyssa, and Basil of Caesarea on Christology and Trinitarian theology, and the long road to the Christological definition of Chalcedon. Several essays are supplemented by addenda and corrigenda that bring them up to date. The volume is completed by Hübner's introduction and his new and hitherto unpublished 95-page study on the Monarchian rather than Gnostic background of the Acts of John.

Schulz-Wackerbarth, Yorick

Die Vita Pauli des Hieronymus

Darstellung und Etablierung eines Heiligen im hagiographischen Diskurs der Spätantike

Volume 107
2017. XVI, 283 pages.

ISBN 9783161551000
sewn paper 69,00 €
ISBN 9783161551017
eBook PDF 69,00 €

Paul of Thebes was the first monk to live in the desert according to Church Father Jerome, whose short work, the Vita Pauli, features fantastic occurrences and delights with literary brilliance. As such it has intrigued and irritated readers ever since. Up until now, research has mainly interpreted the »Life of Paul« as the product of a young author's literary ambitions and extensively investigated its form and content. Whether or not Paul existed at all has also been discussed at length. These approaches have seen the religious aspect of the work often disappear from view. But the Vita Pauli very much portrays a saint who is established as such in late antiquity's hagiographic discourse. Yorick Schulz-Wackerbarth takes up the lead and reveals what notions of holiness the saint portrayed by Jerome conveys.

Die Nag-Hammadi-Schriften in der Literatur- und Theologiegeschichte des frühen Christentums

Hrsg. v. Jens Schröter u. Konrad Schwarz

Volume 106
2017. IX, 316 pages.

ISBN 9783161553653
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161555213
eBook PDF 104,00 €

This volume presents the proceedings of a conference held in 2015 at Humboldt University Berlin to celebrate the seventieth anniversary of the discovery of the Nag Hammadi Codices. The idea of the volume is to interpret the Nag Hammadi writings as part of the history of literature and theology of ancient Christianity. This approach articulates an aspect often neglected in research on these writings. In previous scholarship, the place of the Nag Hammadi writings within ancient Gnosticism was often discussed as was the relationship of several of these texts to the New Testament writings. This volume, however, takes a different view. The Nag Hammadi writings are analysed according to their literary genres (e.g. apocalypses, theological and philosophical treatises, gospels). Renowned scholars ask how these genres are realized in the Nag Hammadi tractates and how their place within the literature and theology of ancient Christianity can be determined.

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Brons, Martin

Augustins Trinitätslehre praktisch: Katechese, Liturgie, Predigt

Ritual und Unterweisung auf dem Weg zur Taufe

Volume 105
2017. XIV, 253 pages.

ISBN 9783161553936
sewn paper 79,00 €
ISBN 9783161553943
eBook PDF 79,00 €

How did Augustine communicate the Trinitarian faith in his pastoral practice? Martin Brons demonstrates that for Augustine, the belief in the Triune God comes into play from the very first contact of a catechumen with the church and that it is closely connected with rituals. The link between ritual and instruction in particular allowed Augustine to biographically describe the mystery of Trinitarian salvation and to deepen it continuously through liturgy and preaching. This is particularly apparent in the preparation towards baptism. Through the methodological tool of Ritual Studies, Brons elucidates and appraises the fundamental significance of the structures, reasoning and contextualization of Trinitarian theology in Augustine's principal pastoral and episcopal duties. This results in a new understanding of Augustin which draws together patristics, history of liturgy and systematic theology.

Light on Creation

Ancient Commentators in Dialogue and Debate on the Origin of the World

Ed. by Geert Roskam and Joseph Verheyden

Volume 104
2017. X, 314 pages.

ISBN 9783161543142
sewn paper 114,00 €
ISBN 9783161555862
eBook PDF 114,00 €

The present volume contains the proceedings of an international colloquium held in February 2015 at the Arts Faculty of the KU Leuven that brought together specialists in (late) ancient philosophy and early Christian studies. Contributors were asked to reflect on the reception of two foundational texts dealing with the origin of the world – the third book of Plato's *Timaeus* and the Genesis account of the creation. The organizers had a double aim: They wished to offer a forum for furthering the dialogue between colleagues working in these respective fields and to do this by studying in a comparative perspective both a crucial topic shared by these traditions and the literary genres through which this topic was developed and transmitted. The two reference texts have been studied in antiquity in a selective way, through citations and essays dealing with specific issues, and in a more systematic way through commentaries.

The book is divided into three parts. The first one deals with the so-called Middle- and Neoplatonic tradition. The second part is dedicated to the Christian tradition and contains papers on several of the more important Christian authors who dealt with the Hexaemeron. The third part is entitled »Some Other Voices« and deals with authors and movements that combine elements from various traditions. Special attention is given to the nature and dynamics of the often close relationship between the various traditions as envisaged by Jewish-Christian authors and to the remarkable lack of interest from the Neoplatonists for »the other side«.

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Gregory E. Sterling: »The Most Perfect Work«: The Role of Matter in Philo of Alexandria – *Claudio Moreschini*: Calcidius between *Creatio Ex Nihilo* and Platonism – *Gerard P. Luttikhuisen*: Gnostic Views on the Origin and the Nature of the Universe

Beyond Conflicts

Cultural and Religious Cohabitations in Alexandria and Egypt between the 1st and the 6th Century CE

Ed. by Luca Arcari

Volume 103
2017. XIII, 460 pages.

ISBN 9783161551444
sewn paper 109,00 €

ISBN 9783161551710
eBook PDF 109,00 €

That there were various ways of interaction between different groups in Graeco-Roman Egypt cannot be doubted, as a number of more or less recent regional studies have further reinforced. And as is well-known, Egypt emerges as a sort of exception in the study of ancient cultures and religions because it provides scholars with the opportunity to draw on a great number and variety of documents. Exploring interactively the diversity of documentary material is the main aim of this book. In socio-cultural terms, such an analysis corroborates the image of Egypt as a pervasive cultural system where for many centuries different elites coagulated themselves around a number of standard modalities to produce »cultural« and »religious« micro-systems. This shows that people, even when different languages and textual practices survive, respond to specific modalities of cohabitation under the umbrella of this hegemonic cultural »field.«

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Luca Arcari: Cultural and Religious Cohabitations in Alexandria and Egypt between the 1st and the 6th Cent. CE

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Pachoumi, Eleni

The Concepts of the Divine in the Greek Magical Papyri

Volume 102
2017. XVI, 258 pages.

ISBN 9783161540196
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Eleni Pachoumi looks at the concepts of the divine in the Greek magical papyri by way of a careful and detailed analysis of ritual practices and spells. Her aim is to uncover the underlying religious, philosophical and mystical parallelisms and influences on the Greek magical papyri. The author starts by examining the religious and philosophical concept of the personal daimon and the union of the individual with his personal daimon through the magico-theurgic ritual of systasis. She then goes on to analyze the religious concept of paredros as the divine »assistant« and the various relationships between paredros, the divine and the individual. To round off, she studies the concept of the divine through the manifold religious and philosophical assimilations mainly between Greek, Egyptian, Hellenized gods and divine abstract concepts of Jewish origins.

Sophisten in Hellenismus und Kaiserzeit

Orte, Methoden und Personen der Bildungsvermittlung

Hrsg. v. Beatrice Wyss, Rainer Hirsch-Luipold u. Solmeng-Jonas Hirschi

Volume 101
2017. VIII, 246 pages.

ISBN 9783161545917
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161545924
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Scholarly discussion customarily distinguishes a first (5 th/4th century BCE) from a so-called Second Sophistic (2nd century CE). However, the literature of Hellenistic and Early Imperial times also knew a number of sophists. At the centre of the contributions of this volume, which examines places, methods and protagonists of the transmission of *paideia*, is the sophist as a (bad) teacher and orator, as an antagonist of philosophers or as an exponent of Greek learning. Sophists operated in the gymnasium, in Alexandria's Museion, in Rome's temples as well as private schools in Egypt and Judea. Alongside these places, the volume discusses the methods of the transmission of *paideia*, and the social provenance of the teachers. The contributions of the volume show how pagan and Jewish thinkers, Platonists and Stoics alike, view *paideia* as a path to a true understanding of the world and God.

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Peter Scholz: Ein Ort bürgerlicher Mühe und Muße. Formen und Funktionen der Institution des griechischen Gymnasiums im historischen Wandel – *Stefanie Holder*: Einrichtungen für Bildung und Lernen im kaiserzeitlichen Alexandria. War das Museion eine antike »Hochschule«? – *Marco Galli*: Le performances dei medici-sofisti. Luoghi della Seconda Sofistica a Roma – *Paul Schubert*: L'activité des sophistes grecs en Égypte d'après le témoignage des papyrus – *Johann Goeken*: Orateurs et sophistes au banquet – *Werner Urbanz*: »Für alle, die Bildung suchen« (Sir 33,18). Aspekte frühjüdischer Bildung im Buch Jesus Sirach – *Gregory E. Sterling*: Philo's School. The Social Setting of Ancient Commentaries – *Alexandra Michalewski*: Pratiques du sophiste et du philosophe dans le Didaskalikos d'Alcinoos et le Prologue d'Albinus – *Christian Fron*: Der ewige Wettkampf. Zur Konkurrenz unter kaiserzeitlichen Sophisten – *Beatrice Wyss*: Σοφιστής in der Kaiserzeit. Gescholtener Lehrer oder gefeierter Redner?

Papoutsakis, Manolis

Vicarious Kingship

A Theme in Syriac Political Theology in Late Antiquity

Volume 100
2017. X, 227 pages.

ISBN 9783161539299
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161540028
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Manolis Papoutsakis explores the conception of »vicarious kingship,« a theme in Syriac political theology in Late Antiquity. Although the idea that the ruler on earth serves as the vicegerent of God in heaven is not an invention of Syriac writers, it appears that, within the Christian tradition, Syriac poets and homilists between the fourth and sixth centuries – the period covered in this monograph – are the first to introduce »vicarious kingship« into a carefully thought-out and consistent eschatological pattern. These learned intellectuals elaborate on the imperial office by commenting on, and alluding to, biblical narratives and by manipulating traditional idiom. Their thinking can be reconstructed and their compositions fully appreciated only after their exposition of the Bible has been carefully studied and their lexicon precisely understood. Early Syriac writings may thus provide answers to long-standing problems in fields that go well beyond that of Syriac studies.

Petitfils, James

Mos Christianorum

The Roman Discourse of Exemplarity and the Jewish and Christian Language of Leadership

Volume 99
2016. XVIII, 290 pages.

ISBN 9783161539046
sewn paper 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161540233
eBook PDF 99,00 €

The preferred moral curriculum of a Roman education abounded with exemplary stories of Rome's native heroes. To inculcate conceptions of virtuous leadership, politicians and populace alike deployed *exempla* as rhetorical vehicles of the *mos maiorum* (way of the ancestors). James Petitfils explores Jewish and Christian participation in this widespread pedagogical practice. After surveying Roman discourse on exemplary leadership, the author consults several texts, written in significantly Romanized environments, celebrating Jewish or Christian ancestral leaders (Josephus' *Antiquities* 2–4, Philo's *Mosis* 1–2, *1 Clement*, and *The Letter of the Churches of Vienne and Lyons*). He highlights their respective appropriation, adaptation, and redeployment of the Roman moral idiom on exemplary leadership in the promotion of self-consciously non-Roman ancestral *exempla* and languages of leadership.

Jonas, Michael

Mikroliturgie

Liturgische Kleinformeln im frühen Christentum

Volume 98
2015. XIV, 405 pages.

ISBN 9783161542244
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161542251
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Linguistic formulations such as »Amen«, »Hallelujah« or »The Lord be with you« are still widely used in Christian worship today. These small phrases are generally associated with Christianity but are well-known much further afield than in the inner-circle of regular church service attendants. But how did they come about? How did they make their way into early Christian liturgy? When and where were they used and which meanings did they convey? Michael Jonas seeks answers to these questions by examining evidence from the first centuries. The process reveals the identity-endowing and unifying potential of these miniature phrases that possessed then as they do now an edifying Christian liturgy and piety.

Lundhaug, Hugo / Jenott, Lance

The Monastic Origins of the Nag Hammadi Codices

Volume 97
2015. XVIII, 332 pages.

ISBN 9783161541728
sewn paper 114,00 €
ISBN 9783161541735
eBook PDF 114,00 €

Hugo Lundhaug and Lance Jenott offer a sustained argument for the monastic provenance of the Nag Hammadi Codices. They examine the arguments for and against a monastic Sitz im Leben and defend the view that the Codices were produced and read by Christian monks, most likely Pachomians, in the fourth- and fifth-century monasteries of Upper Egypt. Eschewing the modern classification of the Nag Hammadi texts as »Gnostic,« the authors approach the codices and their ancient owners from the perspective of the diverse monastic culture of late antique Egypt and situate them in the context of the ongoing controversies over extra-canonical literature and the theological legacy of Origen. Through a combination of sources, including idealized hagiographies, travelogues, monastic rules and exhortations, and the more quotidian details revealed in documentary papyri, manuscript collections, and archaeology, monasticism in the Thebaid is brought to life, and the Nag Hammadi codices situated within it. The cartonnage papyri from the leather covers of the codices, which bear witness to the monastic culture of the region, are closely examined, while scribal and codicological features of the codices are analyzed and compared with contemporary manuscripts from Egypt. Special attention is given to the codices' scribal notes and colophons which offer direct evidence of their producers and users. The study ultimately reveals the Nag Hammadi Codices as a collection of books completely at home in the monastic manuscript culture of late antique Egypt.

Hirschmann, Vera

Die Kirche der Reinen

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

Volume 96
2015. XV, 229 pages.

ISBN 9783161539589
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161539596
eBook PDF 89,00 €

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.

Friesen, Courtney J. P.

Reading Dionysus

Euripides' Bacchae and the Cultural Contestations of Greeks, Jews, Romans, and Christians

Volume 95
2015. XII, 331 pages.

ISBN 9783161538131
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161540783
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Courtney J. P. Friesen explores shifting boundaries of ancient religions by way of the reception of a popular tragedy, Euripides' *Bacchae*. As a play staging political crises provoked by the arrival of the »foreign« god Dionysus and his ecstatic cult, audiences and readers found resonances with their own cultural moments. This dramatic deity became emblematic of exuberant and liberating spirituality and, at the same time, a symbol of imperial conquest. Thus, readings of the *Bacchae* frequently foreground conflicts between religious autonomy and political authority, and between ethnic diversity and social cohesion. This cross-disciplinary study traces appropriations and evocations of this drama ranging from the fifth century BCE through Byzantium not only among »pagans« but also Jews and Christians. Writers variously articulated their religious visions over against Dionysus, often while paradoxically adopting the god's language and symbols. Consequently, imitation and emulation are at times indistinguishable from polemics and subversion. This work was awarded the Manfred Lautenschlaeger Award for Theological Promise 2016.

Furley, William / Gysembergh, Victor

Reading the Liver

Papyrological Texts on Ancient Greek Extispicy

Volume 94
2015. X, 123 pages.

ISBN 9783161538902
sewn paper 39,00 €
ISBN 9783161538919
eBook PDF 39,00 €

William Furley and Victor Gysembergh bring together in a new edition the papyrus fragments of ancient Greek manuals of extispicy, that is, the inspection of animal entrails to predict the future. From art and literature we already know that the practice was important throughout the historical period in military and civic life, representing a widespread and respected way of taking the omens before embarking on any venture. Now, for the first time, the papyrological texts relating to this branch of the ancient mantic art have been collected, reedited and interpreted. The results show a refined and arcane art relating to the parts and appearance of the sheep's liver expressed in a symbolic language all its own. In particular the authors examine the question of the degree to which this Greek pseudo-science derives from Mesopotamian extispicy, as has often been claimed.

Apollinarius und seine Folgen

Hrsg. v. Silke-Petra Bergjan, Benjamin Gleede u. Martin Heimgartner

Volume 93
2015. XII, 309 pages.

ISBN 9783161535871
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161535888
eBook PDF 89,00 €

On the one hand, Apollinarius was a highly-respected theologian and bishop, a poetically talented writer of hymns and highly-educated contemporary of Basil of Caesarea and Nicene. On the other hand, however, he was the originator of the most influential heresy of antiquity, which was banned in imperial edicts from 383 but whose supporters were allowed to re-enter the Great Church in 428. This volume brings together articles on the diverse aspects of Apollinarius' person and his disciples. The contributors seek out the identity of Apollinarius as it was from the outset, and not that of the heretic he became in the 70s. A look at the image of Apollinarius which emerges from Byzantine sources completes the volume's survey.

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I. Der frühe Apollinarius: Nachrichten aus der Zeit um und vor 360

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Baumkamp, Eva

Kommunikation in der Kirche des 3. Jahrhunderts

Bischöfe und Gemeinden zwischen Konflikt und Konsens im Imperium Romanum

Volume 92
2014. X, 376 pages.

ISBN 9783161536861
sewn paper 114,00 €
ISBN 9783161536878
eBook PDF 114,00 €

Eva Baumkamp examines the correspondence between bishops during the persecutions of Christians in the third century within the Roman Empire. In doing so, she works out how conflicts and disputes among communities and bishops were resolved by writing letters. The problems which arose from persecutions, such as how to deal with *lapsi*, schisms and heretics, were discussed in letters and also during personal meetings of the bishops. Baumkamp shows that the letters of the Alexandrian bishop Dionysius and the Carthaginian bishop Cyprian deliver a lively picture of a church in a process of formation. The written and oral exchange of information built up and strengthened ecclesiastical structures. The institutionalization of correspondence and the synodal structures therefore contributed decisively to the success of Christianity and the establishment of the Church in the Roman Empire.

Die Wurzel allen Übels

Vorstellungen über die Herkunft des Bösen und Schlechten in der Philosophie und Religion des 1.-4. Jahrhunderts. Ratio Religionis Studien III

Hrsg. v. Fabienne Jourdan u. Rainer Hirsch-Luipold



Mohr Siebeck

Volume 91
2014. XIII, 305 pages.

ISBN 9783161529085
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161529092
eBook PDF 104,00 €

The question of the origin of evil has always troubled philosophical and religious thinkers. *Unde malum?* Wherever human beings are shattered by the experience of violence and destruction, illness and death, but also by the experience of the soul's unfathomability, the question of cause and accountability arises. The continuing search for answers, through the narration of myths, through philosophical reflection, through psychological, social and political rationalization or through the formulation of scientific hypotheses is outlined in this volume in the literature of the first to the fourth century AD. The texts studied reflect a desire which pervades the history of ideas, philosophy and religion, a desire to understand the conditions of human existence and to probe the experience of human suffering, driven by the hope that in the end we might be able to rise above evil or at least domesticate it intellectually.

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Gemeinhardt, Peter

Die Kirche und ihre Heiligen

Studien zu Ekklesiologie und Hagiographie in der Spätantike

Volume 90
2014. VIII, 416 pages.

ISBN 9783161527173
sewn paper 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161535543
eBook PDF 114,00 €

In the present volume, Peter Gemeinhardt investigates Christianity in late antiquity as an institution and as a community of saints. He focuses especially on structure and self-understanding of the Church in the 4th and 5th century and on the importance of martyrs even after the end of the persecutions, on the education of saints and on the *Life of Antony* and its author, Athanasius. While proper ecclesiological reflection is rare, it is hotly debated whether the church should be a »Volkskirche«, that is, open for everyone, or an elitist community. Gemeinhardt points out that while the periphery of the church was often blurred, this was made possible by a clear center: the martyrs and saints. This tension between openness and determination appears crucial to the survival and success of Christianity in Late Antiquity.

Luijendijk, AnneMarie

Forbidden Oracles?

The Gospel of the Lots of Mary

Volume 89
2014. XII, 208 pages.

ISBN 9783161528590
sewn paper 89,00 €

ISBN 9783161528606
eBook PDF 89,00 €

In this volume, AnneMarie Luijendijk analyzes a previously unknown text preserved in a fifth- or sixth-century Coptic miniature codex, entitled *The Gospel of the Lots of Mary*, and places it within the context of practices of and debates about divination in the ancient Mediterranean world. This is the first critical edition and translation of this new text; it is also a project about religious authority and practices.

In the first part of the book, the author investigates the codex, taking into account both its weaving together of biblical allusions and traditional divinatory phrases, its material format as miniature codex with imprints of its use, and mode of operation. The second part consists of the edition of this text, an English translation, and an elaborate textual commentary. AnneMarie Luijendijk participates in conversations about lived religion and privileged knowledge of the divine or the future. Sortilege—the practice of casting lots to obtain an answer—was widespread in antiquity; it was a method applied in decision-making on all levels of ancient society. As a religious practice, lot divination was also highly contested, as access to these practices and thus to the divine meant control of powers, religiously and socially. The text, replete with biblical phrases but fundamentally materialistic in worldview, disrupts our concepts of what is religious in the ancient world. Luijendijk thus contributes to discussions in the study of religion that question the categories of religion and magic. She also contributes to scholarship on the production and use of books, especially miniature codices.



Galen's *De indolentia*

Essays on a Newly Discovered Letter

Ed. by Clare K. Rothschild and Trevor W. Thompson

Volume 88
2014. XI, 336 pages.

ISBN 9783161532153
sewn paper 109,00 €

ISBN 9783161532160
eBook PDF 109,00 €

In 2005 a French doctoral student discovered the long-lost treatise, *De indolentia* (Περὶ ἀλπηθείας/ἀλπιείας) or *On the Avoidance of Distress* in a monastic library in Thessalonica. *De indolentia* is a letter from Galen to an unspecified addressee in which he describes how he responded to the fire that destroyed much of his library and medicines in 192 CE. The manuscript, catalogued in the Vatopedion monastery as codex 14, is of unspeakable value to scholars of antiquity. Vivian Nutton characterizes the discovery as »one of the most spectacular finds ever of ancient literature.« Scholarly consensus has established 192–193 CE as the most probable date of composition that, according to Galen, belonged to a group of writings he classified as moral philosophy. *De indolentia* provides important evidence for second-century literary culture covering a range of topics in this area of study, including Galen's aptitude for distinguishing genuine from false texts, his nuanced lexical debates with other physicians, and his prolific scholarly activity. The treatise also offers information about ancient library culture. Too often neglected in comparative studies of Early Christian literature, Galen's writings, particularly on moral philosophy, treat many of the same topics. Of particular interest to scholars of early Christian texts, *De indolentia* specifically addresses second-century use of parchment codices to preserve valuable texts, preserves some standard epistolary elements in the absence of others, has both private and publication aims in mind, and denotes a 'hermeneutics of self-interpretation' as crucial for understanding the text. This volume includes a brand new English translation of the text, a collation of all discrepancies among the leading critical editions of the Greek text, and essays by eminent Classicists and scholars in the field of early Christianity on different aspects of this fascinating new text.

Der Mensch zwischen Weltflucht und Weltverantwortung

Lebensmodelle der paganen und der jüdisch-christlichen Antike

Hrsg. v. Heinz-Günther Nesselrath u. Meike Rühl

Volume 87
2014. VI, 192 pages.

ISBN 9783161530913
sewn paper 74,00 €

ISBN 9783161530920
eBook PDF 74,00 €

The contributions to this volume illustrate the cultural, historical, religious and philosophical patterns and procedures which influenced or inspired people in the ancient world to choose a certain way of life, and they look into the description and evaluation of these ways of life in pictorial and textual media, focusing on the question of how these are related to the external world and how they are located between the conflicting areas of receptiveness and dissociation, orientation towards this world or the hereafter, withdrawal from and acceptance of responsibility and between the imagined models and their implementation. The authors work in the fields of classical antiquity, Byzantine studies and theology. Their contributions originally formed part of an international colloquium on »Images and Models of Human Life between Accepting Responsibility for the World and Withdrawal from It,« organized by the research training group »Images of the Gods, of God and the World« at the University of Göttingen.

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A. Pagan Antike *Adolf Borbein*: Bürger in der Polis: Das Menschenbild der klassischen griechischen Kunst – *Heinz-Günther Nesselrath*: Ein homerischer Held im Konflikt mit der Welt? Achill zwischen Flucht und Verantwortung in der Ilias und in späterer griechischer Rhetorik – *Michael Erler*: Weltverantwortung und Weltflucht bei Platon und im Platonismus – *Henrik Mouritsen*: 'Pagan Lebensmodelle?' Gods, pietas, and maiores in the Roman Republic – *Meike Rühl*: Flucht nach vorne: Politische und literarische Positionierungen am Ende der römischen Republik – *Jula Wildberger*: Simus inter exempla! Formen und Funktionen beispielhafter Weltflucht in der frühen Kaiserzeit

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Stöcklin-Kaldewey, Sara

Kaiser Julians Gottesverehrung im Kontext der Spätantike

Volume 86
2014. XII, 456 pages.

ISBN 9783161532467
sewn paper 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161532474
eBook PDF 114,00 €

The relevance of the sphere of gods and faith within Julian's work is striking. His position as emperor and his biography have always drawn attention to the articulated religious ideas, since they make Julian a key figure in understanding the religious culture of late antiquity. In a systematic analysis of Julian's work, Sara Stöcklin-Kaldewey explores the ideas underlying the emperor's spirituality, considering their coherence, explanations and consequences. She renders visible recurring central themes and problems, using them to position Julian's thoughts on the intellectual map of late antiquity. They repeatedly prove to be representative of the religious discourses of the time, of the questions posed and discussed by Christian writers, philosophers and pagan intellectuals.



Bracht, Katharina

Hippolyts Schrift In Danielelem

Kommunikative Strategien eines frühchristlichen Kommentars

Volume 85
2014. XX, 448 pages.

ISBN 9783161520341
sewn paper 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161529900
eBook PDF 114,00 €

Hippolytus' writing *In Danielelem* (around 204 AD) is the oldest complete extant consecutive interpretation of an entire book of the Bible written by a Christian author. It is one of the oldest of this kind of texts which is still being actively discussed by exegesis scholars up to this day and are used a great deal in the study and teaching of theology as well as in church practice. Katharina Bracht analyzes *In Danielelem*, focusing in particular on its communication strategies in the communication triangle of pretext, commentary and readership in order to gain an exemplary insight into the early Christian Bible commentaries and to shed light on the origins of the »Christian Bible commentary« genre. In addition, the analysis and interpretation of Hippolytus's work contribute to the clarification of its authorship and thus to the so-called Hippolytus question.

Sanzo, Joseph Emanuel

Scriptural Incipits on Amulets from Late Antique Egypt

Text, Typology, and Theory

Volume 84
2014. XIV, 219 pages.

ISBN 9783161529658
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161529702
eBook PDF 79,00 €

The use of biblical and parabiblical texts on amulets and other apotropaic objects was ubiquitous in late antique Egypt. Among the passages most frequently cited were the opening lines (*incipits*) of the Gospels, the Psalms, and other scriptural texts. Scholars have repeatedly observed the apotropaic use of such *incipits*, but have yet to subject them to thorough and focused analysis. In the present volume, Joseph E. Sanzo addresses this scholarly need by offering the first sustained study of the scriptural *incipits* on Greek and Coptic amulets and other apotropaic objects from late antique Egypt. In addition to providing a catalog and edition of these texts, the author draws on insights from cognitive linguistics, ritual studies, and the history of the book to establish a typology of the *incipits* and to determine their ritual functions.

Gonzalez, Eliezer

The Fate of the Dead in Early Third Century North African Christianity

The Passion of Perpetua and Felicitas and Tertullian

Volume 83
2014. XII, 253 pages.

ISBN 9783161529443
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161529450
eBook PDF 79,00 €

The ideology and imagery in the *Passion of Perpetua* are mediated heavily by traditional Graeco-Roman culture; in particular, by traditional notions of the afterlife and of the ascent of the soul. This context for understanding the *Passion of Perpetua* aligns well with the available material evidence, and with the writings of Tertullian, with whose ideology the text of *Perpetua* is in an implicit polemical dialogue.

Eliezer Gonzalez analyzes how the *Passion of Perpetua* provides us with early literary evidence of an environment in which the Graeco-Roman and Christian cults of the dead, including the cults of the martyrs and saints, appear to be very much aligned. He also shows that the text of the *Passion of Perpetua* and the writings of Tertullian provide insights into an early stage in the polemic between these two conceptualisations of the afterlife of the righteous.

Beyond the Gnostic Gospels

Studies Building on the Work of Elaine Pagels

Ed. by Eduard Iricinschi, Lance Jenott, Nicola Denzey Lewis and Philippa Townsend

Volume 82
2013. X, 517 pages.

ISBN 9783161528347
sewn paper 129,00 €

ISBN 9783161586811
eBook PDF 129,00 €

This volume gathers contributions from both junior and senior scholars whose studies have developed in dialogue with Elaine Pagels' work on Nag Hammadi literature and ancient heresiology. Published initially in 1979, Pagels' *The Gnostic Gospels* represents a landmark of scholarship in religious studies. It not only made the Nag Hammadi writings and Gnosticism popular topics in modern culture, it also invited scholars to rethink early Christianity from new perspectives. What were previously seen as dry theological arguments and intricate Gnostic mythologies received new interpretations in the *Gnostic Gospels* as echoes of political debates about orthodoxy and heresy, clerical authority, martyrdom and gender. After *The Gnostic Gospels*, Elaine Pagels extended her research in various directions, from perceptions of sexuality in early Christianity and identity politics in the Christian creation of the »Satan figure« to ancient biblical interpretations, ritual in Nag Hammadi texts, and, recently, the Gospel of Judas and ancient apocalypses. The studies included in this volume engage each stage of Pagels' vast trajectory, and provide critical evaluations of the field of »Gnosticism studies« as it has developed over the past four decades, in the subfields of the »Sethian« and »Valentinian« schools, and beyond. The studies include new interpretations of the Nag Hammadi texts and fresh analyses of ancient heresiological literature.

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Monotheistische Denkfiguren in der Spätantike

Hrsg. v. Alfons Fürst, Luise Ahmed, Christian Gers-Uphaus u. Stefan Klug

Volume 81
2013. VIII, 293 pages.

ISBN 9783161523854
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161528231
eBook PDF 89,00 €

For a long time, monotheistic concepts of God have dominated the understanding of religion in a Europe shaped by Christianity. For the early Christians, the monotheistic concept of God, which was adopted from Judaism, was an elementary part of their self-image. Not always taken into account was the fact that monotheistic trends were also noticed in ancient polytheistic culture, trends that are discussed as »pagan monotheism«. The articles in this volume analyze monotheistic concepts, arguments and models using authors from late antiquity as examples. The authors deal with significant aspects of monotheistic thinking in which the development of complex ancient monotheism is expressed in Christian and in »pagan« texts as well.

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*Christian Gers-Uphaus/Stefan Klug: Einleitung: Die spätantike Debatte über den Monotheismus – Alfons Fürst: Die Rhetorik des Monotheismus im Römischen Reich. Ein neuer Zugang zu einem zentralen historischen Konzept – Luise Ahmed: Das monotheistische Gottesbild als Konversionsmotiv? – Christian Müller: Aggressiver Polytheismus? Monotheismus als (k)lein Thema in christlichen Märtyrerakten – Christian Gers-Uphaus: Rhetorik des Monotheismus in der *Oratio ad Graecos* Tatians – Andrea Villani: Tertullianische Variationen zum Thema Monotheismus – Christoph Bruns: Überlegungen zum Subordinatianismus in der Trinitätslehre des Origenes – Jochen Sauer: Naturrechtsdiskurs und Monotheismus. Denkfiguren ciceronischer Prägung in Laktanz' Argumentation für den Monotheismus – Sara Stöcklin-Kaldewey: Göttliche Hierarchie und Aufgabenteilung bei Kaiser Julian – Nicola Hömke: *Pater rerum* und dreieiniger Gott. Die Prädikation des einen Gottes in den *Versus paschales* des Ausonius – Therese Fuhrer: Augustins Modellierung des manichäischen Gottesbildes in den *Confessiones* – Peter Lötscher: Varro in der lateinischen Apologetik und der pagane Monotheismus – Franco Chia: Die Ortsgebundenheit des Göttlichen bei Macrobius – Ilinca Tanaseanu-Döbler: Einheit des Göttlichen bei Proklos*

Thum, Tobias

Plutarchs Dialog De E apud Delphos

Eine Studie. Ratio Religionis Studien II

Volume 80
2013. XIII, 390 pages.

ISBN 9783161526916
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161526923
eBook PDF 104,00 €

The *De E apud Delphos* dialogue is one of the most frequently discussed texts in the works of Plutarch of Chaeronea (45–120 AD), the Greek philosopher and polyhistor. On the assumption that the essence of the god Apollo as an inspirator of philosophy was expressed in the mysterious dedication gift in the form of an E on his temple in Delphi, the possible meanings of the E are debated using philosophical methods in five contributions to the discussion. The answers to pivotal questions about Plutarch's philosophical development, his Platonism, his relationship to the Stoa as well as to his philosophical interpretation of Greek religion depend on the understanding of this dialogue. Tobias Thum provides the first analysis of the entire dialogue in all its literary and philosophical dimensions and gives a coherent new interpretation of Plutarch's conception of the text and its philosophical substance.

Christliches Ägypten in der spätantiken Zeit

Akten der 2. Tübinger Tagung zum Christlichen Orient (7.-8. Dezember 2007)

Hrsg. v. Dmitrij Bumazhnov

Volume 79
2013. XI, 355 pages.

ISBN 9783161527777
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161527784
eBook PDF 104,00 €

This volume contains the papers given at the 2nd Tübingen Conference on the Christian Orient in 2007, along with several articles which have been added. The articles cover the period between the 3rd and the 6th century AD. They deal with the Coptic book of Proverbs, the apocryphal gospels in Coptic and in particular the Gospel of Thomas as well as early monasticism in Egypt and its links to pagan literature (the ancient history of the »the evil spirit at noon-day« and the Plotinian reminiscences in a work by Paul of Tamma). In addition they study the textual history of the life of Pachomius, the treatise of Didymus the Blind »On the Holy Spirit« and the »De sectis« by Abba Theodore and Christian-Egyptian iconography and iconology as exemplified by the Maiestas portrayals in the Coptic monasteries. Apart from this, the volume contains two Coptic text editions: two fragments by Shenute and Sahidic and Bohairic versions of the Testament of Isaac.

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Frank Feder: Die koptischen Versionen des Proverbienbuches

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Jan Dochhorn: Das Testament Isaaks nach dem sahidischen und dem bohairischen Textzeugen. Eine synoptische Übersicht mit kritischen Anmerkungen

Pevarello, Daniele

The Sentences of Sextus and the Origins of Christian Asceticism

Daniele Pevarello analyzes the *Sentences of Sextus*, a second century collection of Greek aphorisms compiled by Sextus, an otherwise unknown Christian author. The specific character of Sextus' collection lies in the fact that the *Sentences* are a Christian rewriting of Hellenistic sayings, some of which are still preserved in pagan gnomologies and in Porphyry. Pevarello investigates the problem of continuity and discontinuity between the ascetic tendencies of the Christian compiler and aphorisms promoting self-control in his pagan sources. In particular, he shows how some aspects of the Stoic, Cynic, Platonic and Pythagorean moral traditions, such as sexual restraint, voluntary poverty, the practice of silence and of a secluded life were creatively combined with Sextus' ascetic agenda against the background of the biblical tradition. Drawing on this adoption of Hellenistic moral traditions, Pevarello shows how great a part the moral tradition of Greek paideia played in the shaping and development of self-restraint among early Christian ascetics.

Pietzner, Katrin

Bildung, Elite und Konkurrenz

Heiden und Christen vor der Zeit Constantins

During the Roman Empire, philosophers were regarded as experts on the *ars vitae*. They were influential advisers and critics, teachers and spiritual caregivers, and their practical knowledge of life was in particular demand. From the middle of the 2nd century on, it was not only pagans who performed these functions; this was done increasingly by Christians as well, since they had a good grasp of traditional cultural practices, which they used to establish an alternative scholarly milieu. The author of this book explains why this provoked pagan philosophers and also describes the strategies developed by a Platonist such as Celsus to exclude the unloved competitors from the intelligentsia. Katrin Pietzner illustrates how Christian experts were challenged by being labelled uneducated and socially inferior and how they became effective as intellectuals.

Volume 78
2013. XII, 248 pages.

ISBN 9783161525777
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161526862
eBook PDF 89,00 €

Volume 77
2013. IX, 479 pages.

ISBN 9783161496240
sewn paper 114,00 €
ISBN 9783161529429
eBook PDF 114,00 €

Religious Dimensions of the Self in the Second Century CE

Ed. by Jörg Rüpke and Gregory D. Woolf

Volume 76
2013. XI, 299 pages.

ISBN 9783161522437
sewn paper 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161523519
eBook PDF 99,00 €

Did new senses of the self emerge in the High Roman Empire, and if so what were the religious corollaries? Were such changes connected to processes of institutional change? Could they usefully be described as »individualisation«? These are the key concerns of the authors of this volume. They address the field of Hellenistic philosophy, medical texts and the literature of the so-called Second Sophistic, which all have been recruited to this debate. Most important, however, religious phenomena are included and brought to the fore. Thus the analysis of concepts of the self in Plutarch and Epictetus is followed by studies of the »Shepherd of Hermas,« Clement of Alexandria and Ptolemaeus of Rome, Justin Martyr and the Corpus Hermeticum. Notions of the »self« are traced in concepts of body and soul, I and god(s), but also in practices like dressing and ideas about political identity. Lucian of Samosata, a central author of the Second Sophistic, is shown to be involved in such discourses and practices in a sequence of studies. It is this kind of institutional setting which turns out to have been of central importance for the development of concepts of the »self« in the period under consideration. Thus, in a final section, the authors address philosophical advice on dealing with sick friends, the individuality implied in votive practices, and institutions for religious educations within the field of Christian practices.

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Gregory D. Woolf/Jörg Rüpke: Introduction

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Dümler, Bärbel

Zeno von Verona zu heidnischer Kultur und christlicher Bildung

Volume 75
2013. XIV, 661 pages.

ISBN 9783161502248
sewn paper 129,00 €

ISBN 9783161527005
eBook PDF 129,00 €

Barbara Dümler studies the tractates of Zeno of Verona, the oldest preserved corpus of Latin sermons from the period between 360 and 380 AD. Taking a philological perspective, she begins by analyzing the relationship between the bishop and paganism according to the Stoic schema of the theologia tripartita. Zeno's statements on the pagan cult, gods and mythological figures and their depiction as well as his statements on philosophy and intellectualism reveal that he considered Christianity to be the superior religion in every respect. The author then deals with Zeno's counterproposal to the pagan culture which he condemned. The essential difference is that all the elements of the counterproposal, in this case religious expertise, ethical knowledge and ethical skills, are focused on God, as expressed in the term »education,« a term which can be traced back to Meister Eckhart and which has been reassigned here.

Fauth, Wolfgang

Jao-Jahwe und seine Engel

Jahwe-Appellationen und zugehörige Engelnamen in griechischen und koptischen Zaubertexten

Volume 74
2014. XI, 133 pages.

ISBN 9783161522222
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161527081
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Wolfgang Fauth selects several variants of Yahweh, the Jewish name for God, in Greek and Coptic magical texts, among them primarily the graphical form J/lao. He deals with their morphological characteristics and their expansion or replacement by other names, and shows how these were supplemented by the comprehensive source of Jewish-Hebrew angels' names along with Yahweh's change of status from an angel to an absolute ruler (Pantocrator). From the nominal contact with Greco-Egyptian gods and the personal fusion with Jesus Christ, there emerges a complex image of Jao-Yahweh.

Görgemanns, Herwig

Philologos Kosmos

Kleine Schriften zur antiken Literatur, Naturwissenschaft, Philosophie und Religion

Hrsg. v. Rainer Hirsch-Luipold u. Manuel Baumbach

Volume 73
2013. VIII, 420 pages.

ISBN 9783161518409
sewn paper 114,00 €
ISBN 9783161521027
eBook PDF 114,00 €

The selected essays of Herwig Görgemanns, which have been collected in this volume for the Greek scholar from Heidelberg to commemorate his 80th birthday, combine all those elements which elsewhere would come undone in disciplinary fragmentation and in the disparity between specialization and communication skills. Detailed studies of ancient literature, the history of ideas and science are combined with a masterful description of the major philosophical and religious-theological contexts in the works of Herwig Görgemanns. The spectrum of essays in this volume ranges from the issues of »Truth and Fiction in Plato's Atlantis Story« to the problem of »Solar Eclipses in Ancient Astronomy« as well as accounts of the history of ethics, the »Fear and Hope of the Hereafter in the Greek Writings« and of »Cosmology, Cosmogony and Creation.« They contain interpretations of Plato and the Homeric Hymn to Hermes as well as of Cicero, Plutarch and Marcus Aurelius, the fourth book of Maccabees and Origen.

The Purpose of Rhetoric in Late Antiquity

From Performance to Exegesis

Ed. by Alberto J. Quiroga Puertas

Volume 72
2013. XI, 265 pages.

ISBN 9783161522697
sewn paper 79,00 €
ISBN 9783161523526
eBook PDF 79,00 €

In this volume Alberto J. Quiroga Puertas brings together twelve essays that deal with the role and importance of rhetoric in theology, literature and politics in Late Antiquity, more specifically in the fourth century CE. The point of departure of this book is the assumption that religious, cultural and political issues of that period were fought in the rhetorical arena. Thus aspects related to religious orthodoxy and the condemnation of heresies, to spiritual advancement, to the composition of a literary work, or to the ideological objectives of the rhetorical education in Late Antiquity are discussed in this volume. Authors such as Themistius, Libanius, Augustine, Evagrius, Firmicus, or the emperor Julian deployed in their works rhetorical devices and strategies in order to strengthen their arguments. The protean nature of rhetoric facilitated its use as a hermeneutical, persuasive and exegetical tool.

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Alberto J. Quiroga Puertas: Foreword

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Ritter, Adolf Martin

STUDIA CHRYSOSTOMICA

Aufsätze zu Weg, Werk und Wirkung des Johannes Chrysostomos (ca. 349–407)

Volume 71
2012. XXIII, 233 pages.

ISBN 9783161520358
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161522772
eBook PDF 89,00 €

This volume comprises 13 papers on John Chrysostom, most of which were published during the last four decades (the first and the last were unpublished up to now). The »golden mouth« was already the focus of Adolf Martin Ritter's postdoctoral project on »Charisma as interpreted by John Chrysostom and his time,« completed in 1970 and published in Göttingen in 1972, which served as a starting point and a background for many of the discussions in these *Studia Chrysostomica*. Since the author is accustomed to placing a lot of emphasis on the discussion with other positions, this collection not only provides far-reaching insights into the actual academic discussion on John Chrysostom but also documents the »progress« of the author's thinking as far as this Church Father and the chances and difficulties of understanding him are concerned.



Heiser, Andreas

Die Paulusinszenierung des Johannes Chrysostomus

Epitheta und ihre Vorgeschichte

Volume 70
2012. XVI, 731 pages.

ISBN 9783161505218
sewn paper 144,00 €

ISBN 9783161524318
eBook PDF 144,00 €

John Chrysostom, born in Antioch around 350 AD, was a keen exegete of Paul the Apostle and his scriptures, and prior researchers used the terms »love« or »kindred spirit« to describe his relationship to Paul. A linguistic and historical analysis of the epithets used for Paul reveals the staging of the Apostle as an ideal ascetic. In his study, the author shows how Chrysostom kept ascetic standards alive by putting Paul in the limelight of the Christian communities of Antioch during the struggle with the Syrian-Antiochene ascetics. The analysis of epithets used for Paul in previous ancient Christian literature and in the works of Chrysostom sheds light on the consistencies and innovations of this staging.

Goehring, James E.

Politics, Monasticism, and Miracles in Sixth Century Upper Egypt

A Critical Edition and Translation of the Coptic Texts on Abraham of Farshut

Volume 69
2012. XIV, 160 pages.

ISBN 9783161522147
sewn paper 64,00 €

ISBN 9783161522765
eBook PDF 64,00 €

This volume contains a critical edition and translation of the Coptic texts on Abraham of Farshut, the last Coptic orthodox archimandrite of the Pachomian federation in Upper Egypt. While past studies have focused on the origins and early years of this, the first communal monastic movement, James E. Goehring turns to its final days and ultimate demise in the sixth century reign of the Byzantine Emperor Justinian I. He examines the literary nature of the texts, their role in the making of a saint, and the historical events that they reveal. Miracle stories and tendentious accounts give way to the reconstruction of internal debates over the decrees of the Council of Chalcedon, political intrigue, and the eventual reordering of the communal monastic movement in Upper Egypt.

Patterson, Paul A.

Visions of Christ

The Anthropomorphic Controversy of 399 CE

Volume 68
2012. XI, 179 pages.

ISBN 9783161520402
sewn paper 64,00 €

ISBN 9783161521362
eBook PDF 64,00 €

In the late fourth century, tales began to circulate of 'anthropomorphites' dwelling in the Egyptian desert—uneducated monks who crudely believed God to have a body. This characterization was accepted until the nineteenth-century discovery of »The Life of Apa Aphou of Pemdje«. Although clearly defending the 'anthropomorphites,' this text does not promote any sort of anthropomorphism. Further analysis led many scholars to conclude that what the anthropomorphites were actually defending was the legitimacy of forming images of the Incarnate Christ in prayer. However, this view fails to fully explain numerous anti-anthropomorphic writings (those of Theophilus, Jerome, Cassian, Cyril and Augustine). Taking these into account, as well as certain Nag Hammadi texts and the works of Philo, Paul A. Patterson shows that the anthropomorphites were bearers of an ancient tradition, seeking in prayer the vision of the eternal, divine body of Christ.

Uhle, Tobias

Augustin und die Dialektik

Eine Untersuchung der Argumentationsstruktur in den Cassiciacum-Dialogen

Volume 67
2012. XIV, 293 pages.

ISBN 9783161519857
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161521355
eBook PDF 79,00 €

How do dialectics serve the purpose of integrating Christian dogmas into the philosophical discourse of the early dialogues? In this study Tobias Uhle presents an analysis of Augustine's dialectical, that is logical, argumentation in the Cassiciacum dialogues (*Contra Academicos*, *De beata vita*, *De ordine*, and *Soliloquia*, including *De immortalitate animae*). Augustine's arguments rest, at first, solely on pagan philosophical premises while specifically Christian concepts remain unseen or at least hidden in the background. By means of dialectical techniques Augustine finally manages to present Christian solutions to the issues discussed in the dialogues. In particular, Augustine deliberately eliminates pagan premises or skillfully Christianizes them. Thus, dialectics enables Augustine to establish Christian faith as a substantial alternative to pagan philosophy.

Lange, Christian

Mia Energeia

Untersuchungen zur Einigungspolitik des Kaisers Heraclius und des Patriarchen Sergius von Constantinopel

Volume 66
2012. XX, 701 pages.

ISBN 9783161509674
sewn paper 129,00 €
ISBN 9783161519420
eBook PDF 129,00 €

During the reign of emperor Justinian (527–565 AD), the Church of the (Roman) Empire was split due to the different reception of the Christological formula of the Council of Chalcedon (451). On the one hand, the Apostolic See of Rome and the Latin speaking West defended the synod. On the other hand, followers of the Christology of St. Cyril of Alexandria in Egypt and Syria sought to overrule what they understood as »Nestorianism«. It was not until the years 628 to 633 that the Byzantine Emperor Heraclius (610–641) was able to restore the unity of the Church by promoting a new formula of compromise: The teaching of a single »operation« (*energeia*) in Christ. Christian Lange discusses the period between the Council of Chalcedon (451) and the final failure of all attempts to avoid a split in the Church of the Empire in the 7th century.

Cosgrove, Charles H.

An Ancient Christian Hymn with Musical Notation

Papyrus Oxyrhynchus 1786: Text and Commentary

Volume 65
2011. XI, 232 pages.

ISBN 9783161509230
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161517679
eBook PDF 89,00 €

In this book, Charles Cosgrove undertakes a comprehensive examination of Papyrus Oxyrhynchus 1786, an ancient Greek Christian hymn dating to the late third century that offers the most ancient surviving example of a notated Christian melody. The author analyzes the text and music of the hymn, situating it in the context of the Greek literary and hymnic tradition, ancient Greek music, early Christian liturgy and devotion, and the social setting of Oxyrhynchus circa 300 C.E. The broad sweep of the commentary touches the interests of classical philologists, specialists in ancient Greek music, church historians, and students of church music history.

Jenott, Lance

The Gospel of Judas

Coptic Text, Translation, and Historical Interpretation of 'the Betrayer's Gospel'

Volume 64
2011. X, 256 pages.

ISBN 9783161509780
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161517662
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Lance Jenott presents a new critical edition, annotated translation, and interpretation of the *Gospel of Judas* which, for the first time, includes all extant fragments of the manuscript. Departing from the scholarly debate over how this second-century Gospel portrays the character of Judas Iscariot, he investigates the text's preoccupation with Jesus' Twelve Disciples, and why its author slanders them as immoral priests who unwittingly offer sacrifice to a false god. Jenott challenges previous interpretations of *Judas* as a Gnostic text that criticizes the sacrificial theology, Christology, and ritual practices of the orthodox church, including Eucharist and baptism. Instead, he emphasizes how its Christian author voices a political critique of the emerging clergy who established their ecclesiological authority through doctrines of apostolic succession and the exclusive right to administer the Eucharist. In the final chapter, Jenott leaves questions about the author's second-century *Sitz im Leben* behind to consider how *Judas* may have appealed to the fourth-century Coptic Christians who produced our only known copy.

Origenes' Johanneskommentar Buch I-V

Hrsg., übers. u. komm. v. Hans G. Thümmel

Volume 63
2011. XV, 276 pages.

ISBN 9783161505843
sewn paper 69,00 €
ISBN 9783161517655
eBook PDF 69,00 €

Over a long period of time, Origen wrote interpretations of John to his patron Ambrosius. About one third of this work has been preserved, of which Hans G. Thümmel deals with Books 1 and 2 as well as the preserved fragments of Books 4 and 5. These refer to the prologue to the Gospel of John. Using the corrigendum from older reviews, the publication improves the text and provides a translation. Further clarification is given in the commentary. An essential element in Origen's explanations of the Logos in John 1.1 is the concept of the intermediary between God and his creation, who within himself constitutes the entire creation. For Origen, what was important was the condition of human beings in their need for salvation, and everything is designed to explain this condition and then to show how human beings can overcome it.



Syrien im 1.-7. Jahrhundert nach Christus

Akten der 1. Tübinger Tagung zum Christlichen Orient (15.-16. Juni 2007)

Hrsg. v. Dmitrij Bumazhnov u. Hans R. Seeliger

Volume 62
2011. VIII, 284 pages.

ISBN 9783161510007
sewn paper 74,00 €

ISBN 9783161517648
eBook PDF 74,00 €

The articles in this conference volume cover the development of Syrian Christianity from the 1st century AD up to the early Islamic period. The topics of the essays start with the Syrians in the New Testament and deal with issues pertaining to the beginnings of the ascetic movement in Syria, the history of the seats of the bishops in West and East Syria and the Syrian sources of Arab Christianity and Judaism. The authors study the theology of God's spirit among the East Syrians, the martyrdom of the mimes and the »Syriac Masora,« a new interpretation of the hymn of the pearl.

Survey of contents

Luise Abramowski: Der Bischof von Seleukia-Ktesiphon als Katholikos und Patriarch der Kirche des Ostens – *Yuri Arzhanov*: Syrische Quellen zur Geschichte des Christentums und des Judentums im vorislamischen Südarabien – *Dmitrij F. Bumazhnov*: Qyāmā before Aphrahat. The Development of the Idea of Covenant in Some Early Syriac Documents – *Till Engelmann*: Monastisch geprägter Theologe oder theologisch gebildeter Mönch? Das Zentrum der Theologie Babais des Großen – *Heinz Gaube*: The Umayyad »Desert Castles«. Some political and economical considerations concerning their origin – *Cornelia Horn*: Women, Prostitution, and Violence in the Syriac *Martyrdom of the Mimes* – *Nestor Kavvadas*: Der Geist Gottes und die Vergöttlichung des Menschen bei Isaak von Ninive – *Jonathan Loopstra*: Jacob of Edessa and Patristic Collections in the »Syriac Masora«: Some Soundings – *Anna Maria Schwemer*: Die ersten Christen in Syrien – *Hans Reinhard Seeliger*: Die Erforschung der spätantiken Bischofssitze des syrisch-palästinischen Raumes und ihrer Bauten – *Felix Thome*: Gottes Liebe zur verlorenen Menschheit. Die Abrahamerzählung in der Auslegung Narsais von Edessa – *Jürgen Tubach*: Zur Interpretation des Perlenliedes. Exegetische Prämissen und ihre Schlussfolgerungen

Kisic, Rade

Patria Caelestis

Die eschatologische Dimension der Theologie Gregors des Großen

Volume 61
2011. XIV, 293 pages.

ISBN 9783161506000
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161513602
eBook PDF 94,00 €

The doctrine of Gregory the Great, the first monk on the papal throne, had a significant influence on medieval theology and particularly on Western mystical tradition. Against the backdrop of the collapse of the ancient civilization at the end of the 6th century, Gregory developed a theology which was rooted in the Latin tradition, had a strong eschatological orientation, and upon which the antithesis *temporalis* – *aeternus* had a determining influence. Rade Kisić discusses the eschatological dimension of Gregory's theology, which is fundamental to all aspects of his thinking. Its point of convergence is the *patria caelestis*, the »heavenly home.« His entire doctrine was shaped by his focus on the afterlife.

Cristea, Hans-Joachim

Schenute von Atripe: Contra Origenistas

Edition des koptischen Textes mit annotierter Übersetzung und Indizes einschließlich einer Übersetzung des 16. Osterfestbriefs des Theophilus in der Fassung des Hieronymus (ep. 96)

Volume 60
2011. VIII, 387 pages.

ISBN 9783161505980
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161513596
eBook PDF 104,00 €

In this treatise (according to its incipit called »I Am Amazed«), Shenoute of Atripe, the famous Coptic archimandrite who died after 451, defends the orthodox doctrine against numerous »heretical« doctrines ranging from Origen and his followers to Arius, gnostic teachers and to Nestorius, his contemporary. Based on the studies of T. Orlandi and St. Emmel, Cristea provides the first edition of all the relevant manuscripts with a German translation of this work which is significant for the history of the church and its doctrine in fifth-century Egypt. The introduction, explanatory notes and extensive indexes will aid the philological and linguistic analysis of the text. In his work, Shenoute incorporated the 16th festal letter of Theophilus of Alexandria, preserved in its entirety in Jerome's translation. A comparison of this Latin version with the Coptic (and the few existing Greek) fragments raises interesting questions concerning both the original and the reception of Theophilus' letter.

Moschos, Dimitrios

Eschatologie im ägyptischen Mönchtum

Die Rolle christlicher eschatologischer Denkvarianten in der Geschichte des frühen ägyptischen Mönchtums und seiner sozialen Funktion



Mohr Siebeck

Volume 59
2010. XIV, 477 pages.

ISBN 9783161500459
sewn paper 114,00 €
ISBN 9783161513589
eBook PDF 114,00 €

Different approaches have been taken towards the emergence of early monasticism in Egypt. One of its distinctive features is its variety of organizational forms, its theology, spirituality and social functions. Was this variety the result of social needs or merely a development of theological ideas? In this work, the author provides a purely historical examination of different kinds of sources in order to focus on how a paradoxical idea inherent in Christian thinking, the anticipation of God's kingdom on earth, interacts with various challenges of its environment. The outcome is a multidimensional development of new identities which enable a better understanding of the religious transformation in Egypt in the 4th century.

Children in Late Ancient Christianity

Ed. by Cornelia Horn and Robert R. Phenix

Volume 58
2009. XXVI, 497 pages.

ISBN 9783161502354
sewn paper 109,00 €
ISBN 9783161513572
eBook PDF 109,00 €

Social, cultural, theological, and economic presentations of children offer important clues to understanding the development of Christianity and society in Late Antiquity. This volume brings together studies of a diverse collection of sources – patristic texts, apocrypha, medicinal treatises, hagiography, pseudepigrapha, papyri, and more – illuminating how children mediated the relationship between Christian thought and Late Antique society. The contributors address the existence of children's culture, medicine and healing of children, disability and deformed children, the economic condition of orphans, theological appropriations of children, the presentations of family relationships in Christian thought, monasticism and family obligations, early Christian response to pedophilia and the formation of Christian ethical identity, and the role of children in apocryphal texts.

With contributions by:

Reidar Aasgaard, Tony Burke, Carole Monica C. Burnett, Susan R. Holman, Cornelia B. Horn; Inta Ivanovska, Nicole Kelley, Chrysi Kotsifou, John W. Martens, Robert R. Phenix, Carrie Schroeder, Ville Vuolanto

Müller, Barbara

Führung im Denken und Handeln Gregors des Grossen

Volume 57
2009. X, 476 pages.

ISBN 9783161495342
sewn paper 109,00 €
ISBN 9783161513565
eBook PDF 109,00 €

Gregory the Great (590–604) was at the same time a judicious politician and a highly gifted thinker. Barbara Müller presents an analysis of leadership based on Gregory's literary works and his papal correspondence. Leadership was one of Gregory the Great's fundamental concerns. Although his ideal of a church leader was the monk-bishop of eastern style, his practical papal interventions show him of a surprising openness for a diversity of potential leaders and leadership activities. Due to the broad approach with a wide range of analyzed sources and the strict chronological order in which the material is presented, the study offers not only rich insights into Gregory's development as a church leader but also into his at times contradictory activities and ideas on leadership.

Köckert, Charlotte

Christliche Kosmologie und kaiserzeitliche Philosophie

Die Auslegung des Schöpfungsberichtes bei Origenes, Basilius und Gregor von Nyssa vor dem Hintergrund kaiserzeitlicher Timaeus-Interpretationen

Volume 56
2009. XV, 626 pages.

ISBN 9783161513558
eBook PDF 119,00 €

Charlotte Köckert investigates the cosmologies of three prominent theologians of the third and fourth centuries – Origen, Basil of Caesarea and Gregory of Nyssa. As the literary and systematic locations for their cosmological speculations, she presents their hexaemeral writings and places them within the context of the ancient cosmological debate that has its main origin in the debate on the interpretation of Plato's *Timaeus*. This debate is outlined in the first part of the doctoral thesis, in which the author analyzes how Platonists of the early Roman Empire (Plutarch, Atticus, Numenius, Alcinous and Porphyry) interpreted Plato's myth. In the second part, the author provides a detailed analysis of the hexaemeral writings and shows the similarities and the differences between Christian and Platonic cosmological speculations. She proposes a reassessment of prominent key concepts, such as the concept of divine will or the idea of *creatio ex nihilo*, and a redefinition of the relationship between ancient Christian cosmology and contemporary philosophy.

Reutter, Ursula

Damasus, Bischof von Rom (366–384)

Leben und Werk

Volume 55
2009. XI, 567 pages.

ISBN 9783161498480
sewn paper 114,00 €
ISBN 9783161513541
eBook PDF 114,00 €

Ursula Reutter describes the life and works of Damasus by providing a precise reconstruction, classification and interpretation of his writings. There is a translation and a footnote commentary for each original text, and the author shows how they were passed down through the ages, dates the texts and provides a context in history and church politics. She demonstrates that Damasus pursued an agenda for the Christianization of Rome and the Romanization of Christianity and thus was very much involved in the development of the papacy. It was Damasus who consolidated the powers of the Roman bishop through the connection to the emperor and the ancient Roman tradition and who not only announced and implemented his claim to be the first among the bishops of the entire church, but also substantiated this.

Gleede, Benjamin

Platon und Aristoteles in der Kosmologie des Proklos

Ein Kommentar zu den 18 Argumenten für die Ewigkeit der Welt bei Johannes Philoponos

Volume 54
2009. XIV, 546 pages.

ISBN 9783161500435
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161513534
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Despite their transmission in a treatise presented as Christian apologetics, Proclus' 18 arguments for the eternity of the world are not – in their entirety – an attack on the Christian concept of creation. In fact, they document the extraordinary exegetical efforts Neoplatonists made to clarify the relationship between Plato and Aristotle. Instead of dismissing Aristotle as an apostate, later Platonists not only attempted to integrate his insights into their own system, but also intended to prove their origin in Plato's own teaching, thus presenting Aristotle as the first and foremost Platonist. In spite of all the distortions this may entail in the details of their interpretations, their exegeses show an admirable intuition for the kinship between Plato's and Aristotle's views on nature, which also proves to be of value for modern historical research.

Heyden, Katharina

Die »Erzählung des Aphroditian«

Thema und Variationen einer Legende im Spannungsfeld von Christentum und Heidentum

Volume 53
2009. XIV, 440 pages.

ISBN 9783161498152
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161513527
eBook PDF 104,00 €

The »Tale of Aphroditian,« a highly imaginative version of the Magi pericope (Matthew 2:1–12), was very popular in the Byzantine and Slavic worlds until the 16th century. For the first time, Katharina Heyden describes the complex history of the tale from medieval Russia to pre-Constantine Syria. Using the musical terms »theme and variations,« the author analyzes the literary, iconographic and historical contexts as well as the main theological aspects as the »variations,« and the »leitmotiv« is a positive Christian reception of pagan antiquity and its cult. The appendix presents the various versions of the tale in the original languages (Slavonic and Greek) and in German as well, along with the Byzantine miniatures, some of which are being published for the first time. This work was awarded the GSCO-Price 2009 of the Gesellschaft zum Studium des christlichen Ostens.

This work was awarded the GSCO-Price 2009 of the Gesellschaft zum Studium des christlichen Ostens.

Bumazhnov, Dmitrij

Visio mystica im Spannungsfeld frühchristlicher Überlieferungen

Die Lehre der sogenannten Antoniusbriefe von der Gottes- und Engelschau und das Problem unterschiedlicher spiritueller Traditionen im frühen ägyptischen Mönchtum

Volume 52
2009. XII, 308 pages.

ISBN 9783161497292
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161513510
eBook PDF 104,00 €

The question of whether the spiritual tradition of early Egyptian monasticism can be traced back to Origen and the Alexandrian school or if there were several early monastic traditions in Egypt has been a controversial topic of discussion in recent years. Dmitrij Bumazhnov attempts to deepen our knowledge about the monastic origins by analyzing the notion of the mystical vision in the 7 letters allegedly written by St. Anthony the Great. The comparison with other monastic texts of the 4th century shows that at least two fundamentally different understandings of the *visio Dei* – one Platonic and one biblical – were represented in the Nile valley, a fact which partly explains the outbreak of the Origenist controversy in the Egyptian monasteries in 399. The study also questions the current consensus on the authenticity of the letters. Whereas the letters 1 and 2–7 are by different authors, it is probable that only letter 1 was written by St. Anthony.

Religiöse Philosophie und philosophische Religion der frühen Kaiserzeit

Literaturgeschichtliche Perspektiven. Ratio Religionis Studien I

Hrsg. v. Rainer Hirsch-Luipold, Herwig Görgemanns, Michael von Albrecht unter Mitarb. v. Tobias Thum



Volume 51
2009. X, 418 pages.

ISBN 9783161495939
sewn paper 94,00 €
ISBN 9783161513503
eBook PDF 94,00 €

During the early Imperial period, traditions of lived religion were increasingly interpreted and made plausible as a source of philosophical thought. Holy stories, rites and cult objects appeared as a reflection of divine truth, since they revealed knowledge which promised real life. Conversely, the philosophical interpretation of the world referred to the religious tradition as the last ground for knowledge. In this conference volume, researchers from various disciplines present a panorama of the religious and philosophical literature in the Imperial period from the pagan Greek and Latin literature, Hellenistic-Jewish and New Testament texts to Qumran as well as gnostic and hermetic writings.

Survey of contents

Albrecht Dihle: Die griechische Philosophie zur Zeit ihrer Rezeption durch Juden und Christen – *Michael von Albrecht*: Philosophie und Religion in der lateinischen Literatur der Kaiserzeit – *Herwig Görgemanns*: Religiöse Philosophie und philosophische Religion in der griechischen Literatur der Kaiserzeit – *Gregory Sterling*: Alexandrian Jewish Exegetical Tradition: Philosophy as the Handmaid of Wisdom – *Reinhard Feldmeier*: »Göttliche Philosophie«. Die Interaktion von Weisheit und Religion in der späteren Antike – *Devorah Dimant*: Time, Torah and Prophecy at Qumran – *Zlatko Pleše*: Gnostic and Hermetic Literature: Oriental Wisdom – *Rainer Hirsch-Luipold*: Die religiös-philosophische Literatur der frühen Kaiserzeit und das Neue Testament – *Adolf Martin Ritter*: Christentum und Philosophie als Thema frühkaiserzeitlicher Kirchenväterliteratur – *Tobias Thum*: 'Welche Fülle von Reden!': Plutarchs Schrift De E apud Delphos – *Peter Kirchschräger*: Der Wahrheitsbegriff im Johannesevangelium – *Jane Heath*: 2 Cor 4, 7–12: Viewing Paul as an Icon of Christ – *Ilinca Tanaseanu*: Gräber und Symbole: Tempel im Werk Clemens' von Alexandrien – *Fritz Heinrich*: Der religiöse Intellektuelle: Apuleius und Ali Schariati

Phenix, Robert

The Sermons on Joseph of Balai of Qenneshrin

Rhetoric and Interpretation in Fifth Century Syriac Literature

Volume 50
2008. XVII, 333 pages.

ISBN 9783161496769
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161513497
eBook PDF 89,00 €

Robert Phenix investigates the collection of twelve Syriac poetic sermons recounting the story of Joseph in Genesis 37 and 39–50. The authorship of these poems has been disputed, but this is the first study to attempt to argue from all aspects of the evidence that Balai of Qenneshrin is the author. The study then examines all of the data that can be associated with Balai: the religious environment of Qenneshrin and nearby Aleppo, Balai's connections with the »monk-bishops« of central Syria in the late fourth and early fifth centuries, particularly Acacius of Beroea/Aleppo and Rabbula of Edessa, the status of chorbishops, and the presence of Syriac speakers. Since it is argued in this study that Balai's source for the *Sermons on Joseph* was a Jewish text, this section also carefully examines the evidence for the Jewish community in Qenneshrin. As part of the background of the author, links between characters and the physical setting of the *Sermons on Joseph* and Qenneshrin are investigated. The relationship of the *Sermons on Joseph* to other Syriac Joseph sources and Joseph material in the Pseudepigrapha and at Qumran is discussed, followed by the question of the origin of the story, which is located in a lost Greek Jewish composition. The last section of the work examines the author's use of Hellenistic rhetoric and literary themes. The many speeches in the *Sermons on Joseph* reveal rhetorical arrangements that are strikingly close to the models of arrangement found in Late Antique handbooks, such as the *Hermogenic Corpus*. Several of these arguments are examined, as are the elaborate prefaces that introduce some of the individual *Sermons on Joseph*. The literary themes and motifs of the *Sermons on Joseph* are explored. It can be shown that some motifs known only in Syriac religious literature are employed in the *Sermons on Joseph* in non-religious literary contexts.

Leuenberger-Wenger, Sandra

Ethik und christliche Identität bei Gregor von Nyssa

Volume 49
2008. IX, 426 pages.

ISBN 9783161496776
sewn paper 109,00 €
ISBN 9783161513480
eBook PDF 109,00 €

In this work, the author examines the significance of the concept of identity for the ethical reflections of Gregory of Nyssa. Depending on the audience for which his message was intended, Gregory approached the issue of a lifestyle in accordance with the principles of Christianity in various ways. Whereas the vast majority of his community members had to be exhorted to lead a good and decent Christian life, the literate audience who read Gregory's texts or asked him what a good and virtuous Christian life was had already thought about this subject and had to be shown the superiority of the Christian way of life in comparison to other philosophical concepts.

Festrituale in der römischen Kaiserzeit

Hrsg. v. Jörg Rüpke

Volume 48
2008. VII, 228 pages.

ISBN 9783161497100
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161513473
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Ancient festivals served to promote religious communication beyond the boundaries of political or religious communities. It was in these festivals that religious communication was intensified and practised extensively. Permanent religious signs – sanctuaries, statues, religious roles – were highlighted and adapted for at least one festival each year. Due to the dramaturgy of the festivals, many of the people concerned became actors, and even more became part of the audience. Games, theatrical performances and processions in particular attracted many local people as well as those from outside the city. Professional actors, athletes and orators introduced new practices and established new standards. The competition between cities and their elites was the driving force behind many innovations and the development of new festivals.

Survey of contents



Jörg Rüpke: Einführung – Hubert Cancik: Auswärtige Teilnehmer an stadtrömischen Festen – Jörg Rüpke: Kalender- und Festexport im Imperium Romanum – Peter Scherrer: Die Stadt als Festplatz. Das Beispiel der ephesischen Bauprogramme rund um die Kaiserneokorien Domitians und Hadrians – Angelos Chaniotis: Konkurrenz und Profilierung von Kultgemeinden im Fest – Christian Mileta: Die offenen Arme der Provinz. Überlegungen zur Funktion und Entwicklung der prorömischen Kultfeste der Provinz Asia (erstes Jahrhundert v. Chr.) – Peter Herz: Überlegungen zur Geschichte des makedonischen Koinon im dritten Jahrhundert – Dirk Kossmann: Römische Soldaten als Teilnehmer von Festen – Babett Edelmann: Pompa und Bild im Kaiserkult des römischen Ostens – Alfred Schäfer: Religiöse Mahlgemeinschaften der römischen Kaiserzeit. Eine phänomenologische Studie – Anne-Françoise Jaccottet: Das bakchische Fest und seine Verbreitung durch Kult, Literatur und Theater

Steimle, Christopher

Religion im römischen Thessaloniki

Sakraltopographie, Kult und Gesellschaft 168 v. Chr. – 324 n. Chr.

Volume 47
2008. XI, 240 pages.

ISBN 9783161494109
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161513466
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Christopher Steimle investigates changes of cultural – especially religious – phenomena in Roman Thessalonica which can be attributed to mutual influences between the centre of the Roman empire and its periphery – i.e. both between Rome and the province of Macedonia, as well as between urban or religious centres within Macedonia. In this context, the political, religious and cultural centres of Macedonia's neighboring provinces are also considered. Special attention is given to processes of inter-cultural communication between Romans and Macedonians, as well as to the indigenous recipients of Roman religion and to the reasons and criteria of their choices from a repertoire of Roman religious practice. In examining an object that has not been dealt with exhaustively neither in archaeology nor in religious science, this approach allows a deeper understanding of Thessalonica as a locale of cultural developments. Sources for this research are both archaeological and literary testimonia of religious practices.

Förster, Hans

Die Anfänge von Weihnachten und Epiphania

Eine Anfrage an die Entstehungshypothesen

Volume 46
2007. XII, 342 pages.

ISBN 9783161493997
sewn paper 109,00 €

ISBN 9783161513459
eBook PDF 109,00 €

The scholarly discussion about the origins of Christmas and Epiphany usually revolves around two hypotheses. The theological literature in the Anglo-Saxon countries mainly favors an internal Christian context for this, based on early Christian calculations, whereas others usually refer to parallel pagan celebrations as the origins of both festivals. Hans Förster shows that these common hypotheses for the origins of Christmas and Epiphany do not explain the situation in the fourth century.

Lubomierski, Nina

Die Vita Sinuthii

Form- und Überlieferungsgeschichte der hagiographischen Texte über Shenoute den Archimandriten

Volume 45
2007. XI, 309 pages.

ISBN 9783161492976
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161586682
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Shenoute was the outstanding religious figure of Upper Egypt during the fourth and fifth centuries. Up to now, it was assumed that Besa, Shenoute's successor, wrote a biography of Shenoute, the Vita Sinuthii, while he was the abbot of the White Monastery. Nina Lubomierski advocates the theory that Besa was not the author of the texts which are called the Vita Sinuthii. These originated when various eulogies and other hagiographic writings about Shenoute were compiled into a collection of materials by an unknown editor. This work contains editions of previously unpublished Sahidic fragments of the Vita Sinuthii with a German translation and a synopsis of all the episodes of the Vita Sinuthii in their various versions.

Frühchristliches Thessaloniki

Hrsg. v. Cilliers Breytenbach in Verb. m. Ingrid Behrmann



Volume 44
2007. XV, 186 pages.

ISBN 9783161478581
cloth 129,00 €

ISBN 9783161513435
eBook PDF 129,00 €

This documentation of the earliest evidence of Christianity in Thessaloniki is beneficial not only to theology and religious studies but also to archeology and art. The idea for this book originated with the search for records which could shed light on the »dark centuries« between the proclamation of the gospel by Paul in the year 50 AD (Acts and Thessalonians) and the official establishment of Christianity as the state religion.

Survey of contents

H. Koester: Archäologie und Paulus in Thessaloniki – *E. Marki*: Das kreuzförmige Martyrion und die christlichen Gräber an der Tritis-Septemvriou-Straße in Thessaloniki – *E. Marki*: Die ersten christlichen Friedhöfe in Thessaloniki – *E. Marki*: Die frühchristliche Grabmalerei in Thessaloniki – *E. Marki*: Frühchristliche Darstellungen und Motive, die die weltliche Malerei nachahmen, in einem Doppelgrab der Westnekropole von Thessaloniki – *G. Gounaris*: Die Wandmalereien aus dem Grab Nr. 18 der theologischen Fakultät der Aristoteles-Universität Thessaloniki – *Chr. Mavropoulou-Tsioumi*: Susanna in einem frühchristlichen Grab von Thessaloniki

Gruppenreligionen im römischen Reich

Sozialformen, Grenzziehungen und Leistungen

Hrsg. v. Jörg Rüpke

Volume 43
2007. VII, 212 pages.

ISBN 9783161491283
sewn paper 64,00 €

ISBN 9783161513428
eBook PDF 64,00 €

The authors of the articles in this volume deal with a particular social form of religion, namely those religions which were organized as 'permanent' cults through membership or initiation. They focus on issues of internal structure and the increasing significance of cults: How were the social relationships in religious groups structured, and did memberships and initiations influence the structure of religious biographies? What part did cult rooms play on the one hand, and the frequency of ritual acts and banquets together on the other hand? In dealing with these issues, the authors direct their attention to the relationship between group religions and other traditional, public or crisis-oriented cults in local contexts.

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Hubert Cancik: Haus, Schule, Gemeinde. Zur Organisation von fremden Religionen in Rom (1.-3.Jh.n.Chr.) – *Andreas Bendlin*: Die Konstruktion zivilen Ungehorsams. Religiöse Gruppenbildung im sogenannten Senatus Consultum de Bacanalibus und bei Livius 39,8–19 – *Celia Schultz*: Soziale Klassifikation und die religiöse Erfahrung von Frauen in der römischen Republik – *James D. G. Dunn*: Boundary markers in early Christianity – *Michael Bachmann*: Zur Rezeptions- und Traditionsgeschichte des Paulinischen Ausdrucks »Erga nomou« – *Johannes Woyke*: Depontenzierung und Tabuisierung von Göttern nach 1 Ko 10 – *Jörg Rüpke*: Integrationsgeschichten. Gruppenreligionen in Rom: Priester – *Wolfgang Spickermann*: Die Integration von Mysterienkulten in das lokale Pantheon in Gallien und Germanien – *Alfred Schäfer*: Dionysische Kultlokale in Kleinasien und dem Donauraum – *Günther Schörner*: Saturnkult als Gruppenreligion in der Africa proconsularis

Ronning, Christian

Herrscherpanegyrik unter Trajan und Konstantin

Studien zur symbolischen Kommunikation in der römischen Kaiserzeit

Volume 42
2007. IX, 445 pages.

ISBN 9783161492129
sewn paper 109,00 €

ISBN 9783161513411
eBook PDF 109,00 €

In this work, Christian Ronning shows how Latin panegyric was part of an elaborate system of signs and rituals to express complex relationships of power and subjection in Roman society. He studies how the interpretative power of the well-trained rhetorician was used to smooth administrative measures and to adapt imperial orders to the structures and demands of an aristocratic elite which ruled the cities of the Imperium Romanum. As a highly specialized code, panegyric was a language of social power that should not be misunderstood as »propaganda« but rather seen as a means of maintaining the fiction of a tight relationship between emperor and viri boni even in times of growing intransparency of rulership and government.

Gemeinhardt, Peter

Das lateinische Christentum und die antike pagane Bildung

In this work, Peter Gemeinhardt examines the relationship between the early Christians and »pagan« education, which was as necessary as it was dangerous. Pagan schools were regularly attended by many Christians. They identified themselves as educated in inscriptions, epistles and some important saints' lives. Moreover, Christians taught in public schools, but normally did not view them as »pagan«. Since the time of Tertullian, Christian theologians had criticized pagan education for its use of ancient mythology – and because it produced good lawyers and orators, but not good men, and naturally no Christians, as Augustine pointed out. After the fourth century, the Christian attitude changed. Christians now saw themselves as Romans as opposed to the invading »barbarians« and as inheritors of the legacy of classical education. Education, it appears, was always in dispute among Christians, but never dismissed, as long as Christians belonged to Roman society and participated in the Roman way of life.

Volume 41
2007. XII, 594 pages.

ISBN 9783161493058
sewn paper 129,00 €

ISBN 9783161513404
eBook PDF 129,00 €

Tuschling, R.M.M.

Angels and Orthodoxy

A Study in their Development in Syria and Palestine from the Qumran Texts to Ephrem the Syrian

Volume 40
2007. XI, 271 pages.

ISBN 9783161513398
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Ruth Tuschling considers the relation between ideas about angels, especially their function within a monotheistic belief system, and the development of a sense of what it means to be orthodox, in both Judaism and Christianity, from the time of the Dead Sea Scrolls to the late fourth century AD, geographically limited to Syria and Palestine. The first chapter contains an historical overview of angelological concepts in Judaism, before the exile in Babylon, after the exile, and after the rise of Christianity. Here the author also gives an analysis of key vocabulary and modern categories of angels, e.g. archangel, principal angel, hypostasis. She exemplifies her findings in three case studies in chapter two: Qumran, especially the Songs of the Sabbath Sacrifice, Origen, Ephrem the Syrian. The liturgical chapter three considers the Qedushah and sanctus, noting the Jewish origin of the 'heaven and earth are full...' expansion. Both are characterized as a liturgical call and response, in a two-part structure; the extant forms survive out of a great variety, both Jewish and Christian. The idea of sacred time and sacred space are linked with the parallel worship of earth and heaven; priests and angels are seen as comparable sacred persons in their liturgical function. In conclusion, angels' theological function is seen to support orthodoxy by modelling the right practice, and hence belief, towards God.

Zentralität und Religion

Zur Formierung urbaner Zentren im Imperium Romanum

Hrsg. v. Hubert Cancik, Alfred Schäfer u. Wolfgang Spickermann

Volume 39
2006. VIII, 319 pages.

ISBN 9783161491559
sewn paper 94,00 €
ISBN 9783161586606
eBook PDF 94,00 €

The powerful *imperium romanum* was established and ruled from afar by one single urban center. This center was however not only a real tightly-packed area of people, resources and power; it was also an esthetically experienceable spiritual center. It was the urban, architectural, literary, artistic and religious resources which were important for the imagination, construction and perception of centrality. This volume focuses on the question of how and to what extent the system of symbols in 'religion' staged and created centrality on each of the political and administrative levels and in the restricted field of religion itself.

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Teil I: Systematische Beiträge

Hubert Cancik: Caput mundi. Rom im Diskurs »Zentralität«

Rainer Wiegels: Zentralität – Kulturraum – Landschaft. Zur Tauglichkeit von Begriffen und Ordnungskriterien bei der Erfassung religiöser Phänomene im Imperium Romanum

Jörg Rüpke: Religiöse Zentralisierung in der späten Kaiserzeit. Neue Perspektiven auf traditionelle Priesterschaften und die Rolle des Pontifex maximus

Günther Schörner: Opferritual und Opferdarstellung. Zur Strukturierung der Zentrum-Peripherie-Relation in Kleinasien

Katharina Waldner: Ignatius' Reise von Antiochia nach Rom. Zentralität und lokale Vernetzung im christlichen Diskurs des 2. Jahrhunderts

Teil II: Zentrale Orte und Stadtreigionen

Rudolf Haensch: Provinzhauptstädte als »religiöse Zentren«? Die Situation in Kaiserzeit und Spätantike

Carlos Márquez: Kaiserkult und Zentralität in Hispanien. Die drei »Provinzhauptstädte« Tarraco, Emerita und Corduba

Wolfgang Spickermann: Mogontiacum (Mainz) als politischer und religiöser Zentralort der Germania Superior

Alfred Schäfer: Sarmizegetusa als urbanes und regionales Zentrum der Provinz Dakien

Charalampos Tsochos: Philippi als städtisches Zentrum Ostmakedoniens in der hohen Kaiserzeit: Aspekte der Sakraltopographie

Christof Berns: Konkurrierende Zentren. Überlegungen zur religiösen Repräsentation in Ephesos und den Städten der Provinz Asia in der Kaiserzeit

Hartmann, Götz

Selbststigmatisierung und Charisma christlicher Heiliger der Spätantike

Volume 38
2006. IX, 162 pages.

ISBN 9783161491146
sewn paper 59,00 €
ISBN 9783161586583
eBook PDF 59,00 €

Götz Hartmann studies Christian ascetics of late antiquity who were seen as 'holy men' during their lifetime. Their contemporaries believed that due to their self-imposed deprivations they had acquired the gift of working miracles, meaning that they could make things happen which interrupted the course of events in a manner which seemed to be unfathomable. Committed to the theoretical approach to sociological charisma research, the author analyzes the phenomenon of ascetic holiness as a specifically Christian variety of charismatic authority. He focuses on the mutual correspondence of autostigmatic prerequisites and the 'thaumaturgical' potential of ascetic charisma, on the phenomenon that monasteries originate when ascetic charisma becomes part of everyday life and is given a certain institutional form, on the interaction between charisma and hagiography as well as the role-specific behavior of ascetic Christian holiness.



Müller, Andreas

Das Konzept des geistlichen Gehorsams bei Johannes Sinaites

Zur Entwicklungsgeschichte eines Elements orthodoxer Konfessionskultur

Volume 37
2006. XIV, 496 pages.

ISBN 9783161489655
sewn paper 109,00 €

ISBN 9783161586477
eBook PDF 109,00 €

In Christianity, charismatic authority still plays a key role, especially in the traditions of the Eastern Church. Charisma in relation to the ministry has always been judged to be positive, in particular in Protestant patristics. However the drawbacks of this, such as the demand for absolute obedience, were hardly noticed. Andreas Müller describes how this demand was integrated into a »spiritual system« in the 6th century and how obedience to »spiritual fathers« became necessary for salvation. In doing so, he analyzes the *Klimax* by Johannes Sinaites, in which Johannes countered the authoritarian concepts in the Emperor Justinian's legislation. A comparison of the concept of obedience in the *Climax* with those in the works of Pachomios, Basileios the Great and the *Apophthegmata Patrum* demonstrates the approach of Johannes Sinaites.

For this study, the author was awarded the habilitation prize of the University Society of Munich.

Brent, Allen

Ignatius of Antioch and the Second Sophistic

A Study of an Early Christian Transformation of Pagan Culture

Volume 36
2006. XVI, 377 pages.

ISBN 9783161487941
sewn paper 119,00 €

ISBN 9783161586422
eBook PDF 119,00 €

The letters of Ignatius of Antioch, whether considered genuine or pseudonymous, have been generally understood as addressing concerns and issues within the Church. Consequently, his language has been read as an expression of second century Judaeo Christianity or as a reply to Valentinianism, with little direct contact or concern with the surrounding pagan culture. Allen Brent submits Ignatius' language to a comprehensive analysis and seeks to show that both conceptually, and in terms of the form of his arguments, his language game is clearly that of the pagan, Greek city-states of Asia Minor in the Second Sophistic. The author shows from a variety of evidence, both literary, epigraphic and iconographic, that Ignatius' cultural background is in the world of the discourse of Hellenic autonomy against Roman imperial power, in the image-bearing mystery cults of the cities to whom he writes, in their embassies and Homonia treaties, and in their ideal of unity in a common culture expressed by their constitutions and cultural practices. Ignatius emerges as a brilliant missionary strategist, able to reshape ecclesial order in terms of secular social order and its conventions, whose work was scarcely comprehended by his more conservative Christian contemporaries and only later canonized by means of a gross distortion that obscured his original meaning.

Zuntz, Günther

Griechische philosophische Hymnen

Aus dem Nachlaß

Hrsg. v. Hubert Cancik u. Lutz Käppel

Volume 35
2005. XXV, 227 pages.

ISBN 9783161474286
sewn paper 69,00 €

ISBN 9783161586576
eBook PDF 69,00 €

For the first time, Günther Zuntz gives a reconstruction and a description of the history of a type of text which up to now had only been dealt with selectively: the Greek philosophical hymn. Beginning with the sparse references to early evidence (Empedocles), he interprets the hymnos to Zeus by Kleanthes, reconstructs philosophical hymns from the oracles of Claros, the Chaldean oracles and the so-called Tübingen theosophy.

Survey of contents

Vorbemerkungen
I. Ein philosophischer Hymnos des Empedokles?
II. Der Zeus-Hymnos des Kleanthes
III. Von Kleanthes bis Proklos
IV. Proklos
V. Synesios
Epilog
Abkürzungsverzeichnis
Literaturverzeichnis
Index locorum
Abbildungen

Bumazhnov, Dmitrij

Der Mensch als Gottes Bild im christlichen Ägypten

Studien zu Gen 1,26 in zwei koptischen Quellen des 4.-5. Jahrhunderts



Mohr Siebeck

Volume 34
2006. IX, 262 pages.

ISBN 9783161486586
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161586668
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Dmitrij Bumazhnov examines two Coptic sources from the 4th and 5th century, the homily *De anima et corpore* and the vita of Aphu of Pemdje. Both of these sources are analyzed in their relationship to the first Origenistic controversy in Egypt, in which two groups of monks argued about whether or not according to the visions of God in the Old Testament God can be seen as a human being. The author provides a contextualization of the Coptic version of *De anima et corpore* which explains the function of Melito's text in the non-Origenistic monasticism in Egypt. It is shown that Aphu cannot be regarded as a mystic of the pre-incarnate body of Christ according to his vita. The description of his life can be understood as an elaborate variation on the early Christian tradition of simplicity.

Thom, Johan C.

Cleanthes' Hymn to Zeus

Text, Translation, and Commentary

Volume 33
2005; unrevised e-book edition 2020;
Original edition 2006 2006.
XI, 207 pages.

ISBN 9783161586767
eBook PDF 54,00 €

Cleanthes' *Hymn to Zeus* is a popular philosophical text combining both traditional, literary and religious motifs with philosophical ideas. The main problem addressed in the *Hymn* is the disorder caused by bad people who disregard Zeus' governance of the world. The *Hymn* contains a genuine prayer for divine assistance to enable human beings to attain insight into the way the world is governed, and at the same time serves as a reminder and exhortation for people to recognize and live in accordance with the divine world-order. Such a way of life is characterized as a life of continuous praise. This book, the first complete monograph to be devoted to the *Hymn to Zeus* by the Stoic philosopher Cleanthes (ca. 331–230 BCE), contains a new critical text edition and English translation of the Hymn. In addition to the usual questions of authorship and date, Johan Thom analyses the composition, genre and function of the poem in depth, arguing that the Hymn should be considered a genuine prayer and that it was intended for a non-specialist audience. In the line-by-line philological commentary, attention is paid to the literary, philosophical, and religious aspects of the hymn. It should therefore be of interest to classical philologists, philosophers, as well as scholars of Hellenistic and Greco-Roman religions.

Krannich, Torsten

Von Leporius bis zu Leo dem Großen

Studien zur lateinischsprachigen Christologie im fünften Jahrhundert nach Christus

Volume 32
2005. XII, 295 pages.

ISBN 9783161487958
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161586545
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Torsten Krannich examines the Christology of Latin-speaking theologians at the beginning of the 5th century. He presents the Christological concepts of the three monks Leporius, John Cassian and Vincent of Lerins as well as those of the three popes Caelestin I, Sixtus III and Leo the Great. In order to do so, the author takes a look at the background of this in the history of dogmatic theology, a background which was formed by the controversy surrounding the Christology of Nestorius, the Patriarch of Constantinople, as well as Augustine's Christology. The author focuses on the question of how individuals were able to formulate the relationship between divine and human nature in Jesus Christ. For the first time, the complete *Libellus emendationis*, written by Leporius, has been translated into a modern language and furnished with a commentary.

Survey of contents

Vorwort

1. Einleitung
 2. Leporius und sein Libellus emendationis
 3. Johannes Cassian und sein Werk 'De incarnatione Domini'
 4. Papst Caelestin I. und seine Schreiben zum christologischen Streit
 5. Papst Xystus III. und der christologische Streit
 6. Die Christologie des Vinzenz von Lérins
 7. Die Christologie Leos des Großen
 8. Systematisch-theologische Würdigung
- Bibliographie
Register

Greschat, Katharina

Die 'Moralia in Job' Gregors des Großen

Ein christologisch-ekklesiologischer Kommentar

Volume 31
2005. IX, 298 pages.

ISBN 9783161486180
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161586590
eBook PDF 74,00 €

To the modern reader, Pope Gregory the Great's (590–604) comprehensive interpretation of Job often seems to be an arbitrary allegorization which is not backed up by the text and the historical situation at the end of the 6th century. Katharina Geschat shows however that Gregory interpreted the biblical text completely from the standpoint of the requirements of church office-holders in the post-Justinian period. In continuation of Augustinian theology and based on neo-Chalcedonian imperial theology, he sees the figure of Job as a symbol of Christ and his body, the church. Christ's two natures are for Gregory the key to the connection between the *vita contemplativa* and the *vita activa*, which the office-holders of the church are supposed to live in imitation of Christ.

Tloka, Jutta

Griechische Christen – Christliche Griechen

Plausibilisierungsstrategien des antiken Christentums bei Origenes und Johannes Chrysostomos

Volume 30
2005. XII, 295 pages.

ISBN 9783161487354
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161586613
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Jutta Tloka studies the way ancient Christianity dealt with the ancient ideal of education, the *paideia*. Using the works of Origen and John Chrysostom, she shows the extent to which the examination of the *paideia* was of service to the plausibilization of Christianity. Whereas Origen adhered to the ideal of *gnosis* and aspired to a dialogue with philosophy in order to substantiate the truth of Christianity, Chrysostom began a rhetorical duel whose aim was to serve not only the mission but also a Christian restructuring of the *polis* and thus provide proof of the social relevance of Christianity in everyday life. The efforts to make Christian identity intellectually and socially plausible resulted in two important church functions: Christian theology and Christian homiletics.

Schurig, Sebastian

Die Theologie des Kreuzes beim frühen Cyrill von Alexandria

Dargestellt an seiner Schrift »De adoratione et cultu in spiritu et veritate«

Volume 29
2005. VIII, 361 pages.

ISBN 9783161486593
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161586712
eBook PDF 89,00 €

This study provides an insight into the development of Christology in the early Cyril of Alexandria. It shows that Cyril's view of Christ and our salvation was heavily influenced by the Scripture and especially by the Pauline model of kenosis and obedience to the cross. Seen from this perspective, it is easy to understand the whole work of Christ. It is also from this perspective that Cyril developed his Christology, which he emphasized during the Nestorian controversy.

Burgsmüller, Anne

Die Askeseschrift des Pseudo-Basilios

Untersuchungen zum Brief »Über die wahre Reinheit in der Jungfräulichkeit«

Volume 28
2005. XI, 477 pages.

ISBN 9783161486579
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161586705
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Anne Burgsmüller studies a letter written by a bishop in Asia Minor in the 4th century, a letter which gives young people advice based on philosophy and the Bible on how to live a Christian life. Due to its frankness in dealing with questions of sexuality, this letter was forgotten when letterpress printing began. For a long time, it was thought that the letter had been written by the homoiousian bishop Basilios of Ancyra. The lack of theological reflection in this letter and the vivid language however are reminiscent of Messalian theology, which emphasizes the mystical unity with God. The author shows how Gregory of Nyssa used this letter when he was writing *De virginitate*, and compares it with other writings on virginity.

Schulze, Christian

Medizin und Christentum in Spätantike und frühem Mittelalter

Christliche Ärzte und ihr Wirken



Volume 27
2005. X, 253 pages.

ISBN 9783161485961
sewn paper 69,00 €
ISBN 9783161586637
eBook PDF 69,00 €

This work presents a collection of Greek and Latin inscriptions, papyri and text passages which mention Christian physicians. Christian Schulze points out those historical factors in the Graeco-oriental transfer of medical knowledge which should be given special consideration. Christianity and medicine were closely intertwined in Roman and Greek society. They had enjoyed a peaceful coexistence and had also worked together successfully for centuries in the Roman Empire. In this volume, the author has collected the epigraphical and papyrological traces of many Christian physicians up to the early Middle Ages. He reviews the numerous allusions to Christian medicine in patristic and medical literature. In doing so, he focuses on the members of the medical personnel as well as on the widespread use of medical metaphors in Christian thinking.

Floryszczak, Silke

Die 'Regula Pastoralis' Gregors des Großen

Studien zu Text, kirchenpolitischer Bedeutung und Rezeption in der Karolingerzeit

Volume 26
2005. X, 444 pages.

ISBN 9783161485909
sewn paper 94,00 €
ISBN 9783161586620
eBook PDF 94,00 €

At the beginning of his pontificate in 590, Gregory the Great wrote the *Regula Pastoralis* as a manual for his bishops on how to manage their lives and their parishes. This book focuses on the concept of management in his work. The author examines Gregory's ideas on the duties and responsibilities, the conduct and attitudes of a bishop as well as his psychological and pedagogical reports on the members of the parish. By studying the term *regula* from the standpoint of the history of concepts as well as church policy, Silke Floryszczak places the analysis of the pastoral rule in its historical context. The author concludes her book with a study of the history of the reception of the pastoral rule in the Carolingian epoch.

Vereine, Synagogen und Gemeinden im kaiserzeitlichen Kleinasien

Hrsg. v. Andreas Gutsfeld u. Dietrich-Alex Koch

Volume 25
2006. VIII, 202 pages.

ISBN 9783161486203
sewn paper 64,00 €
ISBN 9783161586569
eBook PDF 64,00 €

A striking phenomenon in the cities of the Roman empire from the first to the third century CE was the predominance of voluntary associations of like-minded people who regularly met together. These Greco-Roman associations, such as professional collegia and religious cult groups, were similar in many respects to Christian communities and Jewish synagogues in organization and in the social relationships among members and between members and outsiders. There are, however, notable differences in their religious orientation, specific behavior patterns, and moral concepts. The essays in this volume explore specific aspects of the associations, synagogues, and Christian communities and provide a profile of their individual characteristics and their relationships to one another.

Survey of contents

T. Schmeller: Zum exegetischen Interesse an antiken Vereinen im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert – *A.J.B. Sirks*: Die Vereine in der kaiserlichen Gesetzgebung – *V. Hirschmann*: Heidelberg Macht durch Integration? Aspekte einer gesellschaftlichen Wechselwirkung zwischen Verein und Stadt am Beispiel der Mysterien und Techniten des Dionysos von Smyrna – *D. Brabant*: Persönliche Gotteserfahrung und religiöse Gruppe – die Therapeutai des Asklepios in Pergamon – *S. Sommer*: Religion und Vereinigungsunruhen in der Kaiserzeit – *D. Schinkel*: »Und sie wußten nicht, warum sie zusammengekommen waren« – Gruppen und Gruppeninteressen in der Demetrioseseppis (Apg 19, 23–40) – *J.M.G. Barclay*: Money and Meetings: Group Formation among Diaspora Jews and Early Christians – *D.-A. Koch/D. Schinkel*: Die Frage nach den Vereinen in der Geistes- und Theologiegeschichte des 19. und 20. Jahrhunderts unter besonderer Berücksichtigung des zeitgenössischen Vereinswesens und der »Wende« in der protestantischen Theologie nach 1918 – *R.S. Ascough*: Voluntary Associations and the Formation of Pauline Christian Communities: Overcoming the Objections

Mastrocinque, Attilio

From Jewish Magic to Gnosticism

Volume 24
unrevised e-book edition 2020;
Original edition 2005 2005.
XV, 244 pages.

ISBN 9783161586774
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Pliny the Elder spoke of a Jewish stream of magic. What is the relationship between this stream and Gnosticism? Why does Judaizing magic in magical papyri and gems have scarcely any links with Christianity? In this book, Attilio Mastrocinque examines the intriguing connection between magic and Gnosticism. Both Christian Gnostics and other heirs to Hellenistic Jewish Gnosis were committed to the study of astrology and what were known as magic arts and doctrines. Heretical Jews in Egypt envisaged the creator god as a snake producing the Nile flood and destroying the giants; in the 2nd and 1st centuries BC the Jews of the Leontopolite temple believed in the manifestation of God as a divine lion-headed man, a young god, a Son of God, whose name was Jaldabaoth. In the 2nd cent. CE the Christians condemned these two heretical figures and developed new forms of Gnosis, which were described and condemned by orthodox Christian heresiologists. The old Jewish Gnosis evolved into private forms of religion, which amalgamated the Jewish god and several supreme pagan divinities and gave birth to the widespread Judaizing magic of gems and papyri. The orthodox Christian Church came to identify the religion of the Gnostics with magic, and even now our concept of magic is strongly influenced by ancient Christian ideology concerning Gnosis.

Cook, John Granger

The Interpretation of the Old Testament in Greco-Roman Paganism

Volume 23
2004. XV, 399 pages.

ISBN 9783161484742
sewn paper 89,00 €

ISBN 9783161586675
eBook PDF 89,00 €

According to the available evidence not many pagans knew the Greek Bible (Septuagint) before the advent of Christianity. Those pagans who later became aware of Christian texts were among the first, according to the surviving data, to seriously explore the Septuagint. They found the Bible to be difficult reading. The pagans who reacted to biblical texts include Celsus (II C.E.), Porphyry (III C.E.), and Julian the Apostate (IV C.E.). These authors thought that if they could refute one of the primary foundations of Christianity, namely its use or interpretation of the Septuagint, then the new religion would perhaps crumble. John Granger Cook analyzes these pagans' voice and elaborates on its importance, since it shows how Septuagint texts appeared in the eyes of Greco-Roman intellectuals. Theirs was not an abstract interest, however, because they knew that Christianity posed a grave danger to some of their dearest beliefs, self-understanding, and way of life.

Kany, Roland

Augustins Trinitätsdenken

Bilanz, Kritik und Weiterführung der modernen Forschung zu »De trinitate«

Volume 22
2nd, reviewed and up-dated edition
2023. Approx. 670 pages.
forthcoming in March

ISBN 9783161509452
sewn paper approx. 60,00 €

ISBN 9783161588792
eBook PDF approx. 60,00 €

Augustine's »De Trinitate« is one of the most significant Christian works of antiquity. Roland Kany does a critical reassessment of international research carried out during the last 170 years on all aspects of this work. A new preface by the author updates the book first published in 2007.

»With this excellent book Kany has set a benchmark for all further work in this field.«
Thomas Fliethmann in *Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 61 (2010), pp. 355–357

»Roland Kany has produced an impressive study of outstanding quality, which will certainly become a sine qua non for anyone researching Augustine's De trinitate.«
Kenneth B. Steinhauser in *Augustinian Studies* 40 (2009), pp. 160–163

Kany, Roland

Augustins Trinitätsdenken

Bilanz, Kritik und Weiterführung der modernen Forschung zu »De trinitate«

Volume 22
2007. XXII, 635 pages.

ISBN 9783161513381
eBook PDF 139,00 €

Augustine's »De Trinitate« is one of the most significant Christian works of antiquity. Roland Kany does a critical reassessment of international research carried out during the last 160 years on all aspects of this work. In modern systematic theology, Augustine's doctrine of the Trinity has for the most part been understood in a traditional manner and rejected. Current patristic research has given the work a new interpretation, has however neglected its philosophical implications. Philosophers are presently rediscovering Augustine's theory of self-consciousness in »De Trinitate«, but paying no attention to its theological context. Kany suggests a new interpretation, contending that Augustine's concept of self-consciousness solves a fundamental problem of ancient philosophy. Augustine uses the solution of this problem as a basis for a completely new theology of the Trinity.

Mutschler, Bernhard

Irenäus als johanneischer Theologe

Studien zur Schriftauslegung bei Irenäus von Lyon

Volume 21
2004. XV, 331 pages.

ISBN 9783161482847
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161586644
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Is Irenaeus, as he writes himself, a pupil of Polycarp of Smyrna, the pupil of John, who wrote the Fourth Gospel? How strong are the Johannine traces in his work? How does he explain the Johannine Gospel? Apart from the section related to John, this study also includes a comprehensive overview of all the biblical and non-biblical quotations and allusions made by the 2nd century father of the church and brings new and computer-aided methods (e.g. statistics, diagrams etc.) into the debate. Irenaeus is shown as a careful, clever and responsible interpreter of the Scriptures, an excellent scholar of the *Corpus Johanneum* and above all a prudent and solicitous bishop of his local Gallic church.

Dörnemann, Michael

Krankheit und Heilung in der Theologie der frühen Kirchenväter

Volume 20
unrevised e-book edition 2020;
Original edition 2003 2003.
XIII, 380 pages.

ISBN 9783161586798
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Michael Dörnemann examines the subject of healing in the theology of Christian authors from Ignatius of Antioch to the Cappadocians, Basil, Gregory of Nazianzus and Gregory of Nyssa and also takes a look at the so-called 'apocryphal' writings. In doing so, he describes the religious, medical and philosophical backgrounds which influenced the way the Greek church fathers spoke of Christ as a doctor. The author's main focus is on the many medical metaphors which Christian authors used to explain the Christian doctrine of redemption.

Frateantonio, Christa

Religiöse Autonomie der Stadt im Imperium Romanum

Öffentliche Religionen im Kontext römischer Rechts- und Verwaltungspraxis

Volume 19
2003. XI, 260 pages.

ISBN 9783161482007
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161586651
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Christa Frateantonio questions why the Christian religion (churches) was able to assert itself against the polytheistic cults at a time when the majority of the population in the eastern and western parts of the Empire were not Christians. She focuses on the cults which were organized in cities and not on the competition between individual religions. The religious autonomy of the cities can be seen as the result of a 'lack of territorialization' in the Roman Empire, which did not develop a standard religion for the entire Empire. The religious change in the 4th century was decided upon by the emperors and was implemented by the interaction of the administration, the law and the reactivation of political methods on an urban level.

Betz, Hans Dieter

The »Mithras Liturgy«

Text, Translation, and Commentary

Volume 18
2003; unrevised student edition 2005.
XVIII, 274 pages.

ISBN 9783161488139
sewn paper 54,00 €
ISBN 9783161586736
eBook PDF 54,00 €

»Just hundred years after the first edition of Albrecht Dietrich's *Eine Mithrasliturgie* (Leipzig 1903; 1923), the present book offers a complete new edition of so complex a text. It provides the Greek text, an English translation, a punctual introduction, an extensive commentary, an index of Greek words and of the various *voces magicae*, and, finally, also an appendix, with photographic reproductions of the papyrus. ... Not only Hans Dieter Betz is one of the most gifted scholars in the domain of primeval Christianity and Hellenistic religions, but he already devoted to the Mithras Liturgy a monographic essay, which is here enriched and largely supplemented. We particularly appreciated how Betz deals with the critical debate which spread from Dietrich's book (in particular the criticism put forward by one of the most important scholars of Mithraism, the Belgian Franz Cumont) and how he sets Dietrich in the historical and cultural milieu of his age.«
Chiara O. Tommasi Moreschini auf www.plekos.uni-muenchen.de

Maas, Michael

Exegesis and Empire in the Early Byzantine Mediterranean

Junillus Africanus and the *Instituta Regularia Divinae Legis*

With a contrib. by Edward G. Mathews, Jr.

With the Latin Text Establ. by Heinrich Kihn Transl. by Michael Maas

Volume 17
unrevised e-book edition 2020;
Original edition 2003 2003.
XII, 280 pages.

ISBN 9783161586781
eBook PDF 64,00 €

Junillus Africanus served the Byzantine emperor Justinian as chief legal minister from 542 to ca. 549. During this time he composed a treatise on basic principles of biblical exegesis, called the *Instituta Regularia Divinae Legis*. Michael Maas places Junillus' work in the context of the Three Chapters Controversy, showing that it conformed in every respect to Justinian's version of neo-Chalcedonian orthodoxy and that it bolstered Justinian's claim to be a legitimate interpreter of sacred texts. The authors show that the *Instituta* had no direct links to the work of Theodore of Mopsuestia and that Junillus' legal training influenced the structure and presentation of the *Instituta*. Edward G. Mathews' contribution reevaluates Junillus' debt to the school of Nisibis and to the Antiochene exegesis, as well as Junillus' biblical canon. This book reproduces the Latin text and offers a translation into English.

Literarische Konstituierung von Identifikationsfiguren in der Antike

Hrsg. v. Barbara Aland, Johannes Hahn u. Christian Ronning



Volume 16
2003. VIII, 266 pages.

ISBN 9783161479823
sewn paper 74,00 €

ISBN 9783161586699
eBook PDF 74,00 €

This collection of essays is the result of an interdisciplinary colloquium held at the University of Münster in November 2001. It consists of interdisciplinary studies of the figures of identification from Jewish, pagan and Christian antiquity. The studies refer to historical persons and to purely literary figures.

Survey of contents

Hubert Cancik: Myth-Historie. Zur Literarisierung historischer Vorgänge und Personen im antiken Epos – *Adolf Köhnken*: Herakles und Orpheus als mythische Referenzfiguren ('Identifikations-' bzw. 'Integrationsfigur') im hellenistischen Epos – *Matthias Baltes*: Nachfolge Epikurs. Imitatio Epicuri – *Barbara Aland*: Märtyrer als christliche Identifikationsfiguren. Stilisierung, Funktion, Wirkung – *Jutta Tloka*: »... dieser göttliche Mensch!«. Die Dankrede des Gregor Thaumaturgos an Origenes als Beispiel für die Christianisierung antiker Identifikations- und Deutungsschemata – *Johannes Hahn*: Weiser, göttlicher Mensch oder Scharlatan? Das Bild des Apollonius von Tyana bei Heiden und Christen – *Christian Ronning*: Rituale der Rhetorik – Rhetorik der Rituale. Überlegungen zu Konstantin als Identifikationsfigur in der spätantiken Panegyrik – *Catherine Hezser*: Der Rabbi als spezifisch jüdische Identifikationsfigur der Spätantike – *Karl-Friedrich Pohlmann*: Jeremia als Identifikationsfigur im Frühjudentum – *Markus Vinzent*: Vom philosophischen Apologeten zum theologischen Ketzerbekämpfer. Zur biographischen Verkirchlichung von christlichen Amtsträgern am Beispiel Kyrills von Alexandrien – *Thomas Graumann*: Kirchliche Identität und bischöfliche Selbstinszenierung. Der Rückgriff auf 'Athanasius' bei der Überwindung des nachephesinischen Schismas und in Kyrills Propaganda – *Volker Menze*: Die Stimme von Maiuma: Johannes Rufus, das Konzil von Chalkedon und die wahre Kirche – *Christian Ronning*: Soziale Identität – Identifikationsfigur. Versuch einer Synthese

Die ikonoklastische Synode von Hierieia 754

Text, Übersetzung und Kommentar ihres Horos

Hrsg. v. Torsten Krannich, Christoph Schubert u. Claudia Sode

Mit einem Beitr. zur Epistula ad Constantian des Eusebius v. Caesarea v. A. von Stockhausen

Volume 15
2002. VIII, 133 pages.

ISBN 9783161479311
sewn paper 24,00 €

ISBN 9783161586484
eBook PDF 24,00 €

Iconoclasm is a major topic in the history of the Byzantine Empire. In the 8th century there was a growing opposition to the significance attributed to the images of Christ, Mary and the saints as the bearers of miraculous characteristics. It was said that the true worship of Christ was the worship to be found in the spirit and in the truth and not in images. In order to have this critical doctrine accepted throughout the entire empire, Constantine V held a council in Hierieia in 754. Along with an introduction to the history of the iconoclastic controversy, the book presents an annotated translation of the definition of this council. This horos is the only substantial iconoclastic document we possess. It was refuted in the Sixth Session of the Council of Nicea in 787.

Hirsch-Luipold, Rainer

Plutarchs Denken in Bildern

Studien zur literarischen, philosophischen und religiösen Funktion des Bildhaften

Volume 14
2002. XII, 324 pages.

ISBN 9783161477522
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161586460
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Rainer Hirsch-Luipold interprets the function of imagery in Plutarch's works in individual studies from a strictly literary and philosophical standpoint. For Plutarch, philosopher and priest, images cover different phenomena in art, literature and religion and emphasize the representative character of the entire visible world.

Religiöse Vereine in der römischen Antike

Untersuchungen zu Organisation, Ritual und Raumordnung

Hrsg. v. Ulrike Egelhaaf-Gaiser u. Alfred Schäfer

Volume 13
2002. VIII, 310 pages.

ISBN 9783161477713
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161586446
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Against a wide chronological and geographical backdrop, extending from the Roman republic to late antiquity and from Romania to Africa via Asia Minor and Italy, the authors of this volume study the religious associations in Roman antiquity and their relationship to Christian communities. They deal with the specific quality of religious associations (collegia), their supporters, members and organizational structures as well as the amount of time invested by their members. They also examine various strategies used to give the association its identity and the competition among the associations on the 'religious market.' In the second part of the book, they focus on the lay-out of the rooms in the associations' buildings (scholae), analyzing the function of the room and the way it was experienced as well as the decorative elements with which the internal hierarchy could be visualized and a sense of community created.

Samellas, Antigone

Death in the Eastern Mediterranean (50–600 A.D.)

The Christianization of the East: An Interpretation

Volume 12
2002. X, 378 pages.

ISBN 9783161476686
sewn paper 89,00 €

ISBN 9783161586439
eBook PDF 89,00 €

Antigone Samellas examines the modes of reception of Jesus' message of salvation. She explores the Greek and Jewish influence on Christian eschatology and traces the Hellenistic roots of Christian consolation philosophy. The author examines Christianity as a 'total therapy of grief' and highlights the differences that existed between the religious cures and the Hellenistic philosophical therapies. To gain a better understanding of the process of conversion to the new faith Antigone Samellas also investigates which aspects of Christianity were appealing and which repugnant in the eyes of pagans and Jews. Finally, she attempts to convey something of the wisdom of the East, in all its cultural and religious nuances, to the modern reader.

Survey of contents

50–600. An Era without Eschatological Anxieties- The Serene Look of the Polytheists at the Hereafter – Resurrection of the Body: An Absurd Idea, an Inextricable Philosophical Problem, a Various-Interpreted Dogma
Philosophers and Bishops as Physicians of the Soul - Pagan and Christian Arguments against the Practice of Ritual Lament – Rival but Similar Therapies of Grief: the Philosophical and Christian Logos
The Impact of Christianity on Monumental Commemoration - The Christianization of the Epigraphic Language – From Ancient to Christian 'Likeness': The Eclipse of the Sculpted Funerary Portrait in its Intellectual and Historical Context
Putrid Corpses and Fragrant Relics: Attitudes towards the Pollution of the Dead among Pagans, Jews and Christians - Intellectual and Emotional Origins of a Tactile Revolution – The Sacralization of Death
Functions of the Funerary and Commemorative Rituals in the Eastern Mediterranean (50–600) - The Ideological Function of Ritual – The Honorific Function of Ritual – The Solidaristic and Affective Functions of Ritual – The Originality of the Christian Organization of Burial: The Use of Ritual as a Means of Forging a Separate Religious Identity
The Burial of the Poor: Forces that Propel and Forces that Hinder the Development of a Christian 'Welfare State' in Late Antiquity- Theology, Heresy and Social Welfare – Structural Weaknesses of the Christian 'Welfare State'
The 'Longue-Durée' Pleasures of Death – Feasting with the Dead - A Grave-Side Theatre

Henze, Matthias

The Syriac Apocalypse of Daniel

Introduction, Text, and Commentary

Volume 11
unrevised e-book edition 2020;
Original edition 2001 2001.
157 pages.

ISBN 9783161586453
eBook PDF 54,00 €

Matthias Henze has prepared the *editio princeps* of the Syriac Apocalypse of Daniel, a hitherto unknown apocalypse composed in the early seventh century A.D. in Syriac and preserved in a single manuscript only. Following an introduction to the Apocalypse, the book includes an edition of the Syriac text, an English translation, and a detailed commentary. Like the biblical Daniel on which it is closely modelled, the Syriac Apocalypse of Daniel is an 'historical' apocalypse, i.e. it has two parts: the 'historical' first part relates the adventures of Daniel in midrashic form, from his deportation by Nebuchadnezzar until his return to Persia from Jerusalem which he visits with King Darius. Upon returning to Persia, Daniel has a sequence of apocalyptic visions which are recorded in the latter, eschatological part of the text and which describe the gradual unfolding of the end of time.

The Syriac Apocalypse has preserved a number of motifs worth exploring: the messianic woes, the Gates of the North erected by Alexander the Great, a description of Antichrist's physiognomy, the Second Coming of Christ, and the new Jerusalem. Equally important, the Syriac Apocalypse of Daniel bears testimony to the vibrant apocalyptic currency in Syriac Christianity.

Volume 10
2001. VIII, 443 pages.

ISBN 9783161475542
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161586729
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Furley, William / Bremer, Jan M.

Greek Hymns

Band 2: A Selection of Greek religious poetry from the Archaic to the Hellenistic period

Furley, William / Bremer, Jan M.

Greek Hymns

Band 1: A Selection of Greek religious poetry from the Archaic to the Hellenistic period



Mohr Siebeck

Volume 9
2001. XXII, 411 pages.

ISBN 9783161476761
cloth 89,00 €

ISBN 9783161475276
sewn paper 54,00 €

ISBN 9783161586552
eBook PDF 89,00 €

William D. Furley and Jan Maarten Bremer provide the reader with as full a picture as possible of ancient Greek religious hymns which were sung either at religious services or in literary contexts imitating such services. The emphasis is laid on the edition of the Greek texts, both those which excavations of such sites as Delphi, Epidauros and Athens have produced from the 4th century BC on, and those which have been transmitted through the manuscript tradition or on papyri. The authors aim to provide full editorial assistance to the interpretation of the originals which are presented with textual variant readings, metrical analyses, general comment on the context – both historical and literary – of the texts, and then detailed line-by-line commentary. The material is divided into two volumes. The first offers, after a general introduction, all hymns in verse translation, each followed by a general discussion situating the text in the context of Greek worship. This volume as a whole is perfectly accessible to the Greekless reader; Greek citations are translated throughout. The second gives the Greek texts, apparatus criticus, metrical analysis and line-by-line commentary on language and content. Both volumes contain a bibliography and an index. Taken together, they present a 'reconstruction' of the composite genre of Greek lyric hymns, which many have lamented is hopelessly lost. The twofold approach of combining epigraphic and literary texts permits a fuller appreciation of the range of surviving texts than has hitherto been possible.

Conring, Barbara

Hieronymus als Briefschreiber

Ein Beitrag zur spätantiken Epistolographie

Volume 8
2001. X, 273 pages.

ISBN 9783161475023
sewn paper 69,00 €

ISBN 9783161586521
eBook PDF 69,00 €

Barbara Conring begins her study with a description of the letter in antiquity. She describes the process of letter writing and examines theories of the letter in antiquity, ranging from Demetrios and Cicero up to Gregory of Nazianzus. She then deals with the letter in the works of Hieronymus, deducing his theory and practice of writing letters by using text analyses as examples. She concludes her work by placing Hieronymus in an area between Christianity and pagan education and demonstrates that the significance of Hieronymus as a letter writer is equal to that of all others in the panorama of ancient letter writing, proving that it is unnecessary to establish a special category for ancient Christian letters.

Elliott, Mark W.

The Song of Songs and Christology in the Early Church

Volume 7
2000. X, 206 pages.

ISBN 9783161473944
sewn paper 64,00 €

ISBN 9783161586514
eBook PDF 64,00 €

Mark W. Elliott presents a range of interpretations of the imagery used in the Song of Songs and demonstrates how the figures of the Bridegroom and Bride were understood. He pays attention to the historical context of those commenting on the Song between the councils of Constantinople 381 and Chalcedon 451, including theological disputes and spiritual movements. Showing how they found significance in such an unlikely text leads on to the conclusion that the commentators are largely in agreement that the Song refers to a meeting of the Word of God in his incarnate form, reaching out to all humanity, and the collective humanity, viewed in the obedient responsiveness of a bride. This responsive collective humanity is described variously in terms of 'church', believing soul, soul of Christ and humanity of Christ. Mark W. Elliott selects specifically Christological readings (i.e. those which interpret the Song with reference to the incarnation) and gives some reasons for the demise of such an interpretation and of commentary writing as a whole during that period.

Survey of contents

1. Introduction

Figures and Images – The Song of Songs: early influences on its interpretation – Exegetical Styles – Setting the scene – The beginnings of Christological deliberation – The Christological Interpretation of the Song – The task ahead

2. Establishing the Context of the Commentators on the Song of Songs

Hippolytus – Origen (Greek)

Methodius – Dionysius of Alexandria – »Athanasius« – Apollinarius – Didymus – Philo of Carpasia – Jerome – Pacianus – Ambrose – Gregory of Elvira – Gregory of Nyssa – Epiphanius – Pseudo-Theophilus of Alexandria – Rufinus and his translation of Origen's Commentary on the Song of Songs (=Rufinus-Origen) – Augustine – Theodoret – Nilus of Ancyra
Cyril of Alexandria

Pseudo-Athanasius: Synopsis Scripturae – Apponius

3. The Groom

The way the Song relates to the Incarnation. Cant 1:2 – Myrrh and the Groom's divine spirit. Cant 1:3–4 – The distillation of myrrh as fragrance and the availability of the mind of Christ. Cant 1:12–14; 2:13 – Mutual belonging. Cant 1:7, 10; 2:6, 16; 3:3–4 – The motif of »leaping« and the Incarnation as the Word's descent and ascent. Cant 2:8 – Coronation as the Word's triumphal passion. Cant 3:11 – The Groom's descent. Cant 4:16–5:1 – The Groom's »coming to the door« and manifestation. Cant 5:2–6 – »The body of God«? The Groom's body and the Word's potencies. Cant 5:10–16 – The Cosmic Groom transcendent. Cant 6:9f and beyond – The Cosmic Groom and nature imagery. Cant 8:14 et al

4. The Bride

The Essence of the human Christ. Cant 1:3 – The Bride as a prepared Church-humanity. Cant 1:5–7 – The identity of the purified Bride ascending. Cant 3:6 (and doublet, 8:5) – The »bed« image. Cant 3:7f (with reference to Cant 1:16) – The Bride as walled garden and spring. Cant 4:12 – The Bride as the imitator of the Groom. Cant 5:2 and 5:12,14 – The Bride's chosenness as new Jerusalem. Cant 6:4 – The Bride as the perfect human one. Cant 6:8–10

5. Conclusion

Tiersch, Claudia

Johannes Chrysostomus in Konstantinopel (398–404)

Weltsicht und Wirken eines Bischofs in der Hauptstadt des Oströmischen Reiches

Volume 6
unrevised e-book edition 2020;
Original edition 2002 2002.
X, 475 pages.

ISBN 9783161586804
eBook PDF 94,00 €

What caused the fall of St. John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople from 398–404 AD? Claudia Tiersch examines the Bishop's conduct in office, his interaction with the urban, court and church structures in Constantinople and describes his relationship to various social groups in the capital city. The author sees the decisive factors for the increasing resistance to him, especially from the highest circles, in the Bishop's socially non-conformist life-style and in his consistent demands for a reform of earthly structures according to biblical norms, in which Chrysostom did not show any compatibility between Christian ideals and social norms. As a result of this, members of the social elite increasingly regarded him as a threat to society.

Henner, Jutta

Fragmenta Liturgica Coptica

Editionen und Kommentar liturgischer Texte der koptischen Kirche des ersten Jahrtausends

Volume 5
2000. XIII, 257 pages.

ISBN 9783161473043
sewn paper 69,00 €

ISBN 9783161586507
eBook PDF 69,00 €

Jutta Henner examines fragmentary sources of the liturgy of the Coptic church in the first millenium. She begins by compiling all the Sahidic anaphoric fragments and then edits and comments on the oldest fragment of the Gregorios anaphora. In the second part of the book she deals with the parchment sheets of a Graeco-Sahidic manuscript from the *White Monastery* in Upper Egypt, among them previously unpublished gospel fragments, eucharistic prayers and a fragment of a liturgical psalm. A list of all known deacon's fragments forms the basis for the edition of three deacon's fragments from the *White Monastery*.

Survey of contents

I. P. Vindob. K. 4854: Das älteste sahidische Stück der Gregoriosanaphora. Eröffnungsdialo g und Oratio theologica
Einleitung – Übersicht über die sahidische Anaphorenüberlieferung – P. Vindob. K. 4854. Edition und Kommentar – Zusammenfassung – P. Vindob. K. 82 und K. 83. Weitere Fragmente desselben Kodex

II. Fragmente der Handschrift 'Z 108,3' aus dem Weißen Kloster

Einleitung – Die Handschrift 'Z 108,3' – Die erhaltenen Blätter von 'Z 108,3' – Zusammenfassung

III. Drei Diakonikonfragmente aus dem Weißen Kloster

Einleitung – Zusammenstellung der bisher bekannten Diakonika – Edition und Kommentar

Zusammenfassung – Ergebnis – Literaturverzeichnis – Abbildungen der bearbeiteten Fragmente

Förster, Hans

Die Feier der Geburt Christi in der Alten Kirche

Beiträge zur Erforschung der Anfänge des Epiphanie- und des Weihnachtsfests

Volume 4
unrevised e-book edition 2020;
Original edition 2000 2000.
X, 218 pages.

ISBN 9783161586750
eBook PDF 64,00 €

A frequent hypothesis contends that the date of Jesus Christ's birth was established on the basis of calculations, and this led to the celebration of Jesus' birth in the church. Hans Förster discusses this hypothesis. Some of these calculations served as a belated legitimation for the celebration of Jesus' birth or as a justification for bringing it forward from the 6th of January to the 25th of December. In addition, the author demonstrates that Christmas was celebrated by the Armenian church in the 5th century. According to the oldest tradition, the birth of Jesus was commemorated on the day of Epiphany. It was not until Christmas was introduced that Jesus' baptism, and not his birth, was commemorated on Epiphany.

Cook, John Granger

The Interpretation of the New Testament in Greco-Roman Paganism

Recent New Testament scholarship has raised the question of the effect of the New Testament on readers including an 'implied' reader. How did the New Testament affect ancient readers who rejected it?

John Granger Cook contributes to the ongoing investigation of the relationship between Christianity and Greco-Roman antiquity. He addresses the response to the New Testament in the following authors: Celsus, Porphyry, the anonymous philosopher of Macarius Magnes, Hierocles, and Julian the Apostate. These authors are readers who found the New Testament to be a rejection of values they took to be fundamental in Greco-Roman culture. The works of these pagans exist in fragments preserved by Christian apologists who attempted to respond to their critique of Christian texts and practices. The doctrine of the resurrection, for example, contradicts the belief in reincarnation and an immortal bodiless soul. Apocalyptic texts rejected the eternity of the universe. Jesus was considered to be inferior to the heroes of Hellenistic culture such as Apollonius of Tyana who conducted themselves as philosophers should. Pagans were disturbed by the ability of Christian language to persuade people to join the movement. Both pagans and Christians made use of apologetic techniques designed to attract people to

their respective positions. Rhetoric and literary criticism were tools that both used in their ongoing arguments. John Granger Cook makes use of these tools to analyze the texts of the pagan readers of the New Testament.

Bracht, Katharina

Vollkommenheit und Vollendung

Zur Anthropologie des Methodius von Olympus

Volume 2
1999. XV, 438 pages.

ISBN 9783161472503
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161586491
eBook PDF 89,00 €

Katharina Bracht presents the notion of perfection as central to the anthropology of Methodius of Olympus. She analyses the structure of his anthropology, paying special attention to the influence of the philosophical and theological background on Methodius' thought. Finally she considers the implications of the obtained results for the longstanding controversy on Methodius' episcopacy. The investigation is based both on Methodius' writings transmitted in Greek and on the not readily accessible Old Slavonic translation, thus for the first time in almost 100 years taking into account the complete corpus of Methodius' preserved writings.

Der Tractatus Tripartitus aus Nag Hammadi Codex I (Codes Jung)

Neu übers. v. Peter Nagel

Volume 1
unrevised e-book edition 2020;
Original edition 1998 1998.
VII, 120 pages.

ISBN 9783161586743
eBook PDF 39,00 €

In his new translation of the *Tractatus Tripartitus*, Peter Nagel does a detailed study of the previous editions and translations. He has done a thorough analysis of the paleographic characteristics and the dialectic features as well as of the lexical expressions and the syntax of the Coptic text, which can be traced back to the original Greek text which was lost. This analysis resulted in an interpretation of the text which differs from the previous translations in numerous places. The author justifies the new version in the introduction, the annotations and in the philological and grammatical remarks. This new translation also conveys the mentality and the method of argumentation in the *Tractatus Tripartitus* to those interested who cannot read or understand Coptic and enables the reader to gain a deeper insight into the history of Valentinian gnosis and its reaction to early Catholic theology.

