

Nag Hammadi Library After Fifty Years

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The Non-Canonical Gospels
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Mary Magdalene
Lire Descartes aujourd'hui
Snapshots of Evolving Traditions
Christianity in Egypt
Coptic Studies on the Threshold of a New Millennium
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Historical Dictionary of the Coptic Church
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this volume contains 22 papers originally delivered at the society of biblical literature's 1995 commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the nag hammadi library of these papers five focus on the theme past present and

future research on the nag hammadi codices j m robinson s emmel b a pearson h m schenke e m yamauchi thirteen stem from three seminars respectively devoted to the apocryphon of john m waldstein f wisse k l king and s laporta the gospel of thomas and the thomasine tradition p h poirier p h sellew j m sevrin i dunderberg s r johnson a deconick and the gospel of philip e pagels e thomassen m turner and two deal with the valentinian school c markschies l painchaud t janz

this book brings together a collection of chapter length treatments on the most significant of the non canonical gospels a particular strength of the volume is that it draws upon the research of leading experts in the field and clearly and concisely communicates the most hotly contested issues surrounding each text while a key function of each chapter is to make the current academic debates accessible to a wider audience these treatments are not simply overviews or survey articles they also present fresh perspectives on a number of points and critically assess the most recent trends in scholarship as such they will provide an ideal entry point for advanced undergraduate courses and taught masters programmes the structure of the book is divided up in an easily useable format there is an introduction which underscores the significance of the non canonical texts both for the original readers and for contemporary audiences this chapter by keith elliott also traces important moments in the reception of a number of these texts both in art and literature next follows the main sequence of chapters dealing with individual texts texts such as the gospel of thomas the gospel of peter and the gospel of mary are treated first due to the impact they have had to varying degrees on historical jesus research other texts are grouped in various subgroups the two infancy gospels follow each other and the more fragmentary texts are also closely linked in the arrangement the book presents one of the most comprehensive and up to date discussions of a range of texts that continue to be of interest to scholars and wider readers the discussions should clarify a number of popular misconceptions and allow for a more informed debate the scholars who contribute to this collection represent an eclectic range of views and theological outlooks no attempt has been made to impose a prescribed perspective rather the leading experts have been consulted to produce fresh and stimulating treatments the book will include contributions from andrew gregory oxford christopher tuckett cambridge april deconick rice and simon gathercole aberdeen among others

gnostic religion is the expression of a religious worldview which is dominated by the concept of gnosis an esoteric knowledge of god and the human being which grants salvation to those who possess it roelof van den broek presents

here a fresh approach to the gnostic current of late antiquity within its historical and religious context based on sources in greek latin and coptic including discussions of the individual works of preserved gnostic literature van den broek explores the various gnostic interpretations of the christian faith that were current in the second and third centuries whilst showing that despite its influence on early christianity gnostic religion was not a typically christian phenomenon this book will be of interest to theologians historians of religion students and scholars of the history of late antiquity and early christianity as well as specialists in ancient gnostic and hermetic traditions

the figure of mary magdalen has fascinated and perplexed people for centuries she is portrayed in the gospels as a neurotic woman possibly with a past yet she is the first to encounter the risen christ and he charges her with the responsibility of proclaiming the resurrection she is therefore christianity s first evangelist a difficult concept for churches with exclusively male hierarchies who prefer to think of her as just a reformed prostitute the belief that mary magdalen was married to jesus and that the church has tried to suppress this truth was not invented in recent years but is almost as old as christianity itself this gives a grand tour through 2000 years history art and tradition with surprises and discoveries all the way

scholars of early christian and jewish literature have for many years focused on interpreting texts in their hypothetical original forms and contexts while largely overlooking important aspects of the surviving manuscript evidence and the culture that produced it this volume of essays seeks to remedy this situation by focusing on the material aspects of the manuscripts themselves and the fluidity of textual transmission in a manuscript culture with an emphasis on method and looking at texts as they have been used and transmitted in manuscripts this book discusses how we may deal with textual evidence that can often be described as mere snapshots of fluid textual traditions that have been intentionally adapted to fit ever shifting contexts the emphasis of the book is on the contexts and interests of users and producers of texts as they appear in our surviving manuscripts rather than on original authors and their intentions and the essays provide both important correctives to former textual interpretations as well as new insights into the societies and individuals that copied and read the texts in the manuscripts that have actually been preserved to us

drawing on primary sources as well as imminent scholars in the field parker has written a history of christianity in egypt that is scholarly and accessible it challenges the common assumption that egyptian christianity is backward and

irrelevant rather as parker writes in the preface the history of egyptian christianity presented in the pages to follow is of a people who enjoyed a brilliant golden age suffered a long era of heartbreaking debilitation and have now entered a period potentially breathtaking revival it is a story worthy in its own right but also inspiring and instructive for the global church

the congresses organised every four years under the auspices of the international association for coptic studies iacs are the main forum for scholars of egyptian christian life and culture through the ages the proceedings of the seventh congress which was held in leiden in 2000 comprise ninety nine papers reflecting the growth and diversification of coptic studies worldwide they include valuable and sometimes groundbreaking essays in topics of for example coptic language literature monasticism and archaeology a particularly noteworthy and important feature of the present proceedings are the state of the art reviews of current trends and achievements in the main fields of the discipline written by invited experts and accompanied by extensive bibliographies these review articles cover aspects of coptic studies as diverse as papyrology gnosticism liturgy copto arabic and art history they turn these two volumes into real reference books indispensable for every scholar of early church history late antiquity and near eastern christianity

first published in 1978 the nag hammadi library was widely acclaimed by critics and scholars alike containing many of the writings of the gnostics since the time of christ this was the work that launched modern gnostic studies and exposed a movement whose teachings are in many ways as relevant today as they were sixteen centuries ago although some of the texts had appeared in other translations the 1978 edition was the first and only translation of these ancient and fascinating manuscripts to appear in one volume this new edition is the result of ten years of additional research and editorial and critical work every translation has been changed or added to many have been thoroughly revised unearthed in 1945 near the town of nag hammadi in upper egypt the texts literally begin where the dead sea scrolls end their discovery is seen as equally significant bringing to light a long hidden well of new information sources and insights into early judaism and the roots of christianity each text is accompanied by a new and expanded introduction also included are a revised general introduction and an afterword discussing the modern relevance of gnosticism from voltaire and blake through melville and yeats to jack kerouac and science fiction writer philip k dick the translations and introductions to the nag hammadi texts are by members of the coptic gnostic library project which includes such scholars as helmut koester george mcrae and elaine pagels

vols 3 include bulletin of the czechoslovak oriental institut no 1

the coptic church is based on the teaching of saint mark who brought christianity to egypt during the first century copts members of the coptic church comprise the largest christian community in the middle east the coptic church is more than nineteen centuries old and has produced thousands of texts and biblical and theological studies today there are more than one million members of the coptic church but the majority lives abroad in north america and australia most left egypt primarily because of economic and political discrimination historical dictionary of the coptic church through its chronology introductory essay bibliography and more than 400 cross referenced dictionary entries on important people organizations structures theological practices of the church literature and liturgy and monasteries and churches details the history of this fascinating institution and its followers book jacket

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