



The Gnostics

Thomas Sawyer Spivey



The Gnostics:

The Gnostics Sean Martin,2010-08-01 Gnosticism is the name given to various religious schools that proliferated in the first centuries after Christ nearly becoming the dominant form of Christianity but was eventually branded as heretical by the emerging Christian church The long and diverse history of Gnosticism is recounted here as well as reasons for its continued relevance today Although some Gnostic beliefs are close to mainstream Christianity others examined here include that the world is imperfect because it was created by an evil god who was constantly at war with the true good God that Christ and Satan were brothers that reincarnation exists and that women are the equal of men Also covered is the influence Gnostics had on the Renaissance the Enlightenment psychologist Carl Jung the Existentialists the New Age movement and writers as diverse as William Blake W B Yeats Albert Camus and Philip K Dick

The Gnostics David Brakke,2011 Brakke writes a pioneering study of the way the demon role relates to religious thinking and to cultural anxieties The author s sources include biographies of exceptional monks collections of monastic sayings and stories letters from ascetic teachers to their disciples sermons community rules and biblical commentaries When monks imagined the resistance that they had to overcome in cultivating their selves or the temptation that offered an easier path they saw supernatural beings that could take the shapes of animals women boys and false angels in their attempts to seduce monks away from their devotion to God And when they considered the inclinations in their own selves that opposed their best intentions they concluded that demons introduced such problematic thoughts to their minds Although the last twenty years has seen an explosion of scholarship on early Christian asceticism producing brilliant explorations of the body sexual renunciation fasting and gender combat with demons has been left relatively unexplored

The Gnostics Sean Martin,2010-08-01 Gnosticism is the name given to various religious schools that proliferated in the first centuries after Christ nearly becoming the dominant form of Christianity but was eventually branded as heretical by the emerging Christian church The long and diverse history of Gnosticism is recounted here as well as reasons for its continued relevance today Although some Gnostic beliefs are close to mainstream Christianity others examined here include that the world is imperfect because it was created by an evil god who was constantly at war with the true good God that Christ and Satan were brothers that reincarnation exists and that women are the equal of men Also covered is the influence Gnostics had on the Renaissance the Enlightenment psychologist Carl Jung the Existentialists the New Age movement and writers as diverse as William Blake W B Yeats Albert Camus and Philip K Dick

The Secret History of the Gnostics Andrew Phillip Smith,2015-11-24 Learn more about the myths practices history and recent resurgence of Gnosticism as a Gnostic scholar seeks to answer why this Christian mystical movement has inspired the likes of Dan Brown and Philip Pullman The Secret History of the Gnostics offers long awaited illumination on the mystical movement that teaches gnosis knowledge of God as opposed to unquestioning faith Acclaimed author Andrew Phillip Smith delves into the myths and practices of this ancient movement exploring its popularity during 2nd century AD its subsequent

decline under the weight of orthodoxy in the Church and its present day resurgence Gnosticism has travelled a fascinating path from the Manichaeans in Modern Persia between the 3rd and 7th centuries AD to the triumphs and tragedies of the Cathars in Southern Europe between the 12th and 14th centuries to finally today's Mandaeans in Iraq However as the author points out the revival of Gnosticism extends further than these narrow sects offering inspiration to a legion of literary figures including Dan Brown and Philip Pullman Gnosticism's emphasis on personal over organized religion in keeping with the doctrine of the early Christian era during which it thrived has found particular resonance with today's multicultural world In addition to discussing the Gnostic gospels and the sect's practical beliefs and customs *The Secret History of the Gnostics* is also in effect a manifesto an appeal to those inspired by or drawn to the Gnostic faith not to forget its origins **The**

Essence of the Gnostics Bernard Simon, 2005-03-01 For what is it that the All lacked if not the knowledge of the Father Gnostic text from the Gospel of Truth Long before there was a system of belief called Gnosticism there were those who reached for a special intimate knowledge of God and His mysterious ways The possession of such knowledge they believed would bring salvation from suffering All religious traditions acknowledged that the world is imperfect Where they differ is in the explanations they offer for this imperfection and in what they suggest might be done about it While many religionists hold that humans are to be blamed for these imperfections the Gnostics believed that the world is flawed because it was created in a flawed manner thereby implicating the creator Such a perspective was regarded as blasphemous by fellow Christians at the dawn of the new religion and led to the sect's persecution Equally concerning were the Gnostics liberal views regarding sex the role of women and toleration of other faiths In *The Essence of the Gnostics* Bernard Simon offers a fascinating insight into this ancient and yet in many ways surprisingly contemporary faith and explores the reasons for its current renaissance

The Gnostics Jacques Lacarrière, 2014-08-01 Gnostics have always sought to know rather than to accept dogma and doctrine often to their peril This inquiry into Gnosticism examines the character history and beliefs of a brave and vigorous spiritual quest that originated in the ancient Near East and continues into the present day Lawrence Durrell writes This is a strange and original essay more a work of literature than of scholarship though its documentation is impeccable It is as convincing a reconstruction of the way the Gnostics lived and thought as D H Lawrence's intuitive recreation of the vanished Etruscans *The Gnostics and their Remains, Ancient and Medieval* C. W. King, 2022-04-05 Reprint of the original first published in 1864

The Gnostics David Brakke, 2012-09-03 Who were the Gnostics And how did the Gnostic movement influence the development of Christianity in antiquity Is it true that the Church rejected Gnosticism This book offers an illuminating discussion of recent scholarly debates over the concept of Gnosticism and the nature of early Christian diversity Acknowledging that the category Gnosticism is flawed and must be reformed David Brakke argues for a more careful approach to gathering evidence for the ancient Christian movement known as the Gnostic school of thought He shows how Gnostic myth and ritual addressed basic human concerns about alienation and meaning offered a message of salvation in

Jesus and provided a way for people to regain knowledge of God the ultimate source of their being Rather than depicting the Gnostics as heretics or as the losers in the fight to define Christianity Brakke argues that the Gnostics participated in an ongoing reinvention of Christianity in which other Christians not only rejected their ideas but also adapted and transformed them This book will challenge scholars to think in new ways but it also provides an accessible introduction to the Gnostics and their fellow early Christians

The Gnostics Andrew Phillip Smith,2012-01-01 According to the ancient Gnostics the early Christians who wrote such controversial texts as the recently discovered Gospel of Judas we are all capable of gnosis or direct knowledge of the true reality that lies behind the material world Andrew Phillip Smith author of respected works on the lost sayings of Jesus the Gospel of Philip and other Gnostic subjects now offers a highly accessible layman's introduction to this long suppressed philosophy that offers an intriguing alternative to accepted Christian beliefs With references to The Da Vinci Code The Matrix and other fictions inspired by the Gnostic worldview this is an eye opening and possibly life changing book meant to revive forgotten traditions and perhaps even allow readers to experience gnosis themselves

The Gnostics and Their Remains, Ancient and Mediaeval Charles William King,1887 *The Gnostics* Alastair Logan,2006-06-23 This book is an attempt to demonstrate the existence and explore the character theology liturgy and cultic beliefs and practices of the Gnostic movement This is a fascinating study into the past to identify the Gnostics as a cult movement originating in the late first century and arising out of Christianity Logan explores the Gnostics own sense of identity against the Catholics seeks to reconstruct the unique Gnostic rite of initiation from Nag Hammadi and related texts and finally argues that the early third century Hypogeum of the Aurelii in Rome with its remarkable series of paintings represents a cult centre of Gnostics where they recalled their initiation and theology and buried their dead

The Gnostic Bible Willis Barnstone,Marvin W. Meyer,2006 The most comprehensive collection of gnostic literature ever published this volume is the result of a unique collaboration between a renowned poet translator and a leading scholar of early Christian texts

The Gnostics Alastair Logan,2006-06-23 This book is an attempt to demonstrate the existence and explore the character theology liturgy and cultic beliefs and practices of the Gnostic movement This is a fascinating study into the past to identify the Gnostics as a cult movement originating in the late first century and arising out of Christianity Logan explores the Gnostics own sense of identity against the Catholics seeks to reconstruct the unique Gnostic rite of initiation from Nag Hammadi and related texts and finally argues that the early third century Hypogeum of the Aurelii in Rome with its remarkable series of paintings represents a cult centre of Gnostics where they recalled their initiation and theology and buried their dead

[The Last of the Gnostic Masters](#) Thomas Sawyer Spivey,1926 **Paul & the Gnostics** Walter Schmithals,1972 [The Gnostic Discoveries](#) Marvin W. Meyer,2009-07-21 The Gnostic Discoveries opens with a thrilling adventure story the discovery of the ancient Papyri at Nag Hammadi Hidden in sealed jars and lost for centuries the papyri have revealed much about early Christianity including alternative views that were suppressed by the early Church Author

Marvin Meyer traces the history and impact of this great find on the Church right up to our current beliefs and popular cultural fascination with this officially suppressed secret knowledge about Jesus and his followers Marvin Meyer is one of the foremost scholars on Gnosticism the Nag Hammadi library and texts about Jesus outside the New Testament He is Griset Professor of Bible and Christian Studies and director of the Albert Schweitzer Institute at Chapman University Orange California Among his more recent books are The Gospels of Mary The Gospel of Thomas The Hidden Sayings of Jesus The Gnostic Bible and Secret Gospels Essays on Thomas and the Secret Gospel of Mark The author s concise presentation will appeal to many readers Meyer writes clearly bringing both the people and the times of the early Gnostic writings to life and making them accessible to scholar and layperson alike Publishers Weekly

The Gnostic Heresies of the First and Second Centuries Henry Longueville Mansel,1875

The Gnostic John the Baptizer George Robert Stow Mead,1924

The Gnostics, the New Versions and the Deity of Christ Jay P. Green, Sr.,George Whitefield,2000-07 If Jesus Christ is not God of the same essence with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit having all the attributes of the Trinity while on earth as well as while He reigned in Heaven then we of all men are most miserable And how do we know that He is and always has been God from eternity It is written in the Holy Scriptures But what if the version of the Bible we read is ambivalent in one place saying He is co equal with God and in another place denying Him one or more of the attributes that are essential to God Read this book and you will see that all but three of the new versions are guilty of denying Christ s goodness sinlessness omnipresence omniscience omnipotence and a dozen more of the attributes of God You will see it written in black and white with exact quotations from eight of the new versions This important challenge to the trend so evident in the new versions the despising of the words God breathed out through the prophets and apostles and the mixing in of the corrupt wisdom of men ought to be supported by every one of you who love God and His Word as HB wrote it

The Gnostic Heresies of the first and second centuries, by the late H.L. Mansel, with a sketch of his work, life, and character, by the earl of Carnarvon. Ed. by J.B. Lightfoot Henry Longueville Mansel,1875

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