

Forthcoming April Deconick The Gnostic New Age

Holy Misogyny Seek to See Him Recovering the Original Gospel of Thomas Voices of the Mystics The Thirteenth Apostle: Revised Edition The Gnostic New Age Comparing Christianities The Gnostic New Age Voices of the Mystics The Original Gospel of Thomas in Translation Quest for the Kingdom The Gospel of John and Jewish-Christian Relations The Thirteenth Apostle Images of Rebirth Judas The Serpent's Gift McPherson v. DeConick, 272 MICH 578 (1935) Journal of Biblical Literature Paradise Now Key Events in the Life of the Historical Jesus April D. DeConick April DeConick April D. DeConick April D. DeConick April D. DeConick April D. DeConick April D. DeConick April D. DeConick John M. Newman Adele Reinhartz April D. DeConick Hugo Lundhaug Marie-Françoise Baslez Jeffrey J. Kripal April D. DeConick Darrell L. Bock

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in holy misogyny bible scholar april deconick wants real answers to the questions that are rarely whispered from the pulpits of the contemporary christian churches why is god male why are women associated with sin why can't women be priests drawing on her extensive knowledge of the early christian literature she seeks to understand the conflicts over sex and gender in the early church what they were and what was at stake she explains how these ancient conflicts have shaped contemporary christianity and its promotion of male exclusivity and superiority in terms of god church leadership and the bed deconick's detective work uncovers old aspects of christianity before later doctrines and dogmas were imposed upon the churches and the earlier teachings about the female were distorted holy misogyny shows how the female was systematically erased from the christian tradition and why she concludes that the distortion and erasure of

the female is the result of ancient misogyny made divine writ a holy misogyny that remains with us today

this monograph represents a critical juncture in thomas studies since it dispels the belief that the gospel of thomas originates from gnostic traditions rather jewish mystical and hermetic origins are proposed and examined following this analysis the anthropogony and soteriology of thomas are discussed the thomasites taught that they were the elect children of the father originating from the light the human however became unworthy of these luminous beginnings and was separated from the divine when adam sinned now he must purify himself by leading an encratite lifestyle he is to ascend into heaven seeking a visio dei which will transform him into his original immortal state and grant him citizenship in the kingdom

this book explores the fascinating and enigmatic collection of 114 sayings of jesus the gospel of thomas that was discovered in the sands of nag hammadi egypt in the 1940 s since its discovery scholars and the public alike have been intrigued to know what the gospel says and what light it sheds on the formation of early christianity here deconick provides a new english translation of the entire gospel of thomas which includes the original kernel of the gospel and all the sayings a unique feature of this book is that translations to the parallels of the gospel are also included

this book not only sheds new light on the development of johannine ideology but also forges a new path in new testament socio rhetorical criticism particularly by developing the field of tradition intertexture book jacket

april deconick offers a new translation of the gospel of judas one which seriously challenges the national geographic interpretation of a good judas

gnosticism is a countercultural spirituality that forever changed the practice of christianity before it emerged in the second century passage to the afterlife required obedience to god and king gnosticism proposed that human beings were manifestations of the divine unsettling the hierarchical foundations of the ancient world subversive and revolutionary gnostics taught that prayer and mediation could bring human beings into an ecstatic spiritual union with a transcendent deity this mystical strain affected not just christianity but many other religions and it characterizes our understanding of the purpose and meaning of religion today in the gnostic new age april d deconick recovers this vibrant underground history to prove that gnosticism was not suppressed or defeated by the catholic church long ago nor was the movement a fabrication to justify the violent repression of alternative forms of christianity gnosticism alleviated human suffering soothing feelings of existential brokenness and alienation through the promise of renewal as god deconick begins in ancient egypt and follows with the rise of gnosticism in the middle ages the advent of

theosophy and other occult movements in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and contemporary new age spiritual philosophies as these theories find expression in science fiction and fantasy films deconick sees evidence of gnosticism's next incarnation her work emphasizes the universal countercultural appeal of a movement that embodies much more than a simple challenge to religious authority

a ground breaking introductory textbook for the study of the new testament and the first christians written for the next generation of students comparing christianities an introduction to the new testament and the first christians maps the historical rise of christianity out of a network of early christian movements this major new textbook systematically explores the struggles to define the faith by presenting christianity as the result of a lengthy process of religious consolidation which emerged from a landscape of persistent christian diversity the book delves into the history of the first five generations of christians from paul to origen the first chapter considers the challenges of constructing christian histories and offers a new model of christian families to organize and explain the emergence and competition of different varieties of christianity each successive chapter focuses on key issues that christian leaders engaged over the centuries demonstrating how the questions they posed and the answers they provided gave christianity its distinct shape as the movements competed for social advantage christians began identifying certain christian movements as enemies and consolidated against them the final chapter schematizes the christians studied in the book into three families of christian movements based on the particular god they worshipped and other shared patterns of thought and practice this chapter also explains where the varieties of christianities came from and how the process of consolidation undertaken by some churches shaped christian identity within a forge of intolerance that still affects us today comparing christianities explores the answers to questions who were the early christians and what did they write what did christians think about sex women immortality judaism suffering and death what rituals did the first christians practice and what did their religious experiences mean to them how did christians live in a roman dominated world how did the first christians explain the origins of their movement comparing christianities an introduction to the new testament and the first christians serves as an excellent primary textbook in undergraduate classrooms for introduction to christianity introduction to religion new testament studies christian origins world religions and western world religions and a thought provoking resource for anyone wishing to know more about christianity

revealing the origins of today's spirituality in the gnostic tradition

this book explores the mysticism of john in its historical context and puts forward evidence that the mysticism developed in this text is the result of the textualization of a dialogue between the johannine and thomasine christians on

the subject of soteriology this book not only sheds new light on the development of johannine ideology but also forges a new path in new testament socio-rhetorical criticism particularly by developing the field of tradition intertexture

provides the first comprehensive analysis of the stages of development of the gospel of thomas

a fascinating analysis that blends world history western religion and eastern mysticism quest for the kingdom by dr john m newman examines the kingdom of god as the historical jesus describes it the book's premise holds that jesus teachings include specific instructions for the quest to find and live in god's kingdom before death this powerful work favors fact and readers can revel in jesus authentic teachings that describe the quest both as internal spiritual cultivation and the way to live in the world it is rare for a book on christian theology to break new ground but newman does this on two fronts the striking parallel of jesus teachings with the ancient mysticism of yoga and the equally fascinating parallel between jesus healing techniques and the practices of modern psychotherapists like freud newman is meticulous in drawing these original and unique parallels and they lift this work's premise to a non-generic level that speaks to several audiences an accomplishment that sets the work apart from the pack in twenty accessible and engaging chapters like the kingdom of god the war of the houses the kingdom is like a woman spiritual cultivation and the exorcisms and healings of jesus the reader watches jesus at work healing and offering his parables at a communal meal in addition to elucidating the path to the kingdom that jesus shared with his followers newman explains and illustrates the voice print of jesus his sage rhetorical strategies and distinctive discourse newman brings jesus parables to life with a penetrating analysis that enables the reader to experience jesus mastery of metaphor and management of the unconscious trajectory of thought in the minds of his listeners a commanding new breakthrough in the understanding of the teachings and works of jesus this book is a must read for academics and laypersons alike

the fourth gospel is at the same time a sublime work that has inspired and enriched the faith of countless christians and a problematic text that has provided potent anti-jewish imagery exploited in anti-jewish and anti-semitic discourse over the course of two millennia the fourth gospel contains approximately 70 references to *hoi ioudaioi* a designation most often and best translated as the jews several of these references are neutral or descriptive referring to jewish festivals or specific practices and some depict individual jews or jewish groups as interested in jesus message the vast majority however express a negative or even hostile stance towards the jews these passages express several themes that became central to christian anti-jewish and anti-semitic discourse these include the charge of deicide killing god and the claim that the jews have the devil as their father 8:44 the essays in this book address

both the gospel's stance towards the jews and the gospel's impact on jewish christian relations from antiquity to the present day in a range of media including sermons iconography art music and film a short volume of collected essays cannot hope to address the full history of the fourth gospel's impact on jewish christian relations nevertheless it is hoped that this volume will contribute to the efforts of christians and jews alike to find ways to appreciate what is good and life affirming about the gospel of john while also acknowledging the damaging impact of its portrayal of jews as the children of satan and the killers of christ only when christians disavow this portrayal can the gospel of john continue to be a true source of inspiration and perhaps even a path forward in the relationships between jews and christians in the modern world

april deconick offers a new translation of the gospel of judas one which seriously challenges the national geographic interpretation of a good judas

this book employs cognitive literary theory in an analysis of conceptual and intertextual blending in the gospel of philip and the exegesis on the soul read as christian texts contemporary with the production and use of the nag hammadi codices

what do we know about him he represents the traitor in antiquity has his character been blackened or whitewashed in canonical and extra canonical writings and in modern and contemporary interpretations what do the gospels really say about judas

because thou hast done this thou art cursed above all cattle and above every beast of the field with those words in genesis god condemns the serpent for tempting adam and eve and the serpent has shouldered the blame ever since but how would the study of religion change if we looked at the fall from the snake's point of view would he appear as a bringer of wisdom more generous than the god who wishes to keep his creation ignorant inspired by the early gnostics who took that startling view jeffrey j kripal uses the serpent as a starting point for a groundbreaking reconsideration of religious studies and its methods in a series of related essays he moves beyond both rational and faith based approaches to religion exploring the erotics of the gospels and the sexualities of jesus john and mary magdalene he considers feuerbach's gnosticism the untapped mystical potential of comparative religion and even the modern mythology of the x men ultimately the serpent's gift is a provocative call for a complete reorientation of religious studies aimed at a larger understanding of the world the self and the divine

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a substantial introduction to the study of early jewish and christian mysticism this volume examines major aspects of the mystical tradition within early

judaism and christianity this tradition was centered on the belief that a person directly immediately and before death can experience the divine either as a rapture experience or one solicited by a particular praxis the essays define and analyze the nature and practices of mysticism as it emerges within early judaism and christianity recognizing this emergence within a variety of communal environments larger questions about the relationship between hermeneutics and experience as well as the relationship between mysticism and apocalypticism are also discussed and a substantial bibliography of the field is provided the book is the result of ten years of work of the early jewish and christian mysticism unit of the society of biblical literature the contributors are cameron c afzal daphna arbel kelley coblentz bautch ra anan s boustan james r davila april d deconick celia deutsch rachel elior frances flannery dailey charles a gieschen rebecca lesses andrea lieber christopher r a morray jones andrei a orlov christopher rowland seth l sanders alan f segal and kevin sullivan paperback edition is available from the society of biblical literature [sbl site org](http://sblsite.org)

using a carefully defined approach to historical jesus studies and historical method this collection of essays examines twelve key events in the life of jesus that were part of a decade long collaborative research project each essay examines the case for the event s authenticity and then explores the social and cultural background to the event to provide an understanding of the event s historical significance the first six events are related to the public ministry context of jesus mostly associated with his galilean ministry while latter six events involve his final days in jerusalem the final essay closes with suggestions about how these events cohere and what they can tell us about what jesus did

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