

A Study Of The Classic Pagan References To Nascent Christianity Scholars Choice Edition

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A Study of the Classic Pagan References to Nascent Christianity ...

Excerpt from A Study of the Classic Pagan References to Nascent Christianity: A Thesis for the Doctorate of Philosophy Presented to the Faculty of the Graduate School of the New York University
The younger pliny (62-e. 113) was the friend and eminent contemporary² of Tacitus. He held offices under Domitian, the consulate under Trajan (a. 100) The latter gave him the governorship of Bithynia³ and Pontus, held perhaps from September, 111, till January, 113. His letters were published in nine books, to which are added, as a tenth, his letters to Trajan. The emperor's rescripts are usually given. Letters 15-121 are of the time of his Bithynian service. Among these we have his enquiry⁴ of Trajan (x, ep. 96 and 97) concerning the treatment of Christians in his province and the emperor's edict. These documents are of great historical value. The information is reliable, and light is shed on many sides of the life of Christians in this Asiatic province. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.com This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

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Pagan and Christian Creeds

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The Cross, Heathen and Christian

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A Christian Wreath for the Pagan Deities Or an Introduction to the Greek and Roman Mythology - Scholar's Choice Edition

In this volume, the persistence, resurgence, threat, fascination, and repression of various forms of pagan culture are studied in an interdisciplinary perspective from late antiquity to the upcoming Renaissance. The contributions deal with the survival of pagan beliefs and practices as well as with the Christianization of pagan rural populations and with the different strategies of oppression of pagan beliefs. They deal with the problems raised by the encounter with pagan cultures outside the Muslim world and examine how philosophers attempted to "save" the great philosophers and poets from ancient culture notwithstanding their paganism. The contributors also study the fascination of classic "pagan" culture among friars in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries and the imitation of pagan models of virtue and mythology in Renaissance poetry. Contributors: Carlos Steel, KU Leuven-University of Leuven; John Marenbon, Trinity College, Cambridge; Ludo Milis, University of Ghent; Marc-André Wagner, Brigitte Meijns, University of Leuven; Rob Meens, University of Utrecht; Edina Bozoky, Université de Poitiers; Henryk Anzulewicz, Albertus-Magnus Institut, Bonn; Robrecht Lievens, KU Leuven-University of Leuven; Stefano Pittaluga, Università di Genova; Anna Akasoy, Ruhr-Universität Bochum

Paganism in the Middle Ages

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The Religion of Plutarch, a Pagan Creed of Apostolic Times; An Essay - Scholar's Choice Edition

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History of the Cross

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The Environment of Early Christianity - Scholar's Choice Edition

Have you ever wondered why we Christians do what we do for church every Sunday morning? Why do we “dress up” for church? Why does the pastor preach a sermon each week? Why do we have pews, steeples, and choirs? This ground-breaking book, now in affordable softcover, makes an unsettling proposal: most of what Christians do in present-day churches is rooted, not in the New Testament, but in pagan culture and rituals developed long after the death of the apostles. Coauthors Frank Viola and George Barna support their thesis with compelling historical evidence and extensive footnotes that document the origins of modern Christian church practices. In the process, the authors uncover the problems that emerge when the church functions more like a business organization than the living organism it was created to be. As you reconsider Christ's revolutionary plan for his church—to be the head of a fully functioning body in which all believers play an active role—you'll be challenged to decide whether you can ever do church the same way again.

Pagan Christianity?

In this important new book, Brian Gregor gives a comprehensive account of Paul Ricoeur's philosophy of religion, which focuses on the regeneration of human capability. Gregor documents the thinkers, movements, and themes that shaped Ricoeur's thought and gives a critical examination of Ricoeur's philosophical interpretation of religion.

Ricoeur's Hermeneutics of Religion

The author recreates the world from the second to the fourth century A.D., when the gods of Olympus lost their dominion, and Christianity, with the conversion of Constantine, triumphed in the Mediterranean world.

Pagans and Christians

The strange triumph of Christianity is a tale of struggle, courage, and religious obsession. It is also a story of fantastic innovations that have left an indelible mark on modern culture. From an illegal sect whose members were persecuted and killed, Christianity has grown to be one of the world's dominant religions.

Pagan Christs

The goal of Boccaccio's *Genealogy of the Pagan Gods* is to plunder ancient and medieval literary sources to create a massive synthesis of Greek and Roman mythology. This is volume 1 of a three-volume set of Boccaccio's complete 15-book work. It contains a famous defense of the value of studying ancient pagan poetry in a Christian world.

A World Full of Gods

This antiquarian volume contains a comprehensive treatise on democracy and education, being an introduction to the 'philosophy of education'. Written in clear, concise language and full of interesting expositions and thought-provoking assertions, this volume will appeal to those with an interest in the role of education in society, and it would make for a great addition to collections of allied literature. The chapters of this book include: 'Education as a Necessity of Life'; 'Education as a Social Function'; 'Education as Direction'; 'Education as Growth'; 'Preparation, Unfolding, and Formal Discipline'; 'Education as Conservative and Progressive'; 'The Democratic Conception in Education'; 'Aims in Education', etcetera. We are republishing this vintage book now complete with a new prefatory biography of the author.

Genealogy of the Pagan Gods

Why Were the Teachings of the Original Christians Brutally Suppressed by the Roman Church? • Because they portray Jesus and Mary Magdalene as mythic figures based on the Pagan Godman and Goddess • Because they show that the gospel story is a spiritual allegory encapsulating a profound philosophy that leads to mythical enlightenment • Because they have the power to turn the world inside out and transform life into an exploration of consciousness Drawing on modern scholarship, the authors of the international bestseller *The Jesus Mysteries* decode the secret teachings of the original Christians for the first time in almost two millennia and theorize about who the original Christians really were and what they actually taught. In addition, the book explores the many myths of Jesus and the Goddess and unlocks the lost secret teachings of Christian mysticism, which promise happiness and

immortality to those who attain the state of Gnosis, or enlightenment. This daring and controversial book recovers the ancient wisdom of the original Christians and demonstrates its relevance to us today.

Democracy and Education

A literary history of our most influential book of all time, by an Oxford scholar and Anglican priest In our culture, the Bible is monolithic: It is a collection of books that has been unchanged and unchallenged since the earliest days of the Christian church. The idea of the Bible as "Holy Scripture," a non-negotiable authority straight from God, has prevailed in Western society for some time. And while it provides a firm foundation for centuries of Christian teaching, it denies the depth, variety, and richness of this fascinating text. In *A History of the Bible*, John Barton argues that the Bible is not a prescription to a complete, fixed religious system, but rather a product of a long and intriguing process, which has inspired Judaism and Christianity, but still does not describe the whole of either religion. Barton shows how the Bible is indeed an important source of religious insight for Jews and Christians alike, yet argues that it must be read in its historical context--from its beginnings in myth and folklore to its many interpretations throughout the centuries. It is a book full of narratives, laws, proverbs, prophecies, poems, and letters, each with their own character and origin stories. Barton explains how and by whom these disparate pieces were written, how they were canonized (and which ones weren't), and how they were assembled, disseminated, and interpreted around the world--and, importantly, to what effect. Ultimately, *A History of the Bible* argues that a thorough understanding of the history and context of its writing encourages religious communities to move away from the Bible's literal wording--which is impossible to determine--and focus instead on the broader meanings of scripture.

Jesus and the Lost Goddess

This Festschrift presents original research and new lines of inquiry on subjects related to Hellenistic philosophical texts and traditions, as well as early Christian literature and its cultural and intellectual environment.

A History of the Bible

'The Laughing Jesus' presents a no-holds-barred deconstruction of orthodox establishment religion. Tim Freke and Peter Gandy are also authors of 'The Jesus Mysteries' and 'Jesus and the Goddess'.

Ancient Philosophy and Early Christianity

This "fresh, blunt, and highly persuasive account of how the West was won—for Jesus" (*Newsweek*) is now available in paperback. Stark's provocative report challenges conventional wisdom and finds that Christianity's astounding dominance of the Western world arose from its offer of a better, more secure way of life. "Compelling reading" (*Library Journal*) that is sure to "generate spirited argument" (*Publishers Weekly*), this account of Christianity's remarkable growth within the Roman Empire is the subject of much fanfare. "Anyone who has puzzled over Christianity's rise to dominance...must read it." says Yale University's Wayne A. Meeks, for *The Rise of Christianity* makes a compelling case for startling conclusions. Combining his expertise in social science with historical evidence, and his insight into contemporary religion's appeal, Stark finds that early Christianity attracted the privileged rather than the poor, that most early converts were women or marginalized Jews—and ultimately "that Christianity was a success because it proved those who joined it with a more appealing, more assuring, happier, and perhaps longer life" (Andrew M. Greeley, University of Chicago).

The Laughing Jesus

This collection provides vivid ethnographic explorations of particular, local Christianities as they are experienced by different groups around the world. At the same time, the contributors, all anthropologists, rethink the vexed relationship between anthropology and Christianity. As Fenella Cannell contends in her powerful introduction, Christianity is the critical "repressed" of anthropology. To a great extent, anthropology first defined itself as a rational, empirically based enterprise quite different from theology. The theology it repudiated was, for the most part, Christian. Cannell asserts that anthropological theory carries within it ideas profoundly shaped by this rejection. Because of this, anthropology has been less successful in considering Christianity as an ethnographic object than it has in considering other religions. This collection is designed to advance a more subtle and less self-limiting anthropological study of Christianity. The contributors examine the contours of Christianity

among diverse groups: Catholics in India, the Philippines, and Bolivia, and Seventh-Day Adventists in Madagascar; the Swedish branch of Word of Life, a charismatic church based in the United States; and Protestants in Amazonia, Melanesia, and Indonesia. Highlighting the wide variation in what it means to be Christian, the contributors reveal vastly different understandings and valuations of conversion, orthodoxy, Scripture, the inspired word, ritual, gifts, and the concept of heaven. In the process they bring to light how local Christian practices and beliefs are affected by encounters with colonialism and modernity, by the opposition between Catholicism and Protestantism, and by the proximity of other religions and belief systems. Together the contributors show that it not sufficient for anthropologists to assume that they know in advance what the Christian experience is; each local variation must be encountered on its own terms. Contributors. Cecilia Busby, Fenella Cannell, Simon Coleman, Peter Gow, Olivia Harris, Webb Keane, Eva Keller, David Mosse, Danilyn Rutherford, Christina Toren, Harvey Whitehouse

The Rise of Christianity

Celebrated religious and social historian Rodney Stark traces the extraordinary rise of Christianity through its most pivotal and controversial moments to offer fresh perspective on the history of the world's largest religion. In *The Triumph of Christianity*, the author of *God's Battalions* and *The Rise of Christianity* gathers and refines decades of powerful research and discovery into one concentrated, concise, and highly readable volume that explores Christianity's most crucial episodes. The unique format of *Triumph of Christianity* allows Stark to avoid dense chronologies and difficult back stories, bringing readers right to the heart of Christian history's most vital controversies and enduring lessons.

The Anthropology of Christianity

Orosius' *Seven Books of History against the Pagans* provide a Christian interpretation of history from God's creation of the world to the period of the Gothic attacks on the Roman Empire in the early fifth century. By the end of that century, Orosius' work was already a classic and its Christian perspective ensured that it remained an immensely popular and standard work of reference on antiquity in the medieval world. Available now in English translation for the first time since 1936, this key work of historical and geographical reference in the medieval world will delight scholars of early Christianity and pagan history.

The Triumph of Christianity

Choice