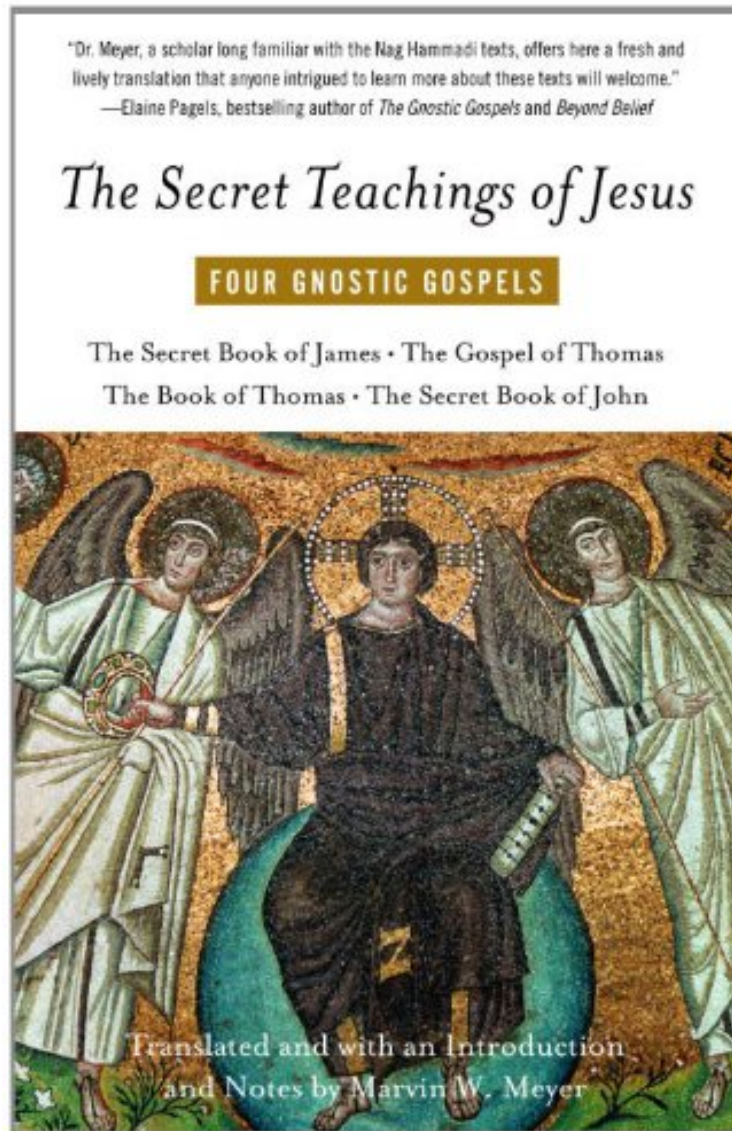


[Get free] The Secret Teachings of Jesus: Four Gnostic Gospels

The Secret Teachings of Jesus: Four Gnostic Gospels

Von Vintage

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Von Vintage : The Secret Teachings of Jesus: Four Gnostic Gospels before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Secret Teachings of Jesus: Four Gnostic Gospels:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not Just For EntertainmentVon Mr P. J. RuaneSome of the reviews here suggest that the Nag Hammadi texts are not as authoritative as the canonical ones because they are second century, lack historicity, and are hopelessly tainted by gnosticism.Firstly, the gospels that you read in the Bible are not 1st century, but are rather BASED on 1st century

works, and the oldest piece of one of the canonical gospels currently known, dates from around 150AD and is a tiny fragment containing less than a dozen words. The oldest copies in existence of these gospels are in fact 6th century, making Nag Hammadi much closer to history. Also the canonical texts have been heavily edited and rewritten down the years for political reasons, which has not happened to Nag Hammadi as they have been hidden for so long. As for lacking in historicity, truth is a pathless land, and it is the message itself which is important. There is no religion higher than truth. The canonical gospels, are four gospels offering a similar perspective on Jesus. Nag Hammadi texts offer another perspective, a gnostic one. In order to obtain a full picture on Jesus one must not be blinkered and rely solely on one perspective, whichever one that may be. After all the canonical texts are hopelessly tainted by paganism. True Christianity was overwritten with many pagan themes from the ancient mystery cults of Dionysis, Mithras and others. Contrary to believe that the Romans were Christianised, in fact the Christians were Romanised. Why else were the original emperors of Rome also the popes, (Constantine etc) and why was the Church based in Rome? Gnosticism offers another viewpoint which should be understood, but should not form the sole viewpoint any more than the Bible should.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Interesting Reading But Ultimately Empty Von Ein Kunde

As far as these translations go, they make for fairly interesting reading. However, to suggest that they somehow are more authoritative than the authentic First Century writings about Jesus is absurd. For instance, the Gospel of Thomas is clearly a Second Century document, hopelessly tainted by gnosticism. Only the most liberal scholars -- or those who have a theological or philosophical axe to grind -- would suggest that Thomas carries equivalent weight to the Gospels of the First Century. The reason some left-wing scholars like Thomas is that it's merely a collection of sayings by Jesus, without the narrative that establishes his true authority for teaching, which is his divine nature. As a solid counterpoint, I'd suggest "The Case for Christ," also available from .Com, which contains an interview with Dr. Bruce Metzger, professor emeritus at Princeton Theological Seminary, who translated Thomas from the Coptic and articulates clear and compelling reasons why it lacks the historicity of the Four Gospels. So go ahead and read Thomas and these other gnostic Gospels for entertainment, but remember they flunk the test of history because they were written so long after the life of Jesus that they cannot be trusted to authentically convey his teachings. To suggest they somehow constitute "secret teachings" of Jesus is fanciful at best, deceptive at worst.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Meyer's gospel of thomas Von Ein Kunde

I have not actually read Meyer's work cover to cover, yet I have read excerpts and passages for research. I actually bought the complete Nag Hammadi works, for this is a massive collection of early gnostic material. I actually work in classical studies, but I find this Near Eastern religious activity of the 1st century BC to 3rd century AD quite fascinating. It has been suggested by other reviews on this site that the gnostic scriptures are mindless nonsense and they do not carry the weight of the traditional gospels. I suppose they would not like to hear that the gospel of John was actually a gnostic gospel. It was adopted by orthodoxy and then edited to fit its political/theological agenda. Anyone able to read Greek can see that heavy editing took place in the text of John. True Christians should not be daunted by this fact, for the original idea of Christianity was a subjective spiritual relationship with God through the Christ. Scripture was an element preserved and coveted by a later church. The earliest manuscripts we have concerning the New Testament as we know it are papyri dating back to 3rd century that contain some of Paul's letters. The earliest complete work of the New Testament dates to 4th century with the Sinaian Uncial Script. This would account for the 90,000-100,000 variations in the content of the New Testament. So don't be too quick to throw away the spiritual significance of these gnostic texts. They are reflective of the new movement of spiritual thought. To better understand the gnostic mind I recommend those to read *The Gnostic Religion*, by Hans Jonas. Jonas is a German Scholar (which Germans tend to be the best scholars in this field due to their diligent research).

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