BY STEVAN L. DAVIES

The Revolt of the Cidows

The Social World of the Apocryphal Acts



Revolt Of The Widows

Anna Rebecca Solevåg

Revolt Of The Widows:

The Revolt of the Widows Stevan L. Davies, 1980 No child of this century women s liber ation existed as a Christian movement in the 2nd century In this first study of the social context that produced the Apocryphal Acts Stevan L Davies con tends that women wrote the Acts and that the Acts appear to have been a striving by Christian women for both a mode of self expression and a way to preach rebellion for the sake of sexual continence These early rebels called widows because they left their husbands for the church refused absolute subservience to the male hierarchy of the church The three parts of Davies s study in clude an investigation of the magical world view of late 2nd century Christen dom a close look at the people the Acts describe as new Christian converts and a summary and analysis of the nature of the authors of the Acts These women like their sisters today were seeking equal standing with men in the Chris tian church The Revolt of the Widows Stevan L. Davies, 2012-06 The Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles were among the most popular extracanonical writings of the second century The Acts of John Peter Paul Andrew Thomas and Xanthippe tell stories of the legendary wanderings preaching and miracles of the apostles Besides talking beasts extravagant healings and moral discourses the Apocryphal Acts reserve an important place for stories about women Each of the Acts describes a woman who converts to Christianity leaves her husband for the sake of the church and then lives in sexual abstinence Davies argues that such women were known as Widows a group which could at times include both wid ows and virgins widows were sexually continent often dependent upon the church for financial support often of advanced age expected to pray constantly and resolved to remain faithful to Christ Such a group of women would have had a collective identity even a semi clerical status He shows that these texts featured sexually continent Christian women in their narratives and they they are likely to have been authored by Christian women By analyzing the social world behind the apocryphal Acts Davies reveals the way in which Christian women in early centuries sometimes sought to have equal standing with men by rejecting their traditional roles as wives and mothers In addition to surveying the roles of women in ancient Christianity Revolt of the Widows emphasizes the magical world view that dominated in ancient times both among Christians and pagans In an extensive new afterword Davies tackles the canonical Acts of the Apostles and provides convincing evidence that the author traditionally identified as Luke was a woman a mother of the church opens up whole new vistas on the self understanding of women in the early church Carolyn Osiek Catholic Biblical Quarterly provocative deserves to be taken seriously as another attempt in turn to take seriously those voices which have been muted by an aristocratic scholarly establishment for these many centuries Devon Wiens Journal of Biblical Literature Davies perceptively notes how the apocryphal Acts represent males as ethically dangerous liable to temptation and confused about their faith the very tendencies most patristic writers ascribed to women Elizabeth Clark Church History The Sorrows of Mattidia Curtis Hutt, 2018-07-18 This volume offers a new translation of the Pseudo Clementine family narrative here known as The Sorrows of Mattidia It contains a full introduction which explores the obscured origins of the text the plot

and main characters and engages in a comparison of the portrayal of pagan Jewish and Christian women in this text with what we encounter in other literature It also discusses a general strategy for how historians can utilize fictional narratives like this when examining the lives of women in the ancient world This translation makes this fascinating source for late antique women available in this form for the first time Mapping Gender in Ancient Religious Discourses Todd C. Penner, Caroline Vander Stichele, 2007 A collection of essays on early Christian Jewish and Greco Roman religious discourses in antiquity focusing on the construction of gender in relationship to broader cultural and religious themes argumentation Birthing Salvation Anna Rebecca Solevåg, 2013-10-09 and identity formation in the early centuries of the common era In Birthing Salvation Anna Rebecca Solev g explores the theme of childbearing in early Christian discourse The book maps the importance of women's childbearing in Greco Roman culture and shows how childbearing discourse interfaces with salvation discourse in three early Christian texts the Pastoral Epistles the Acts of Andrew and the Martyrdom of Perpetua and Felicitas Issues of gender and class are explored through an intersectional analysis In particular the institution of slavery and its implications for ideas about salvation in these texts are drawn out Birthing Salvation offers fresh interpretations of these texts including the peculiar statement in 1 Tim 2 15 that women will be saved through childbearing Susan Hylen, 2015 A Modest Apostle studies women s leadership in the early church Susan Hylen argues that complex cultural norms for women s behavior encouraged both the modesty and leadership of women as exemplified by Thecla

Women Deacons? Essays with Answers Phyllis Zagano,2016-04-28 The question of restoring women to the ordained diaconate surfaced during the Second Vatican Council and continued to resound in academic and pastoral circles well after the diaconate was restored as a permanent order in the church in the West This volume contains twelve essays five translated from Italian three translated from French and four in their original English that answer the questions about the history and possible future of women deacons Essays by Yves Congar OP Philippe Delhaye Peter H nermann Valerie A Karras Corrado Marucci SJ Pietro Sorci OFM Jennifer H Stiefel Cipriano Vagaggini OSB Cam Phyllis Zagano Ugo Zanetti OSB

Women in a Celtic Church Christina Harrington,2002-04-11 A history of women in the early Irish church has never before been written despite perennial interest in the early Christianity of Celtic areas and indeed the increasing interest in gender and spirituality generally This book covers the development of women's religious professions in the primitive church in St Patrick's era and the development of large women's monasteries such as Kildare Clonbroney Cloonburren and Killeedy It traces its subject through the heyday of the seventh century through the Viking era and the Culdee reforms to the era of the Europeanization of the twelfth century The place of women and their establishments is considered against the wider Irish background and compared with female religiosity elsewhere in early medieval Europe The author demonstrates that while Ireland was distinct it was still very much part of the wider world of Western Christendom and it must be appreciated as such Grounded in the primary material of the period the book places in the foreground many largely unknown Irish texts in order

to bring them to the attention of scholars in related fields Throughout the study the author notes widespread ideas about Celtic women pagan priestesses and Saint Brigit considering how these perceptions came about in light of the texts and Enslaved Leadership in Early Christianity Dr. Katherine A. historiographical traditions of the previous centuries Shaner, 2018-03-01 Enslaved persons were ubiquitous in the first and second century CE Roman Empire and early Christian texts reflect this fact Yet the implications of enslaved presence in religious practices are under examined in early Christian and Roman history Enslaved Leadership in Early Christianity argues that enslaved persons roles in civic and religious activities were contested in many religious groups throughout ancient cities including communities connected with Paul s legacy This power struggle emerges as the book examines urban spaces inscriptions images and literature from ancient Ephesos and its environs Enslaved Leadership breaks new ground in analyzing archaeology and texts asking how each attempts to persuade viewers readers and inhabitants of the city Thus this book paints a complex picture of enslaved life in Asia Minor a picture that illustrates how enslaved persons enacted roles of religious and civic significance that potentially upended social hierarchies privileging wealthy slave holding men Enslaved persons were religious specialists priests and leaders in cultic groups including early Christian groups Yet even as the enslaved engaged in such authoritative roles Roman slavery was not a benign institution nor were all early Christians kinder and more egalitarian to slaves Both early Christian texts such as Philemon 1 Timothy Ignatius letters and the archaeological finds from Asia Minor defend construct and clarify the hierarchies that kept enslaved persons under the control of their masters Enslaved Leadership illustrates a historical world in which control of slaves must continually be asserted Yet this assertion of control raises a question Why does enslaved subordination need to be so frequently re established particularly through violence the threat of social death and assertions of subordination Early Christian Women and Pagan Opinion Margaret Y. MacDonald, 1996-10-03 This is a study of how women figured in public reaction to the church from New Testament times to Christianity's encounter with the pagan critics of the second century CE The reference to a hysterical woman was made by the most prolific critic of Christianity Celsus He was referring to a follower of Jesus probably Mary Magdalene who was at the centre of efforts to create and promote belief in the resurrection MacDonald draws attention to the conviction emerging from the works of several pagan authors that female initiative was central to Christianity's development she sets out to explore the relationship between this and the common Greco Roman belief that women were inclined towards excesses in religion The findings of cultural anthropologists of Mediterranean societies are examined in an effort to probe the societal values that shaped public opinion and early church teaching Concerns expressed in New Testament and early Christian texts about the respectability of women and even generally about their behaviour are seen in a new light when one appreciates that outsiders focused on early church women and understood their activities as a reflection of the group as a whole Ancient Christian Apocrypha Outi Lehtipuu, Silke Petersen, 2022-08-05 This latest volume in the Bible and Women series examines ancient noncanonical

Christian texts for what they reveal about women their engagement with Scripture and attitudes toward them in texts dating to the second to eighth century Three sections include once forgotten texts rediscovered in locations such as Nag Hammadi those that have been in continuous use through the centuries and works written by women that are traditionally excluded from discussions of noncanonical texts Contributors Bernadette J Brooten Mar a Jos Cabezas Cabello Anna Carfora Ute E Eisen Judith Hartenstein Ursula Ulrike Kaiser Karen L King Outi Lehtipuu Heidrun Mader Antti Marjanen Silvia Pellegrini Silke Petersen Uwe Karsten Plisch Cristina Simonelli Anna Rebecca Solev g M Dolores Martin Trutet and Carmen Bernab Ubieta examine a range of texts including noncanonical gospels and acts poems prophecy and grave inscriptions and Christian Scriptures James H. Charlesworth, Lee Martin McDonald, 2010-07-29 Salty Wives, Spirited Mothers, and Savvy Widows F. Scott Spencer, 2012-12-19 Engaging feminist hermeneutics and philosophy in addition to more traditional methods of biblical study Salty Wives Spirited Mothers and Savvy Widows demonstrates and celebrates the remarkable capability and ingenuity of several women in the Gospel of Luke While recent studies have exposed women s limited opportunities for ministry in Luke Scott Spencer pulls the pendulum back from a negative feminist critical pole toward a more constructive center Granting that Luke sends somewhat mixed messages about women s work and status as Jesus disciples Spencer analyzes such women as Mary Elizabeth Joanna Martha and Mary and the infamous yet intriguing wife of Lot whom Jesus exhorts his followers to remember as well as the unrelentingly persistent women characters in Jesus Encyclopedia of Women in the Ancient World Joyce E. Salisbury, 2001-05-16 An extensive and fascinating parables collection of stories featuring both famous and everyday women giving a well rounded view of the lives of women in the ancient world When did women first become rulers athletes soldiers heroines and villains They always were observes historian Judith Salisbury From Mesopotamian priestesses and poets to Egyptian queens and consorts there was never a time when women did not participate in all aspects of society Salisbury tells the stories of 150 women from the ancient world ranging from the very famous such as Cleopatra VII immortalized by Hollywood to the barely remembered such as the Roman poet Nossis Writing for a general audience Salisbury begins by painting each woman into her historical context then recounts each woman s story describing the choices she made as she looked for happiness wealth power or well being for herself and her family stories much like our own In entries on general themes clothing cosmetics work sexuality prostitution gynecology Salisbury analyzes the commonalties in the lives of these women of antiquity from a cross cultural perspective William and Louisa Anderson William Anderson, 1897 The Making of Paul Richard I. Pervo, The influence of the apostle Paul in early Christianity goes far beyond the reach of the seven genuine letters he wrote to early assemblies Paul was reveredand fiercely opposed in an even larger number of letters penned in his name and in narratives told about him and against him that were included in our New Testament and far more often treasured and circulated outside it Richard Pervo provides an illuminating and comprehensive survey of the legacy of Paul and the various ways he was remembered honored and vilified in the early churches Restricted Generosity in the New Testament Timothy J. Murray,2019-02-22 La 4e de couverture indique In this monograph Timothy J Murray studies early Christian practices of financial generosity by examining when why and how they restricted their generosity He analyzes the New Testament in its social context arguing that common cultural ideals of mutual support in a family were adopted by the fictive family of the early church Christianity and Society Everett Ferguson,1999 First published in 1999 Routledge is an imprint of Taylor Francis an informa company Wife and Widow in Medieval England Sue Sheridan Walker,1993 Examines the role of women in medieval law and society The Double Message Turid Karlsen Seim,2004-11-11 A thoroughly researched study of the treatment of women in Luke Acts

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