



Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus

Ismo O. Dunderberg

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus

Ismo O. Dunderberg

Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus Ismo O. Dunderberg

Valentinus was a popular, influential, and controversial early Christian teacher. His school flourished in the second and third centuries C.E. Yet because his followers ascribed the creation of the visible world not to a supreme God but to an inferior and ignorant Creator-God, they were from early on accused of heresy, and rumors were spread of their immorality and sorcery.

Beyond Gnosticism suggests that scholars approach Valentinians as an early Christian group rather than as a representative of ancient "Gnosticism"-a term notoriously difficult to define. The study shows that Valentinian myths of origin are filled with references to lifestyle (such as the control of emotions), the Christian community, and society, providing students with ethical instruction and new insights into their position in the world. While scholars have mapped the religio-historical and philosophical backgrounds of Valentinian myth, they have yet to address the significance of these mythmaking practices or emphasize the practical consequences of Valentinians' theological views. In this groundbreaking study, Ismo Dunderberg provides a comprehensive portrait of a group hounded by other Christians after Christianity gained a privileged position in the Roman Empire.

Valentinians displayed a keen interest in mythmaking and the interpretation of myths, spinning complex tales about the origin of humans and the world. As this book argues, however, Valentinian Christians did not teach "myth for myth's sake." Rather, myth and practice were closely intertwined. After a brief introduction to the members of the school of Valentinus and the texts they left behind, Dunderberg focuses on Valentinus's interpretation of the biblical creation myth, in which the theologian affirmed humankind's original immortality as a present, not lost quality and placed a special emphasis on the "frank speech" afforded to Adam by the supreme God. Much like ancient philosophers, Valentinus believed that the divine Spirit sustained the entire cosmic chain and saw evil as originating from conspicuous "matter."

Dunderberg then turns to other instances of Valentinian mythmaking dominated by ethical concerns. For example, the analysis and therapy of emotions occupy a prominent place in different versions of the myth of Wisdom's fall, proving that Valentinians, like other educated early Christians, saw Christ as the healer of emotions. Dunderberg also discusses the *Tripartite Tractate*, the most extensive account to date of Valentinian theology, and shows how Valentinians used cosmic myth to symbolize the persecution of the church in the Roman Empire and to create a separate Christian identity in opposition to the Greeks and the Jews.

 [Download Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in th ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of

Download and Read Free Online Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus Ismo O. Dunderberg

From reader reviews:

Jenny Dill:

Within other case, little individuals like to read book Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus. You can choose the best book if you want reading a book. Providing we know about how is important the book Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus. You can add expertise and of course you can around the world by the book. Absolutely right, simply because from book you can learn everything! From your country right up until foreign or abroad you will end up known. About simple thing until wonderful thing you are able to know that. In this era, we can open a book or maybe searching by internet system. It is called e-book. You may use it when you feel weary to go to the library. Let's examine.

Frankie Graybill:

What do you consider book? It is just for students because they are still students or that for all people in the world, the actual best subject for that? Merely you can be answered for that query above. Every person has distinct personality and hobby for each other. Don't to be obligated someone or something that they don't need do that. You must know how great along with important the book Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus. All type of book are you able to see on many resources. You can look for the internet options or other social media.

Myrtle Brown:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them household or their friend. Do you know? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent the entire day to reading a book. The book Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus it is rather good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book provides high quality.

Scott Padilla:

Reserve is one of source of knowledge. We can add our expertise from it. Not only for students but also native or citizen will need book to know the change information of year to year. As we know those guides have many advantages. Beside many of us add our knowledge, could also bring us to around the world. By book Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus we can take more advantage. Don't you to definitely be creative people? To be creative person must want to read a book. Simply choose the best book that suitable with your aim. Don't always be doubt to change your life at this

book Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus. You can more attractive than now.

**Download and Read Online Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle,
and Society in the School of Valentinus Ismo O. Dunderberg
#CDKT60I32VL**

Read Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus by Ismo O. Dunderberg for online ebook

Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus by Ismo O. Dunderberg Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus by Ismo O. Dunderberg books to read online.

Online Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus by Ismo O. Dunderberg ebook PDF download

Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus by Ismo O. Dunderberg Doc

Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus by Ismo O. Dunderberg Mobipocket

Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus by Ismo O. Dunderberg EPub

Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus by Ismo O. Dunderberg Ebook online

Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus by Ismo O. Dunderberg Ebook PDF