



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 ...pdf](#)

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

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

From reader reviews:

Hannelore Evans:

Reading a publication can be one of a lot of activity that everyone in the world adores. Do you like reading book and so. There are a lot of reasons why people enjoy it. First reading a reserve will give you a lot of new info. When you read a reserve you will get new information because book is one of many ways to share the information as well as their idea. Second, studying a book will make anyone more imaginative. When you reading a book especially fictional book the author will bring you to imagine the story how the personas do it anything. Third, you can share your knowledge to other people. When you read this Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus, you are able to tells your family, friends in addition to soon about yours publication. Your knowledge can inspire average, make them reading a e-book.

Samuel Jackson:

The book untitled Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus is the e-book that recommended to you you just read. You can see the quality of the reserve content that will be shown to a person. The language that writer use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The author was did a lot of investigation when write the book, therefore the information that they share to your account is absolutely accurate. You also could possibly get the e-book of Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus from the publisher to make you more enjoy free time.

James Gardner:

Do you one of the book lovers? If so, do you ever feeling doubt while you are in the book store? Try to pick one book that you just dont know the inside because don't judge book by its cover may doesn't work here is difficult job because you are scared that the inside maybe not since fantastic as in the outside appearance likes. Maybe you answer may be Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus why because the amazing cover that make you consider with regards to the content will not disappoint you actually. The inside or content will be fantastic as the outside or perhaps cover. Your reading 6th sense will directly assist you to pick up this book.

Heather Delph:

Reading a e-book make you to get more knowledge from this. You can take knowledge and information from the book. Book is published or printed or descriptive from each source that will filled update of news. In this particular modern era like at this point, many ways to get information are available for anyone. From media social similar to newspaper, magazines, science reserve, encyclopedia, reference book, story and comic. You can add your understanding by that book. Do you want to spend your spare time to open your book? Or just in search of the Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle, and Society in the School of Valentinus when you essential it?

**Download and Read Online Beyond Gnosticism: Myth, Lifestyle,
and Society in the School of Valentinus Ismo O. Dunderberg
#4ELM3F0IKVZ**

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