

Beyond Belief

The Secret Gospel of Thomas



"This manuscript, and its striking history of discovery, has taken the world by storm, and I can tell you that the message of Christ, proclaimed, is still as true and as powerful as ever."
—Richard Dawkins, *New York Times*

ELAINE PAGELS

Author of The Gnostic Gospels

Beyond Belief The Secret Gospel Of Thomas

H. H. Drake Williams



Beyond Belief The Secret Gospel Of Thomas:

Beyond Belief Elaine Pagels, 2004-05-04 In *Beyond Belief* renowned religion scholar Elaine Pagels continues her groundbreaking examination of the earliest Christian texts arguing for an ongoing assessment of faith and a questioning of religious orthodoxy Spurred on by personal tragedy and new scholarship from an international group of researchers Pagels returns to her investigation of the secret Gospel of Thomas and breathes new life into writings once thought heretical As she arrives at an ever deeper conviction in her own faith Pagels reveals how faith allows for a diversity of interpretations and that the rogue voices of Christianity encourage and sustain the recognition of the light within us all **Beyond Belief** Elaine H. Pagels, 2007

Beyond Belief: The Secret Gospel of Thomas E. Pagels, 2004-05-01 **Recovering the Original Gospel of Thomas** April D. DeConick, 2006-06-01 This book explores the fascinating and enigmatic collection of 114 sayings of Jesus the Gospel of Thomas that was discovered in the sands of Nag Hammadi Egypt in the 1940 s Since its discovery scholars and the public alike have been intrigued to know what the Gospel says and what light it sheds on the formation of early Christianity Here DeConick provides a new English translation of the entire Gospel of Thomas which includes the original kernel of the Gospel and all the sayings A unique feature of this book is that translations to the parallels of the Gospel are also included **The Gospel of Thomas** Simon James Gathercole, 2014-05-22 In this new commentary on the controversial Gospel of Thomas Simon Gathercole provides the most extensive analysis yet published of both the work as a whole and of the individual sayings contained in it This commentary offers a fresh analysis of Thomas not from the perspective of form criticism and source criticism but seeks to elucidate the meaning of the work and its constituent elements in its second century context With its lucid discussion of the various controversial aspects of Thomas and treatment of the various different scholarly views this is a foundational work of reference for scholars not just of apocryphal Gospels but also for New Testament scholars Classicists and Patrologists **A History of the Quests for the Historical Jesus,**

Volume 2 Colin Brown, Craig A. Evans, 2022-11-08 A comprehensive two volume reassessment of the quests for the historical Jesus that details their origins and underlying presuppositions as well as their ongoing influence on today s biblical and theological scholarship Jesus life and teaching is important to every question we ask about what we believe and why we believe it And yet there has never been common agreement about his identity intentions or teachings even among first century historians and scholars Throughout history different religious and philosophical traditions have attempted to claim Jesus and paint him in the cultural narratives of their heritage creating a labyrinth of conflicting ideas From the evolution of orthodoxy and quests before Albert Schweitzer s famous Old Quest to today s ongoing questions about criteria methods and sources *A History of the Quests for the Historical Jesus* not only chronicles the developments but lays the groundwork for the way forward The late Colin Brown brings his scholarly prowess in both theology and biblical studies to bear on the subject assessing not only the historical and exegetical nuts and bolts of the debate about Jesus of Nazareth but also its philosophical

sociological and theological underpinnings Instead of seeking a bedrock of facts Brown stresses the role of hermeneutics in formulating questions and seeking answers Colin Brown was almost finished with the manuscript at the time of his passing in 2019 Brought to its final form by Craig A Evans this book promises to become the definitive history and assessment of the quests for the historical Jesus Volume One sold separately covers the period from the beginnings of Christianity to the end of World War II Volume Two covers the period from the post War era through contemporary debates *The Gospel of Thomas* Ron Miller, 2011-08-18 The Gospel of Thomas a book of sayings and wisdom of Jesus compiled as early or earlier than the New Testament gospels can transform your spiritual life There are many academic commentaries on the Gospel of Thomas but this book has a different aim It is meant to be a guidebook that is a translation of the sayings into daily practice The goal of such practice is to become Jesus s twin This does not of course mean becoming an olive skinned bearded Mediterranean peasant wearing sandals It is more about manifesting in our lives the same Christ consciousness revealed in the person we know as Jesus of Nazareth from the Introduction In the decades since its discovery the Gospel of Thomas has intrigued people of all faiths around the world Shedding new light on the origins of Christianity the Gospel of Thomas raises questions about whether the New Testament s version of Jesus s teachings is entirely accurate and complete In the Gospel of Thomas we see Jesus as a wisdom loving sage sharing aphorisms about the value of the present and each person s role in the creation of the Kingdom of God here on earth But these inspiring sayings can leave you wondering What next Now you can learn how to start applying Jesus s wisdom to your own life and in turn to the world around you This unique guidebook leads you through Thomas offering practices that help you translate Jesus s wisdom into a more fulfilling enriching daily life including Becoming a Spiritual Adult Sorting Out the Old and the New Being a Healing Presence Daring to Be a City on a Hill God s Reign Calls for Ready Hands Spirituality Is Not Skygazing And much more Jesus Tried and True H. H. Drake Williams, 2013-01-11 Are the gospels found within the New Testament superior to others Has the church unfairly chosen Matthew Mark Luke and John while leaving out many others Are there truly lost Christianities that would enrich our understanding of Jesus Would modern day seekers as well as followers of Jesus be better served by including gospels outside of the New Testament in their understanding of Jesus Jesus Tried and True answers these questions by examining the date source and reception of the canonical gospels of Matthew Mark Luke and John and then comparing this data with the other gospels It assesses this information by looking within these gospels and also evaluating early church history examining the writings of early church writers such as Papias Ignatius of Antioch Justin Martyr Irenaeus and Eusebius It then compares these findings with the date source and reception of the non canonical gospels that have received the most attention lately such as the Gospel of Thomas Gospel of Mary Gospel of Judas Gospel of Philip and Gospel of Peter There is also a brief survey of thirteen of the most important non canonical gospels The survey provides an opinion on the dependence of these upon the gospels within the New Testament JJesus Tried and True affirms the superiority of the New Testament gospels It concludes

by addressing whether non canonical gospels are lost Christianities and also whether the designation apocryphal is appropriate for other gospels *Zen Pathways* Bret W. Davis,2021-12-13 This book offers an in depth introduction to the philosophy and practice of Zen Buddhism Bret Davis explores the philosophical implications of Zen teachings and koans comparing and contrasting these with other Asian as well as Western religions and philosophies He relates traditional Zen teachings and practices to our twenty first century lives **John and Thomas—Gospels in Conflict?** Christopher W. Skinner,2009-06-01 The hypothesis that the Fourth Gospel is a theological response to the Gospel of Thomas is a recent development in the study of the New Testament and early Christianity Assuming an early date for the Gospel of Thomas the proponents of this hypothesis argue that the supposed polemical presentation of Thomas in the Fourth Gospel is evidence of a conflict between the early communities associated respectively with John and Thomas However a detailed narrative study reveals that the Fourth Gospel portrays a host of characters disciples and non disciples in an equally unflattering light where an understanding of Jesus s origins message and mission are concerned The present study attempts to demonstrate that the Fourth Gospel s presentation of Thomas is part and parcel of its treatment of uncomprehending characters If this thesis is correct it poses a significant challenge to the assumption that the Fourth Gospel contains a polemic against Thomas or that it was written in response to the Gospel of Thomas or the community associated with Thomas

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