

“Classic” or “Sethian” Gnosticism

1. Ancient Gnosticism: essential features
2. Historical contexts: Platonism and Judaism
3. Varieties of ancient Gnosticism: the sources
4. Sethian Gnostic writings preserved in Coptic
5. Concluding observations

Sethian Gnostic tractates preserved in Coptic

Apocryphon (Secret Book) of John (NHC II,1; III,1; IV,1; BG,2)
Apocalypse (Revelation) of Adam (NHC V,5)
Trimorphic Protennoia (Three Forms of First Thought) (NHC XIII,1)
Hypostasis of the Archons (Nature of the Rulers) (NHC II,4)
Thought of Norea (NHC IX,2)
Gospel of the Egyptians, or The Holy Book of the Great Invisible Spirit (NHC III,2; IV,2)
Melchizedek (NHC IX,1)
Three Steles of Seth (NHC VII,5)
Zostrianos (NHC VIII,1)
Allogenes (the Stranger) (NHC XI,3)
Marsanes (NHC X,1)
The *Untitled Text* in the Bruce Codex (CBruc., 3)
Gospel of Judas (CTchakos,3)
Book of Allogenes (CTchakos,4)

Outline of the *Apocryphon of John* (longer version)

Preamble and apocalyptic frame	1,1-2,26
I. Revelation Discourse	2,26-13,13
A. Theosophy and theogony	
1. Negative theology: the unknown God	2,26-4,10
2. Divine emanations and heavenly world	4,10-9,24
B. Cosmogony	
1. Fall of Sophia	9,25-10,23
2. Cosmic world of darkness	10,23-13,5
3. Blasphemy of the Demiurge	13,5-13
II. Dialogue: soteriology	13,13-31,25
Repentance of Sophia, anthropogony, Adam in Paradise, Seduction of Eve, Seth and his seed, two spirits and classes Of humans, production of Fate, Noah and the flood, angels and daughters of men, triple descent of Pronoia	
Apocalyptic frame and title	31,25-32,9