

Recommended Reading for SHWEP Special Episode CB4M Parts VI and VII: Early Christian Reincarnationism

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Suggested Places to Find your Ancient Heresiologists

Henry Chadwick. *Origen: Contra Celsum*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1953.

Adelin Rousseau and Louis Doutreleau, editors. *Irenée: Contre les hérésies*. Number 100 in Sources chrétiennes. Éditions du Cerf, Paris, 1965-1982.

M. David Litwa, editor. *Refutation of All Heresies*. Number 40 in Writings from the Greco-Roman World. SBL Press, Atlanta, GA, 2016.

1 Early Christian Afterlife-Beliefs, Generally

C. Colpe et al. Jenseits. In *Reallexikon für Antike und Christentum*, volume 17, pages 246–407. Stuttgart, 1996.

Brian E. Daley. *The Hope of the Early Church. A Handbook of Patristic Eschatology*. Cambridge, 1991.

Charles A. Gieschen. *Angelomorphic Christology: Antecedents and Early Evidence*. Number 42 in Arbeiten zur Geschichte des antiken Judenthums und des Urchristentums. Brill, Leiden/Boston, MA/Köln, 1998.

On the history of Hell [because it's cool]

H.-D. Altendorf. Die Entstehung des theologischen Höllenbildes in der Alten Kirche. In P. Jezler, editor, *Himmel Hölle Fegefeuer. Das Jenseits im Mittelalter*, pages 27–32. Zürich, 1994.

Richard Bauckham. Early Jewish Visions of Hell. *Journal of Theological Studies*, 41:355–85, 1990.

A. Bernstein. *The Formation of Hell*. Ithaca and London, 1993.

Jan N Bremmer. Descents to hell and ascents to heaven in apocalyptic literature. In J.J. Collins, editor, *The Oxford Handbook of Apocalyptic*, pages 340–357. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2014.

T. Rasmussen. Hölle ii. In *Theologische Realenzyklopädie*, volume 15, pages 449–55. Berlin, 1986.

H. Vorgrimler. *Geschichte der Hölle*. Munich, 1993.

2 Early Christian Reincarnation, Specifically (including Gnostics)

[On the thought of Clement *vis à vis* reincarnation, see recommended reading to SHWEPisode 94:

<https://shwep.net/podcast/becoming-gods-divinisation-and-angelomorphic-transformation-in-clement/>]

Barbara Aland. Basilides zwischen Paulus und Platon: Seele, Zeit, Eschaton bei einem frühen christlichen Theologen. In J. Holzhausen and K. Alt, editors, *Psychē-Seele-Anima: Festschrift für Karin Alt*, pages 255–78. Teubner, Leipzig, 1998.

N. Brox. Die frühchristliche Debatte um die Seelenwanderung. *Concilium*, 29:427–30, 1993.

G. Casadio. Gnostische Wege zur Unsterblichkeit. In E. Hornung and

Th. Schabert, editors, *Auferstehung und Unsterblichkeit*, pages 203–54. Munich, 1993.

H. Frohnhofen. Reinkarnation und frühe kirche. *Stimmen der Zeit*, 207: 236–244, 1989.

Alain Le Boulluec. *La notion d'hérésie dans la littérature grecque, IIe-IIIe siècles*. Études augustinienes, Paris, 1985.

M David Litwa. *Early Christianity in Alexandria: From Its Beginnings to the Late Second Century*. The University Press, Cambridge, 2024 [a readable overview, based on much previous, more in-depth scholarship by Litwa on Karpokrates, Basilides, *et al.* Models belief in reincarnation as a signature of early Alexandrian theology, although not a universally-held belief (e.g. the Valentinians, who argued for angelification but not cyclical reincarnation)].

Karl Hoheisel. Das frühe Christentum und die Seelenwanderung. *Jahrbuch für Antike und Christentum*, 27/28:24–46, 1984/85.

M. Maritano. Giustino Martire di fronte al problema della metempsicosi. *Salesianum*, 54:231–81, 1992.

Antti Marjanen and Petri Luomanen. *A Companion to Second-Century Christian “Heretics”*, volume 76 of *Supplements to Vigiliae Christianae*. Brill, Leiden/Boston, MA, 2005 [edited volume containing chapters devoted to important early thinkers, movements, etc., by some very eminent scholars. A good place to start research, for an overview of a given thinker’s ideas; reincarnation appears here and there throughout].

Mercedes López Salvá and Miguel Herrero de Jáuregui. La Transmigración en el Cristianismo Primitivo. In A. Bernabé, D. Kahle, and M.A. Santamaría, editors, *Reencarnación. La Transmigración de las Almas entre Oriente y Occidente*, page 385–415. Abada Editores, Madrid, 2011.

H. J. Schoeps. Bemerkungen zu Reinkarnationsvorstellungen der Gnosis. *Numen*, 4:228–32, 1957 [an old-fashioned excursus into how all the Gnostics believed in reincarnation, like ‘primitive people’ also do. Use with caution].

Helmut Zander. *Geschichte der Seelenwanderung in Europa: Alternative*

religiöse Traditionen von der Antike bis heute. Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, Darmstadt, 1999.

3 Origen (and ‘Origenism’)

U. Bianchi. Origen’s Treatment of the Soul and the Debate over Metempsychosis. In L. Ries, editor, *Origeniana Quarta*, pages 270–281. Innsbruck, 1987.

Benjamin P. Blosser. *Become Like the Angels: Origen’s Doctrine of the Soul*. Catholic University of America Press, Baltimore, MD, 2012.

Henry Chadwick. Origen, Celsus, and the Resurrection of the Body. *Harvard Theological Review*, 41(2):83–102, 1948.

Elizabeth A. Clark. *The Origenist Controversy: The Cultural Construction of an Early Christian Debate*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 1992.

H. Crouzel. Les critiques adressés par Méthode et ses contemporains à la doctrine origénienne du corps ressuscité. *Gregorianum*, 53:679–716, 1972.

Henri Crouzel. La doctrine origénienne du corps ressuscité. *Bulletin de Littérature Ecclésiastique*, 81:175–200 and 241–266, 1980.

G. Dorival. Origène a-t-il enseigné la transmigration des âmes dans les corps d’animaux? (A propos de PArch I,8,4). In H. Crouzel and A. Quacquarelli, editors, *Origeniana Secunda*, pages 11–32. Rome, 1980.

Mark J. Edwards. Origen’s Two Resurrections. *The Journal of Theological Studies*, 46(2):502–18, 1995.

Mark Julian Edwards. *Origen Against Plato*. Ashgate, Aldershot, 2002.

Mark J. Edwards. Origen in Paradise: A Response to Peter Martens. *Zeitschrift für Antikes Christentum*, 23(2):163–85, 2019.

Mark J. Edwards. Origen, Plato and the Afterlife. *The International*

Journal of the Platonic Tradition, 2021.

Marguerite Harl. La préexistence des âmes dans l'œuvre d'Origène. In Lothar Lies, editor, *Origeniana Quarta. Die Referate des 4. Internationalen Origeneskongresses (Innsbruck, 2.–6. September 1985)*, volume 19 of *Innsbrucker theologische Studien*, pages 238–58. Tyrolia Verlag, Innsbruck and Vienna, 1987.

Lothar Lies. Origenes und reinkarnation. *Zeitschrift für katholische Theologie*, 121(2):139–158, 1999.

Mario Maritano. Argomenti 'filosofici' di origene contro la metensomatosi. In Lorenzo Perrone, editor, *Origeniana Octava: Origen and the Alexandrian Tradition*, *Origeniana Octava*, pages 503–535. Leuven University Press, Leuven, 2003.

Peter W. Martens. Origen's Doctrine of Pre-Existence and the Opening Chapters of Genesis. *Zeitschrift für Antikes Christentum*, 16:516–49, 2013.

Peter W. Martens. Embodiment, Heresy, and the Hellenization of Christianity: The Descent of the Soul in Plato and Origen. *Harvard Theological Review*, 108(4):594–620, 2015.

Ilaria L. E. Ramelli. *The Christian Doctrine of Apokatastasis: A Critical Assessment from the New Testament to Eriugena*, volume 120 of *Supplements to Vigiliae Christianae*. Brill, Leiden/Boston, MA, 2013.

Ilaria L. E. Ramelli. Origen. In Anna Marmodoro and Sophie Cartwright, editors, *A History of Mind and Body in Late Antiquity*, pages 245–66. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2018 [a good discussion of what's at stake for Origen in discussing the soul, her pre-existence, and how that relates to her necessity always to be in relation to a body].

Panayiotis Tzamalikos. *Origen and Hellenism: The Interplay between Greek and Christian Ideas in Late Antiquity*. Peter Lang, New York, NY, 2022 [a useful study of the Hellenic background of many ideas found in Origen; very much of the 'of course he didn't support transmigration of souls' camp].

Jonathan Young. 'Between Human and Animal Souls': The Resurrection of the Rational Soul and Origen's Transformation of Metempsychosis.

In M. Vinzent, editor, *Papers Presented at the Eighteenth International Conference on Patristic Studies Held in Oxford 2019. Volume 8: Origen*, volume 111 of *Studia Patristica*, page 137–49. Peeters, Leuven, 2021.