

The Gospel of Judas

An International Conference organized by the
Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies
Friday Nov. 10, 2006
1-6 PM



Institute for the Humanities
Stevenson Hall

Sponsored by
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research
Catholic Studies
Jewish Studies
College of Arts and Sciences
Hellenic Link

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Program

Session I

Chairs: **Jennifer Tobin, Nanno Marinatos**

1. 00 Greeting

1.30-2.15 **Hans Joseph Klauck**
(University of Chicago):
“The Gospel of Judas and the
Historical Judas Iscariot.”

2.30-3.15 **Einar Thomassen**
(University of Bergen, Norway):
“Is Judas Really the Hero of the
Gospel?”

3.30-4.15
COFFEE



Session II

Chair: **William M. Calder III**

4.15- 5.00 **John D. Turner**
(University of Nebraska):
“The Sethianism of the Gospel of
Judas.”

5.00-5.45 **Guy Stroumsa** (Hebrew
University of Jerusalem, Israel):
“Jesus' Laughter and its Docetic
Background: A New Hypothesis.”

Session III

Chair **Paul J. Griffiths**

5.45-6.30 Discussion

Jan Bremmer, (University of
Groningen, Holland)

Gary Anderson (Notre Dame)

Danuta Shanzer (Univ. of Illinois,
Urbana)

About the Speakers

Hans Joseph Klauck. Shenstone Donnelley Professor of New Testament Studies, Divinity School, University of Chicago. He specializes in New Testament studies and the religious and social history of the Greco-Roman World. His recent publications include: *A Guide to Ancient Religions; Magic and Paganism in Early Christianity and Apocryphal Gospels. An Introduction* (2203). klauck@uchicago.edu

Einar Thomassen. Professor of Religions, University of Bergen, Norway. One of the foremost specialists on the Coptic Nag Hammadi texts, Thomassen has made critical editions, translations, and commentaries. He has published widely on Early Christianity, ancient religions and Islam. He has made important contributions to the study of Gnostic thought by exploring Valentinian tradition on both the levels of dogma and ritual. His latest book, *The Spiritual Seed, the Church of the Valentinians* (2005) is claimed to be the most comprehensive study on the subject. einar.thomassen@krr.uib.no

John D. Turner. Professor of Classics and Religion, University of Nebraska. He is recognized as the leading specialist on the branch of Sethian Gnosticism a field in which he has done critical editions of Coptic texts. There are references to Seth in the Gospel of Judas so that an essential question is the relationship of this text to the wider Sethian tradition, attested by many texts in the Nag Hammadi Library. His most recent monograph is *Sethian Gnosticism and the Platonic Tradition*. jturner2@unl.edu

Guy Stroumsa. Martin Buber Professor of Comparative Religion, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. Stroumsa's field is religious movements in late antiquity. He is also the founding director of the Center for the study of Christianity at Hebrew University. He explores religious trends in Late Antiquity, in particular the relationship between early Christianity, Gnosticism and Judaism. He also has dealt with Patristic theology. stroumsa@vms.huji.ac.il.

Gary Anderson. Professor of New Testament, Notre Dame University. G. Anderson's research interests concern the role of ritual and sacrifice in biblical religion, the reception of the Bible in early Judaism and in Christianity, and the theological task of relating modern approaches to the study of biblical texts to the tradition of the church. He has recently completed a book on early Jewish and Christian interpretations of the story of Adam and Eve, *The Genesis of Perfection: Adam and Eve in Jewish and Christian Imagination*. anderson.194@nd.edu

Jan Bremmer. Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Groningen and the inaugural Getty Villa Professor (2006-2007). His specialties are ancient and contemporary religion, early Christianity, and the history of scholarship. His most recent book is *The Rise and Fall of the Afterlife* (2002). J.N.Bremmer@rug.nl

Danuta Shanzer. Professor of Classics and Medieval Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She specializes in the later Roman and early medieval Latin literature (2nd-6th C.) and in late antique and early medieval social history. She has special interests in pagan-Christian conflict, biblical exegesis, hagiography, heaven, hell and the church. shanzer@uiuc.edu