



Drudgergy Divine

On the Comparison of Early
Christianities and the Religions of
Late Antiquity

Jonathan Z. Smith

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Philip C. Barker



Drudgery Divine:

Drudgery Divine Jonathan Z. Smith, 1990 First Published in 1990 Routledge is an imprint of Taylor Francis an informa company

Drudgery Divine Jonathan Z. Smith, 1990-09-18 In this major theoretical and methodological statement on the history of religions Jonathan Z Smith shows how convert apologetic agendas can dictate the course of comparative religious studies As his example Smith reviews four centuries of scholarship comparing early Christianities with religions of late Antiquity especially the so called mystery cults and shows how this scholarship has been based upon an underlying Protestant Catholic polemic The result is a devastating critique of traditional New Testament scholarship a redescription of early Christianities as religious traditions amenable to comparison and a milestone in Smith s controversial approach to comparative religious studies An important book and certainly one of the most significant in the career of Jonathan Z Smith whom one may venture to call the greatest pathologist in the history of religions As in many precedent cases Smith follows a standard procedure he carefully selects his victim and then dissects with artistic finesse and unequaled acumen The operation is always necessary and a deconstructor of Smith s caliber is hard to find Ioan P Coulianu Journal of Religion

Drudgery Divine Jonathan Z. Smith, 1990 To Know All Mysteries C. Andrew Ballard, 2022-08-31 This book examines the way that Paul presents himself as a guide into mysteries a mystagogue in 1 2 Corinthians By describing himself as a type of mystagogue for the community Paul was following a precedent in both Jewish and non Jewish sources for invoking mystagogic language to engage in polemics with a rival In opposition to the precedent however Paul understands the mystagogue to be a bi partite figure comprised of both foolishness and wisdom simultaneously C Andrew Ballard argues that ancient mystagogues were often described in two disparate ways figures of power and figures of weakness and foolishness Paul synthesizes both aspects of the mystagogue in his self presentation to the Corinthians The figure of the mystagogue as a wise fool was useful to Paul because it was descriptive not only of his own experience as a suffering yet authoritative apostle but also of the experience of his deity the suffering and glorified Christ By presenting himself as both a powerful and foolish mystagogue Paul could argue that he was a more authentic imitator of Christ than his opponents in Corinth who boasted in self exaltation instead of self humility In this way Paul used the character of the mystagogue as a strategic rhetorical tool in his communication with the Corinthians The Mysteries, Resurrection, and 1 Corinthians 15 Terri Moore, 2018-09-15 Often ignored misunderstood or compared with Christian belief in a haphazard or inconsistent manner the Mysteries of the Graeco Roman world when handled carefully and consistently can aid in elucidating the context of New Testament texts By closely examining the Eleusinian Mysteries and the Mysteries of Isis and particularly their promises of a pleasant afterlife in Hades for those initiated into the cults this work offers insight into difficult interpretational issues in First Corinthians 15 The work proceeds from a methodological commitment to understanding the Mysteries in their own right and without an overlay of Christian belief The book includes a broad overview of the Eleusinian Mysteries and the Mysteries of Isis and their place in

Graeco Roman culture taking a deep and careful dive into conceptions of the afterlife in these cults In each instance available historical data is considered from works of mythology to dramas to archeological fragments all with a focus on afterlife beliefs With an ultimate goal to better understand Paul s writing in First Corinthians 15 the study includes an overview of Corinthian society and a particular examination of the available evidence concerning the impact of the Mysteries on Corinthians expectation of the afterlife Having considered the Mysteries independently the work turns to First Corinthians 15 with a brief exegetical overview before drawing careful comparisons between Paul s teaching and the afterlife beliefs of the Mysteries The book concludes with suggestions for interpretational issues on Paul s teaching in first Corinthians 15 regarding death and resurrection and baptism for the dead

The Figure of Hagar in Ancient Judaism and Galatians Ryan Heinsch,2022-10-11 In this study Ryan Heinsch considers Paul s portrayal of Hagar in Gal 4 21 31 and argues that Paul stands in continuity with ancient Judaism in that he portrays Hagar and her descendants as non Jews As a result the author demonstrates that the passage in Galatians is an allegory Paul develops about the experience of gentiles in general and the once pagan Galatian gentiles in particular

The Foundations of Education: The practice of education Joseph John Findlay,1927

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Familiar Words: an Index Verborum Or Quotation Handbook, with Parallel Passages, Or Phrases which Have Become Embedded in Our English Tongue James Hain Friswell,1889

Fifty Million Strong Ernest Irving Antrim,1916

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On Fasting and Almsgiving: Two Chapters on Personal Religion, Supplementary to the Seventh and Previous Editions, Etc Edward Meyrick GOULBURN (Dean of Norwich.),1871

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In a world defined by information and interconnectivity, the enchanting power of words has acquired unparalleled significance. Their ability to kindle emotions, provoke contemplation, and ignite transformative change is truly awe-inspiring. Enter the realm of "**Drudgery Divine**," a mesmerizing literary masterpiece penned by a distinguished author, guiding readers on a profound journey to unravel the secrets and potential hidden within every word. In this critique, we shall delve into the book's central themes, examine its distinctive writing style, and assess its profound impact on the souls of its readers.

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Table of Contents Drudgery Divine

1. Understanding the eBook Drudgery Divine
 - The Rise of Digital Reading Drudgery Divine
 - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
2. Identifying Drudgery Divine
 - Exploring Different Genres
 - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
 - Determining Your Reading Goals
3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
 - Popular eBook Platforms
 - Features to Look for in an Drudgery Divine
 - User-Friendly Interface
4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from Drudgery Divine
 - Personalized Recommendations
 - Drudgery Divine User Reviews and Ratings
 - Drudgery Divine and Bestseller Lists

5. Accessing Drudgery Divine Free and Paid eBooks
 - Drudgery Divine Public Domain eBooks
 - Drudgery Divine eBook Subscription Services
 - Drudgery Divine Budget-Friendly Options
6. Navigating Drudgery Divine eBook Formats
 - ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
 - Drudgery Divine Compatibility with Devices
 - Drudgery Divine Enhanced eBook Features
7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
 - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of Drudgery Divine
 - Highlighting and Note-Taking Drudgery Divine
 - Interactive Elements Drudgery Divine
8. Staying Engaged with Drudgery Divine
 - Joining Online Reading Communities
 - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
 - Following Authors and Publishers Drudgery Divine
9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books Drudgery Divine
 - Benefits of a Digital Library
 - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection Drudgery Divine
10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
 - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
 - Minimizing Distractions
 - Managing Screen Time
11. Cultivating a Reading Routine Drudgery Divine
 - Setting Reading Goals Drudgery Divine
 - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
12. Sourcing Reliable Information of Drudgery Divine
 - Fact-Checking eBook Content of Drudgery Divine
 - Distinguishing Credible Sources
13. Promoting Lifelong Learning

- Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
 - Exploring Educational eBooks
14. Embracing eBook Trends
- Integration of Multimedia Elements
 - Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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