

AN ANCIENT JEWISH CHRISTIAN SOURCE ON
THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY
Pseudo-Clementine Recognitions 1.27–71

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An Ancient Jewish Christian Source
on the History of Christianity
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by

F. Stanley Jones

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in Göttingen, Long Beach, and Paris



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PREFACE

More than a few teachers, colleagues, students, and friends in the United States and Europe have fostered the growth of this study. They are too many to be listed here, especially with the necessary qualifications that would appropriately relieve them of any possible detrimental imputations. Each may remember his or her particular effort to encourage me to greater diligence, and to each individually I now express my heartfelt thanks. The research was facilitated furthermore by numerous libraries. It was also supported by several institutions: Vanderbilt University, the Association pour l'étude de la littérature apocryphe chrétienne, the American Council of Learned Societies, California State University, Long Beach, and the Pseudo-Clementine Project of the Institute for Antiquity and Christianity. My sincere gratitude extends to all these persons and institutions. While it is my hope to have attained to some of their expectations in this study, I have to ask for their indulgence of the shortcomings that remain.

The reader might legitimately desire an extensive commentary to the remarkable section of the *Pseudo-Clementines* dealt with in this study. I have collected material for such a commentary for well over a decade. Redaction of this collection, which underlies the present investigation and is partially integrated into it, must await an appropriate time. Until then, the indices, ably drawn up by M. Francie Kisko, M.A., who also assisted with the preparation of the final copy, may serve as a guide.

For a comprehensive overview of the *Pseudo-Clementines*, I refer the reader now to my presentation of these writings in Robert W. Funk's forthcoming *New Testament Apocrypha*. There it is argued that the time has come to abandon a hypothesis that has long dominated and mired Pseudo-Clementine research, namely, the hypothesis that a writing entitled the *Kerygmata Petrou* was a (determinative) source for the *Pseudo-Clementines*. The following study, however, stands on its own, with or without this hypothesis. A complete synoptic English translation of the *Pseudo-Clementines*, which would allow this unique ancient Christian novel to step forth for the modern reader in its original glory, is a desideratum I would like to supply someday.

D. R. MacDonald and J.-D. Dubois have conscientiously and graciously monitored the path of this work into the present series. My parents, Catherine and Malcolm, generously attended to the Californian home and proofread the text when a sabbatical permitted study of Pseudo-Clementine manuscripts in London, where Britt, my companion and wife, assisted with remarkable alacrity. The book is dedicated to students and colleagues at the three universities where I have been privileged to offer courses.



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- B Pseudo-Clementine basic writing or its author
- E older Greek epitome of the Pseudo-Clementine *Homilies*
- H Pseudo-Clementine *Homilies* or their author
- R Pseudo-Clementine *Recognitions* or their author