Read The Gospel of Thomas Online by Jean-Yves Leloup and Jacob Needleman | Books

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Matt — 8; Luke — This logion describes the major stages in gnosis, which constitute a true initiatory process. The first stage is the quest; the second is the discovery; the third is the shock and disturbance of this discovery; the fourth is wonder and amazement; and the fifth is the presence and reign over All.

The last of these stages is spoken of in the Oxyrhynchus manuscript. Some further elaboration on each of these stages may be useful. Seeking The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus must always be on the quest.

The truth is hidden so as to be found. Yet this game, this quest, is what gives our life meaning. Is not the whole history of Israel that of a game of hide-and-seek between a people and their God? Thus the first stage on the path of initiation consists of rediscovering the thirst and taste for the game, the quest. It consists of becoming a seeker and remaining a seeker even after we have found, so as to experience the new and endless depths in what we have discovered.

Finding In a sense, The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus seek is already to find. Otherwise, how could we ever have the idea to search, how could we The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus propelled by this desire, unless it were for something which we somehow already know? Surely we have all had moments in our The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus that testify to this, moments of discovering the light if only from a distant star that had always been there, The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus the darkest of nights.

In our very core there is a Presence that needs to be recognized and affirmed. Being Troubled and Upset The recognition of Being troubles us and upsets us, for awakening to this dimension forces us to question our ordinary, so-called normal view of the world. The experience of Being is a radical questioning of our view of reality, a view conditioned by the conceptual means with which we think we understand reality. The more we accept this trouble as a necessary stage in the evolution of our consciousness, however, the more we are led, little by little, toward wonder and marveling.

Marveling In the fourth The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus C. The more we discover, the more we marvel and wonder. But these two are not some kind of romantic imagination or fantasy. For Einstein wonder lay in the fact that at certain moments the world becomes intelligible, that there is a possibility of resonance between our intelligence and the Cosmos, as if they were both animated by the same consciousness. Only after experiencing this wonder can we enter into the mystery of that which reigns over All.

Reigning over All At this stage we no longer perceive ourselves as separate from the world, but instead as a space where it is possible for the Universe to become conscious of itself. I am One with that which reigns over All. The same Spirit, the same Breath, the same Energy that moves mountains and stars, moves me. Here, I see myself only as a particular expression among others of the same All that is One. Here, in the living interconnectedness of all things, I know the immensity of Repose.

In Repose To Jews the meaning of the Sabbath is extremely important. After the time of work, of doing, of possessing, we must take the time to sit before God, to simply be. The theme of repose is just as important to gnostics. At last, thinking and feeling are united in this consciousness that animates all things, and we can find true repose.

What previously appeared as contradictory or in opposition now appears complementary, for a passage beyond duality has opened up. In the myriad reflections scattered upon all the ponds of the world, we discover a single moon. This living nonduality is the peace and repose that is endlessly sought during all stages of the initiatory path.

But the spiritual path requires us to live the quest fully and not to harbor fear or aversion toward trouble and upset, so that we find our home in this wonder and repose. May these logia of Jesus translated from the Gospel of Thomas fall on good soil and yield a bountiful harvest of peace, justice, and enlightenment. In his Forward, Jacob Needleman suggests that the proper work of the mind is to function at two levels: the level of silence and the level of expression, with the former being superior to the latter, and that the wisdom borne out of the depths of contemplative silence is what's dangerously lacking in the world today, what he calls the tragedy of our modern era.

This is the great danger of all ideologies, whether political, religious, or academic. Even if you have other versions of Thomas, it would be quite useful to also have this one, as there are some important differences. The rest of the book consists of the commentary on each of the one hundred fourteen proverbs and parables of 'Yeshua the Living One,' many of which seem as terse and enigmatic as Zen koans, the mystic-wisdom of an Eastern Sage.

The collection begins with this mysterious statement: 'Whoever lives the interpretation of these words will no longer taste death. In The Gospel of Thomas Jean-Yves Leloup presents not so much a commentary on these ancient sayings of Yeshua, but a meditation that arises from the tilled earth of our silence.

And it The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus said that only a poet can understand a poet. Who, then, must we be in order to understand Yeshua? The words in this text have the power to touch an unknown part of ourselves that brings with it an undeniable recognition of truth and hope.

Home 1 Books 2. Read an excerpt of this book! Add to Wishlist. Sign in to Purchase Instantly. Members save with free shipping everyday! See details. These logia, or sayings, were collected by Judas Didymus Thomas, whom some claim to be Jesus's closest disciple. No sooner was this gospel uncovered from the sands of Upper Egypt than scholars and theologians began to bury it anew in a host of conflicting The Gospel of

While some say it is a hodgepodge from the canonical gospels, for others it is the source text from which all the gospel writers drew their material and inspiration. In this new translation of the Gospel of Thomas, Jean-Yves Leloup shows that the Jesus recorded by the "infinitely skeptical and infinitely believing" Thomas has much in common with gnostics of non-dualistic schools.

Like them, Jesus preaches the coming of a new man, the genesis of the man of knowledge. In this gospel, Jesus describes a journey from limited to unlimited consciousness. The Jesus of Thomas invites us The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus drink deeply from the well of knowledge that lies within, not so that we may become good Christians but so we may attain the self-knowledge that will make each of us, too, a Christ.

He lives in France. Read an Excerpt Commentary Logion 2 Yeshua said: Whoever searches must continue to search until they find.


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There's not a whole lot that remains about them or their writings again because the Church hated them and tried to wipe them and their work out. The Gnostics stressed the role of knowledge in religious life. The book says they The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus that our intellectual power has grown faster than our moral power.

We need to become 'awakened' human beings. The spiritual emphasis has more to do with energy The book starts off discussing what Gnosticism is and why the Christian church really hated the Gnostics. The spiritual emphasis has more to do with energy than with thought. There is no need for a hierarchy of priests, etc. The book discusses where what remains of their writings were found.

The writings have nothing about a biography of Jesus and The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus miracles he performed. For some The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus the author then has a section pages 6 through 57 which have the original text on the left and a translation on the right.

The rest of the book has each translated section thus repeating them and a discussion of what that verse means. The stages in gnosis are: 1. The quest. Disturbance caused by the discovery. The presence. The hidden God within us.

James, Jesus's brother, was basically second-in-command. Physical, psychic and spiritual wholeness can be part of healing. We need to discover our 'true' selves. Hate is a form of darkness. Verse 33 basically says we need to walk the talk. Verse 37 tells us to dismiss preconceived notions. All things with pass. Section 45 says 'by their fruits ye shall know them. Verse 72 shows us that Jesus held women on an equal footing with men.

In fact there was a group of women that followed him and supported him and his movement financially. Mary Magdalene was one of these people and from what I have read it seems she really understood just what he was saying. The Gospel of Mary has a section where she was talking to the male disciples and a couple of them were very upset that Jesus seemed to have told her things he hadn't told them.

Some of the main points of the book include: A very important tenant is that we can hope to transform the world only The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus we can transform ourselves.

They emphasized the integration of both our male and female selves. The book also includes web links and a bibliography. Apr 24, Krista rated it it was amazing. They must also investigate documents which were rejected from the Book that I base my faith on - and what I find interesting is that most of what is written here agrees completely with the canonical Gospels.

There is mostly the gnostic interpretation, and the attention given to women in particular Mary Magdalene that causes it to be controversial. The language in translation is a bit more challenging, as well, meant to appeal to intelligent and spiritual believers, which may also turn one off.

May 17, Annalise rated it it was amazing Shelves: christianity. For every woman who will make herself male will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Feb 17, Nik Havert rated it it was amazing. This is a great read and a mind-opening approach to the teachings of Christ and the acceptance of the divine within all of us that waits for us to find it.
Jun 25, Anita rated it it liked it Shelves: non-fiction. Another book of sayings of Jesus. Some familiar, most hard to understand--maybe a The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus new age-ish? Dec 16, Ay tac Koray Koc rated it it was amazing. This book is a real gem. Leloup shows the way for attaining Godhead, which is inside us. Some people, like Leloup, have extraordinary grasping and understanding.

Sep 22, Amos Smith rated it it was amazing Shelves: top-books-mysticism. Thomas is the most reputable of the non-canonical gospels in scholarly circles. It's very early. Some claim as early as 30ACE It is also novel in that there is no mention of the crucifixion and resurrection.

It is simply a series of wisdom sayings, many of which are unique and non-dual. In the East, where there wasn't so much persecution of the Church by the Romans, crucifixion and martyrdom became less central. A good translation! Jan 09, Mike rated it it was amazing Shelves: spirituality.

I find Jean-Yves Leloup's commentary illuminating and insightful. I have spent much time with Thomas already, but had not gotten to Leloup's presentation until now. I value his clarifying insights, which made this a page-turner I almost couldn't put down. Despite the only Goodreads description of this title being in Portuguese, I read the English version. Apr 04, Danic Curley rated it it was amazing. This is it. Akan rated it really liked it Aug 06, Terri Kozowski rated it it was amazing Jun 02, John Loughran rated it really liked it Jun 04, Elisabeth rated it it was amazing Mar 05, Lydia rated it it was amazing Oct 24, Diego rated it it was amazing Jan 16, Perry rated it really liked it Aug 03, Cena Dunham rated it really liked it Apr 17, Ryan rated it it was ok May 04, Charlotte Yates rated it it was amazing Feb 24, Tommy Kelner rated it it was amazing Apr 16, Ben H rated it it was amazing Mar 04, Kristine rated it really liked it Sep 30,

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Instead it is a collection of his teachings--what he actually said. These logia, or sayings, were collected by Judas The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus Thomas, whom some claim to be Jesus's closest disciple. No sooner was this gospel uncovered from the sands of Upper Egypt than scholars and theologians began to bury it anew in a host of conflicting interpretations and polemics.

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Like them, Jesus preaches the coming of a new man, the genesis of the man of knowledge. In this gospel, Jesus describes a journey from limited to unlimited consciousness. The Jesus of Thomas invites us to drink deeply from the well of knowledge that lies within, not so that we may become good Christians but so we may attain the self-knowledge that will make each of us, too, a Christ.

He lives in France. The words in this text have the power to touch an unknown part of ourselves that brings with it an undeniable recognition of truth and hope. May these logia of Jesus translated from the Gospel of Thomas fall on good soil and yield a bountiful harvest of peace, justice, and enlightenment. It is therefore impossible to speak of "the authentic words of Jesus." Following the complete text of the Gospel of Thomas, presented in both Coptic and an elegantly translated English by Joseph Rowe, from the French Leloup delicately unfolds its petals of meaning, logion saying by logion.

Simultaneously inspiring and enlightening, his interpretation far surpasses mere exegesis, instead intricately melding the now with the then, the self with the Christ. Paraphrases from Meister Eckhart intermingle with quotations from Kafka and Dostoyevski, which coincide with wide-ranging religious references--from Judaism and Greek Orthodoxy to Krishnamurti and Shankara.

If ever a translation of Thomas's gospel merited a place in a reader's back pocket, this is it. In his Forward, Jacob Needleman suggests that the proper work of the mind is The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus function at two levels: the level of silence and the level of expression, with the former being superior to the latter, and that the wisdom borne out of the depths of contemplative silence is what's dangerously lacking in the world today, what he calls 'the tragedy of our modern era.

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Tell us what you like and we'll recommend books you'll love. Sign up and get a free eBook! Foreword by Jacob Needleman. Table of Contents Excerpt Rave The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus Reviews. About The Book. Commentary Logion 2 Yeshua said: Whoever searches must continue to search until they find. When they find, they will be disturbed; and being disturbed, they will marvel and will reign over All. Matt — 8; Luke — This logion describes the major stages in gnosis, which constitute a true initiatory process.

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In our very core there is a Presence that needs to be recognized and affirmed. Being Troubled and Upset The recognition of Being troubles us and upsets us, for awakening to this dimension forces us to question our ordinary, so-called normal view of the world. The experience of Being is a radical questioning of our view of reality, a view conditioned by the conceptual means with which we think we understand reality. This discovery that our habitual ways of conceiving the world are no more than that--habits--cannot occur without trouble and upset.

The more we accept this trouble as a necessary stage in the evolution of our consciousness, however, the more we are led, little by little, toward wonder and marveling. Marveling In the fourth century C. In our own time, Einstein remarked that only idiots are incapable of wonder--and we might define idiots as those who forsake their quest, thinking that they know.

The more we discover, the more we marvel and wonder. But these two are The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus some kind of romantic imagination or fantasy. For Einstein wonder lay in the fact that at certain moments the world becomes intelligible, that there is a possibility of resonance between our intelligence and the Cosmos, as if they were both animated by the same consciousness. Only after experiencing this wonder can we enter into the mystery of that which reigns over All.

Reigning over All At this stage we no longer perceive ourselves as separate from the world, but instead as a space where it is possible for the Universe to become conscious of itself. I am One with that which reigns over All. The same Spirit, the same Breath, the same Energy that moves mountains and stars, moves me. Here, I see myself only as a particular expression among others of The Gospel of Thomas: The Gnostic Wisdom of Jesus same All that is One.

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