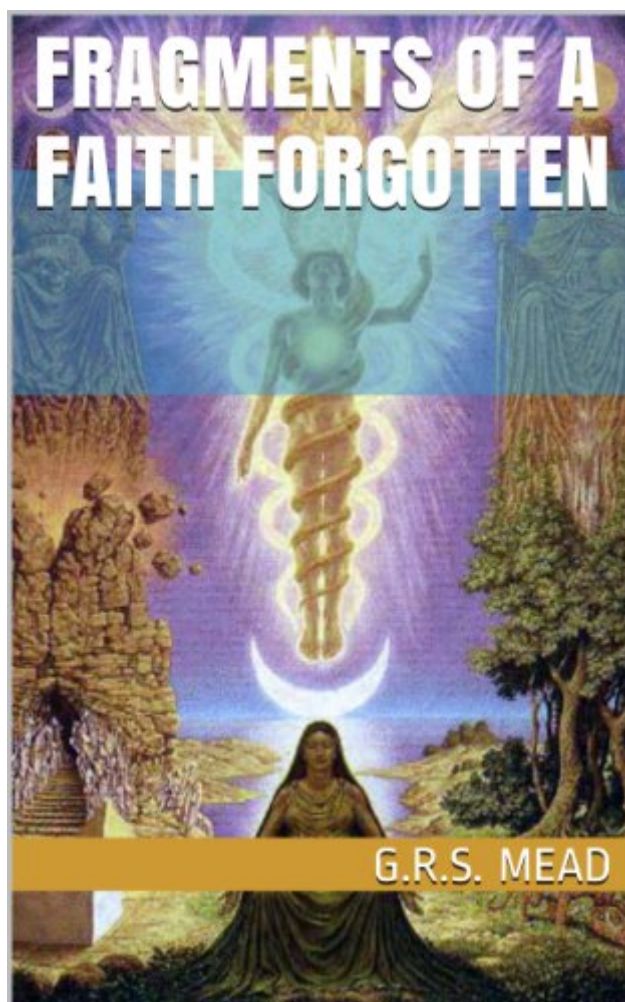


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# Fragments Of A Faith Forgotten



## Synopsis

This is one of the best books about the Gnostics written prior to the Nag Hammadi discoveries. G.R.S. Mead, who also translated the Pistis Sophia, summarizes what was known about the Gnostics at the turn of the 20th century. At that time, a better picture of the Gnostics was emerging, based on several papyri which had been recently discovered. Although there had been a lot of academic research on this subject, most of the key works were in German or French. Therefore this book and *The Gnostics and Their Remains* are the only two major books in English on this subject currently in the public domain. It was becoming increasingly obvious that early Christianity was a wide spectrum of sects, the record of which had been subsequently forgotten or suppressed by the Church. The Gnostics had deep connections with ancient Mystery religions, Pythagoreanism, Hinduism and other ancient beliefs. Most of the sacred texts of Gnosticism were long lost or survived only in small quotes. Mead draws on information provided both by the Early Church Fathers hostile to Gnosticism, and the available corpus of actual Gnostic documents at the time, cryptic and fragmentary as it was. He includes excerpts from previously untranslated manuscripts, and extensive summaries of the Pistis Sophia and the writings of the critics of Gnosticism. This book is required reading for anyone who wants to understand Gnosticism and the development of early Christianity.

----- Title Page  
Synopsis of Contents  
Illustrations  
Index  
Introduction  
Introduction Prolegomena  
Some Rough Outlines of the Background of the Gnosis  
Preliminary Considerations  
Greece  
Egypt  
Philo on the Contemplative Life  
Jewry  
Alexandria  
General and Gnostic Christianity  
The Evolution of Catholic Christianity  
The Ebionites  
The Essenes  
The Tendencies of Gnosticism  
The Literature and Sources of Gnosticism  
The Gnosis According to its Foes  
The Gnosis According to its Foes  
Some Gnostic Fragments Recovered from the Polemical Writings of the Church Fathers  
The "Simonians"  
Dositheus  
Simon Magus.  
Menander  
Saturninus  
The "Ophites"  
An Anonymous System From Irenaeus  
An Early "Ophite" System  
The Naasseni  
The Perata  
The Sethians  
The Docetae  
Monimus  
The So-Called Cainites  
The Carpocratians  
Epiphanius  
Cerinthus  
Nicolaus  
Cerdo  
Marcion  
Apelles  
The Basilidian Gnosis  
The Valentinian Movement  
Valentinus  
i. From a Letter  
ii. From a Letter  
iii. From the Letter to Agathangelos  
iv. From a Homily  
v. A few Sentences preserved in the Controversial Matter of Clement...  
vi. From the Letter on the Community of Friends  
vii. A very doubtful Fragment from Eulogius of Alexandria writing at the end of the Sixth Century  
viii. The Myth which Valentinus made  
ix. From a Psalm  
Some Outlines of Gnostology  
Hippolytus's account of One of the Variants of the Sophia-Myth  
The Number-Symbolism of Marcus  
Ptolemy  
Heracleon  
Bardesanes  
The Hymn of the Robe of Glory  
Some Traces of the Gnosis in the Uncanonical Acts  
Foreword  
From The Acts of Thomas  
From The Acts of

John From The Acts of Andrew From The Travels of Peter The Gnosis According to Its Friends The Gnosis According to Its Friends The Askew and Bruce Codices Summary of the Contents of the So-Called Pistis Sophia Treatise Summary of the Extracts From the Books of the Saviour Summary of the Fragments of the Book of the Great Logos According to the Mystery Selections from the Untitled Apocalypse of the Codex Brucianus Notes on the Contents of the Bruce and Askew Codices The AkhmÄ«m Codex Some Forgotten Sayings

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## **Customer Reviews**

Nobody will read through Mead's text but use it episodically to check on or find specific information. And there is no lack of it. Mead has patiently accumulated all the information he could gather on side-track Christianity with all its many shades. The variations on the theme of non-orthodox Christianity are incredibly profuse, as even a birds-eye view of the book reveals. This online version is however not as easy to handle as could be expected.

This is a book I own in hard copy and Kindle. It is a book to open your mind to other possibilities. Really a great read.

A very good translation and compilation of the original text. Makes it much easier to follow and understand.

Biblical knowledge from the perspective of inner reflection instead of searching outside oneself for the Truth. The Truth is within us, not in external worship.

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