EARLY CHURCH HISTORY 2021

INTRODUCTION

Josephus (A.D. 37-100) and Philo (20 B.C.- A.D. 50) are two important Jewish sources about the Judaism of Jesus's time. Older translations of their works are available on the Internet.

Apostolic Fathers: This is the title given to those 1st and 2st century Christian writers, whose works were read and valued by the early church. The corpus usually includes the following: I Clement (ca. 95); II Clement (ca. 150); Epistle of Barnabas (2st century); Epistle to Diognetus (late 2st or 3st century); the Epistles of Ignatius (ca. 115); the Shepherd of Hermas (ca. 145); the Martyrdom of Polycarp (d. 156); Didache, or the Teaching of the Twelve Apostles (late 1st or early 2st century); and the Epistle of Polycarp to the Philippians (ca. 150).

Early Church Fathers: Usually refers to those church leaders who wrote after the 2nd century. The designation Fathers of the Church usually refers to those who wrote in the first 6 centuries. Some of the earlier and more influential ones were Clement of Alexandria (c. 150-215); Cyprian (d. c. 258); Eusebius (270-340); Hippolytus (c. 170-236); Irenaeus (c. 130-200); Justin Martyr (c. 100-165); Origen (c. 185-255); and Tertullian (c. 160-230).

BIBLIOGRAPHIES

R.R.281.016/B582. Biblia Patristica; Index des Citations et Allusions Bibliques dans la Littérature Patristique. 7v. Paris: Editions du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, 1975-2000. Each volume is arranged in canonical order. Lists references to a passage by church fathers under the biblical texts. The project was to cover from the 1st through the 9th century, but only 7 volumes were published and a supplementary volume on Philo in 1982. See back page for instructions on using this set.

R.R.016.27/B582. Bibliographia Patristica. 35v. Berlin: de Gruyter, 1956-96.

An extensive classified bibliography of books, articles, and dissertations on patristics covering up to A.D. 657 in the West and 787 in the East. Materials about church fathers are listed in the first "Auctores" section (without the arrow to the left) alphabetically according to their **Latin** name. Vol. 32-35 published in 1996 listed publications for 1988-90.

R.R.016.2301/R665. Robinson, Thomas A. *The Early Church: An Annotated Bibliography of Literature in English*. Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1993.

"Non-technical survey of recent scholarly debate on major topics important to an understanding of the early church." Contains 26 chapters, each with a short introductory essay and abstracts of books and major articles dealing with the church from the beginning of the second century roughly to the end of the sixth. Contains author and subject index.

*R.R.220.60915/K16. Kannengiesser, Charles. *Handbook of Patristic Exegesis: The Bible in Ancient Christianity*. 2v. Leiden: Brill, 2004.

Part A is a historical treatment of patristic exegesis with one chapter (271-373) on how "the fathers received, interpreted, and taught most books or corpora of the Bible." Part B treats chronologically (through the 7th century) each church father providing a short introduction to each one's life & treatment of Scripture and the works in which he interpreted Scripture. Each essay is followed by a list of editions & translations of his works and a bibliography (some very extensive for the more significant fathers) of critical studies on the father and his works, particularly his use of Scripture. List of abbreviations in front of Vol. I. Both volumes have an "alphabetical list of principal authors & anonymous works discussed" in the front.

R.R.281.1/D328c/1995. Dekkers, Eligius. *Clavis Patrum Latinorum*, 4th ed. Steenbrugis Abbatia: Sancti Petri, 1995.

A bibliography indicating where the Latin texts of the works of the Latin Church Fathers from the 3d to the 8th century can be found. Generally arranged chronologically by father's dates. Includes indexes of authors & titles, subjects, and first lines.

R.R.016.2811/G298. Geerard, Maurice. *Clavis Patrum Graecorum*. 5v. Turnhout: Brepols, 1974-87. A bibliography indicating where the Greek texts of the works of the Greek Church Fathers have been published. Arranged chronologically by father's dates. Vols. 1-3 cover the church fathers from the 1st through 8th centuries. Vol. 4 contains the catenae and councils. Vol. 5 is an index. A supplement (R.R.016.2811/G298/Supp.) published in 1998 lists locations of texts published since the original set. An Addenda volume (IIIA) published in 2003 lists additional locations (not included in the Supplement) for those works in vol. 3. Jacques Noret is editing a 2nd ed. (2003-). Vol. 3 & 4 have been published.

*R.R.281.1/Q1. Quasten, Johannes. *Patrology*. 4v. Westminster, MD: Newman Press, 1950-86. A handbook briefly summarizing the lives, works, and teachings of the Church Fathers up to the Council of Chalcedon (A.D. 451). Provides information on the following at the end of the discussion of each work: editions, translations, and studies. List of abbreviations in the front of all volumes except vol. 2. Includes Scripture, ancient author, modern author, and subject indexes.

R.R.281.1/Q1e. Di Berardino, Angelo. *The Eastern Fathers from the Council of Chalcedon (451) to John of Damascus (750)*. Cambridge: J. Clarke, 2006. Completes the work begun by Quasten in the previous set.

R.R.016.281/H197. Halton, Thomas, and Robert D. Sider. *A Decade of Patristic Scholarship: 1970-1979.* 2v. Pittsburgh, PA: Classical Association of the Atlantic States, Inc., 1982-83. A bibliography of books and articles organized on the basis of Quasten. Index of Fathers and topics located in back. Uses abbreviations listed in *Bibliographia Patristica* (R.R.016.27/B582) and *L'Année Philologique*. (R.R.016.88/A613).

TEXTS

R.R.281.1/M635g. Migne. Series Graeca. 161v.

Links to downloadable PDF's of volumes at http://patristica.net/graeca/PG-volumes.htm. Click on the volume you want and then again on the title adjacent to "titulus." A list of volumes and authors are at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrologia_Graeca

R.R.281.1/M635L. Migne. Series Latina. 221v.

Links to downloadable PDF's of volumes https://www.roger-pearse.com/weblog/patrologia-latina-pl-volumes-available-online/ A list of volumes and authors are at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrologia_Latina

TRANSLATIONS

Note: All the writings of the church fathers have not been translated into English. The series listed below contain some of the major translations.

*Christian Classics Ethereal Library (http://www.ccel.org/fathers.html)

Provides the full text of the translations published in the *Ante-Nicene Fathers* and *Select Library of the Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers of the Christian Church*.

Early Christian Writings (http://www.earlychristianwritings.com)
Provides the full text of the translations published in the *Ante-Nicene Fathers*.

*R.R.281.3/An86. *Ante-Nicene Fathers*. 10v. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1951-57. Reprinted by Eerdmans in 1956. Contains translations of the Fathers down to A.D. 325. Subject index in each volume and general index in vol. 9.

R.R.281.4/N514. A Select Library of the Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers of the Christian Church. 28v. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1952-56.

The first series includes writings up to and including the principal works of Augustine and Chrysostom; the second series contains the chief works of the fathers from Eusebius to John of Damascus and from Ambrose to Gregory the Great.

230.09/L697. *Library of Christian Classics*. 26v. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1953-69. Selection of works from the early church fathers through the end of the 16th century.

281.1/An541. *Ancient Christian Writers*. 74v. to date. Westminster, MD: Newman Press, 1946-. Each volume includes an introduction, a new translation, and extensive scholarly notes and indexes. Aims at philological precision and theological understanding.

281.1/F269. *Fathers of the Church*. 142v. to date. New York: Cima Pub. Co.; Washington: Catholic University Press of America, 1947- .

An attempt to provide contemporary English translations of Latin and Greek patristic writers from the Apostolic Fathers of the 1st and 2nd centuries through St. John of Damascus of the 8th century. Less technical than *Ancient Christian Writers* with fewer footnotes and shorter introductions.

281.1/F269m. *The Fathers of the Church: Mediaeval Continuation*. 19v. to date. Washington: Catholic University of America Press, 1989-

A continuation of the previous set for authors in the medieval period.

Loeb Classical Library. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1912- .

Has the Latin or Greek text with English translation on opposite page. Click on Loeb Classical Library icon on HST section of the HST website for access to full text. Enter person's name in the search box. HST library's print holdings are scattered throughout the stacks. Search the online catalog by entering "Loeb Classical Library" in the keyword search field. Sometimes the author may be entered under his Latin name.

Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. 29v. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1998-2010. Each volume contains the text of Scripture, line by line, accompanied by the relevant commentary in English from the church Fathers from the 2d to the 8th century. Covers all the canonical books of the Bible and the Apocrypha.

Ancient Christian Doctrine. 5v. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2009-2010.

A collection of patristic comments on the key phrases of the Nicene Creed. All quotes are given in English with citations to the original sources. Each section contains two overviews. One puts the excerpts in their historical context and the second provides a summary of the section's arguments. Gauged for "professionals" and "lay readers." Each volume contains an outline of contents, list of ancient authors & texts cited, author/writings index, and a Scripture index. The titles of the volumes begin with the phrase "We Believe in": 1. One God (231.1/W361); 2. One Lord Jesus Christ (232.8/W361); 3. The Crucified and Risen Lord (232.96/W361); 4. The Holy Spirit (231.309/W361); and One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church (262.72/W361).

Ancient Christian Texts. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, Press, 2009-

A series of new translations of full-length commentaries and sermons based on biblical books or extended scriptural passages by early church leaders, most of which are presented in English for the first time. Each volume includes an introduction with discussions regarding the authorship of the text, "the importance of the biblical book for other patristic interpreters, the availability or paucity of patristic comment, and any salient points of debate between the Fathers." Footnotes "assist the reader with obscurities and potential confusions." Sixteen volumes have been published to date.

DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS

R.R.220.93/S664d. Smith, William, and Samuel Cheetham. *Dictionary of Christian Antiquities*. 2v. London: J. Murray, 1875-80.

Long signed articles by 77 contributors on the church's organization, social life of the Christians, their worship, sacred places, symbolism, sacred days & seasons, and graves. Covers period from time of the apostles to the age of Charlemagne (ca. A.D. 800).

R.R.922.1/Sm68d. Smith, William, and Henry Wace. *Dictionary of Christian Biography, Literature, Sects and Doctrines*. 4v. London: J. Murray, 1877-87.

Long signed articles on all persons connected with the history of the church, all the literature connected with them, and the controversies in which they were engaged. Covers from apostolic times to the age of Charlemagne (ca. A.D. 800). A dated source, but the only place to find information on some of the minor figures of the period.

R.R.203/Ox2/2005. Cross, F. L., and E. A. Livingstone. *Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*. 3rd ed., revised. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005.

Most comprehensive one volume dictionary of the Christian church. Contains over 6,000 unsigned articles from over 900 contributors. Most articles contain bibliographies (some extensive & updated for the 3rd ed.). Emphasis on Western Europe with stress on Anglican and Catholic Churches. Not as strong coverage of American Christianity, but 3rd ed. reveals increased coverage of evangelical figures. For the revision of the 3rd ed. "a large number of small changes were made to reflect events and shifts in scholarly opinion" since 1997. In some cases new articles replace earlier ones, but the main changes are in the bibliographies.

R.R.203/N532/1. Douglas, James Dixon. *New International Dictionary of the Christian Church*. Rev. ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1978.

Contains over 4,800 brief signed articles (many with bibliographies) by 186 evangelical contributors on the whole scope of church history. Editors tried to adopt "a middle path between academic and popular" introductions to subjects. Better coverage of North American and world Christianity than the *Oxford Dictionary*.

R.R.270.03/W532/2008. Benedetto, Robert, ed. *The New Westminster Dictionary of Church History*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2008-

Vol. I: The Early, Medieval, and Reformation Eras contains 1419 signed articles (with bibliographies) by 203 contributors. The aim is to provide "an immediate, accurate, introductory definition and explanation concerning the major personalities, events, facts, and movements in the history of Christianity." Vol. 2 will cover the post-1700 period.

*R.R.270.103/E56/1997. Ferguson, William Everett. *Encyclopedia of Early Christianity*. 2nd ed. 2v. New York: Garland Publ., 1997.

Contains over 1,200 (250 of which are new to 2nd ed.) non-technical signed articles by over 160 (25 of which are new to 2nd ed.) authors on "persons, places, doctrines, practices, art, liturgy, heresies, and schisms" from the life of Christ to approximately A.D. 600. Articles range in length from brief paragraphs to in-depth essays of 4,000 words or more. Articles contain bibliographies, which have been greatly expanded and updated for the 2nd ed. Contains a chronological table and extensive index.

*R.R.270.103/N973. Di Berardino, Angelo, ed. *Encyclopedia of Ancient Christianity*. 3v. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2014.

A translation of *Nuovo Dizionario Patristico e di Antichità Cristiane* (2006-2010), the first edition of which was translated into English in 1992 as *Encyclopedia of the Early Church*. Contains 3220 signed entries (with bibliographies) by 266 scholars covering the period "from Christianity's origins to Bede (d. 735) in the West and John of Damascus (d. ca. 749) in the Greek East, with detailed emphasis on the first four centuries of Christian history." "Updates and expands on previous Italian and English-language

editions with the addition of more than 500 new articles," including 30 articles exclusive to this English translation. Includes extensive cross-references and a list of all articles in the back each of volume.

R.R.704.9482/E26. Finney, Paul Corby. *The Eerdmans Encyclopedia of Early Christian Art and Archaeology*. 3v, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2016.

Contains 1455 signed articles (with bibliographies) by more than 400 scholars. "Offers readers a basic orientation to early Christian architecture, sculpture, painting, mosaic, and portable artifacts created roughly between AD 200 and 600 in Africa, Asia, and Europe." Vol. 3: Color photos and maps.

R.R.911.3/I87. Di Berardino, Angelo, ed. *Historical Atlas of Ancient Christianity*. St. Davids, PA: ICCS Press, 2013.

"Provides a geographical and historical context for the key events, people and trends of the ancient Christian church" according to the organization of the Roman Empire up to the 8th century. Also includes maps and treatments of Christians outside the Roman Empire (e.g., Persia, India, Georgia, Ireland, Scotland, Gothia, etc.). The first section contains 59 maps. Includes color illustrations of principal Christian monuments, some inscriptions, and iconography of some Church Fathers. Bibliographies throughout the text with indexes of names contained in the maps, ancient/modern names, and modern/ancient names

*R.R.270.103/D554. Bercot, David, ed. *Dictionary of Early Christian Beliefs*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Pub., 1998.

Contains quotations from the early church fathers on over 700 topics. References (volume & page number) are to the ten-volume *Ante-Nicene Fathers*, but quotations have been rendered into contemporary English. Citations are representative, not comprehensive, and arranged chronologically. Includes a "Who's Who in the Ante-Nicene Fathers," which contains biographical sketches of the fathers cited.

R.R.270.103/L679. Dopp, Siegmar, and Wilhelm Geerlings. *Dictionary of Early Christian Literature*. New York: Herder and Herder, 2000.

A translation of *Lexikon der antiken christlichen Literatur* published in 1998. Contains signed articles by 110 scholars primarily on the early church fathers, but also on literary genre, schools, languages, N.T. pseudepigrapha, and Nag Hammadi texts. Coverage is through John of Damascus in the East (d. before A.D. 754) and Isidore of Seville in the West (d. A.D. 636). Articles treat life of church father and his works. Bibliographies following articles first list critical editions and translations of the father's works and then secondary literature about him or his works. Includes index of names.

R.R.200.9303/E56. Neusner, Jacob, and Alan J. Avery-Peck, eds. *Encyclopedia of Religious and Philosophical Writings in Late Antiquity*. Leiden, Brill, 2007.

Contains signed articles by 46 contributors on over 700 writings concerned with theological, philosophical, and religio-historical issues and composed between the fourth century B.C.E. and the sixth century A.D. Arranged alphabetically according to the most commonly used title. Includes "texts of Greco-Roman paganism, Gnostic texts from the Nag Hammadi corpus, Judeo-Greek and Judeo-Coptic texts, the Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha, the Talmudic literature, Samaritan writings, the Targumic literature, the Qumran library, as well as the earliest writings of Christianity through the Church Fathers." "Entries indicate the work's authorship, language, place & date of composition, and provide the details of extant manuscripts and printed editions. The body of each entry summarizes the work's content, examines its religious or philosophical importance, and sets out the work's social setting and relevant historical context. Articles conclude with a statement of the work's influence upon subsequent religious thinking." Bibliographies following entries list texts, translations, and treatments of the works. Includes index to ancient authors.

R.R.230.0922/H646. Hill, Jonathan. *Dictionary of Theologians to 1308*. Cambridge, England: James Clarke, 2010.

Contains over 300 entries on "every significant Christian theologian from the first century to the death of John Duns Scotus in 1308." "The purpose of the book is to give clear overviews of the life and theology of the figures it describes, and also to provide comprehensive bibliographies of their works and secondary literature concerning them." The entries give an overview of their life and works and summary of their leading ideas. The bibliographies following the articles indicate original language editions of their works

and English translations. Most secondary book literature in the bibliographies dates back to the middle of the 20th century. For those with extensive literature Hill omits most journal articles and lists only the most important books earlier than the 1980s. Includes indexes of people, subjects, councils & synods, and Scripture.

R.R.230.11/M148. McGuckin, John Anthony. *The Westminster Handbook to Patristic Theology*. The Westminster Handbooks to Christian Theology. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2004. Contains articles (with bibliographies) on the major personalities & writers, international controversies, key technical terms, and cultural themes & movements of the first 8 centuries of the church. Words in bold type within articles serve as cross references to other articles. A "Thematic Guide" (xiii-xv) groups topics in the Handbook by century and theological idea.

270.2/Y71/2010. Young, Frances Margaret, and Andrew Teal. *From Nicaea to Chalcedon: A Guide to the Literature and Its Background*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2010.

Contains "a series of essays on a number of significant literary figures, laymen, bishops and heretics" from 325 to 451. There are suggestions for further reading within the chapters and a classified bibliography (344-86) in the back of the most important material for graduate students.

EARLY CHURCH HISTORY JOURNALS

Early Christianity. 2010-

Published quarterly. "Concerned with early Christianity as a historical phenomenon; covers not only the first Christian century but also the second." "Strives to reflect a multiplicity of contexts: communal structures, social norms, discursive practices, points of conflict, material remains, and much" more. Each issue contains sections devoted to new books, new discoveries, and new projects. At least one German article among the 4 or 5 articles per issue. Indexed in the ATLA Religion Database without full text. HST has a complete print run (PER/270.1/E12).

Journal of Early Christian Studies. 1993-

The quarterly journal of the North American Patristics Society. "Focuses on the study of Christianity in the context of late ancient societies and religions from C.E. 100-700." Each issue features an extensive book review section. Indexed in the ATLA Religion Database without full text. HST has a complete print run (PER/270.1/J86).

Vigiliae Christianae: A Review of Early Christian Life and Language. 1947-

Published 5 times a year. "Contains articles and short notes of an [sic] historical, cultural, linguistic or philological nature on early Christian literature written after the New Testament, as well as on Christian epigraphy and archaeology." Has "extensive book review section giving a critical analysis of other titles related to the field." Full text in ATLA Religion Database from 1947 on (excludes last 24 months). HST library has a complete print run (PER/270.1/V677).

BIBLIA PATRISTICA

R.R.281.016/B582. Biblia Patristica; Index des Citations et Allusions Bibliques dans la Littérature Patristique.

- v. 1 covers the first two centuries
- v. 2 covers 3rd century, omitting Origen
- v. 3 Origen
- v. 4 Eusebius, Cyril of Jerusalem & Epiphanius
- v. 5 Basil of Caesarea, Gregory of Nazianzus, Gregory of Nyssa & Amphilochius
- v. 6 Hilary of Poitiers, Ambrose of Milan & Ambrosiaster Supplement: Philo
- v. 7 Didyme d'Alexandrie

Each textual reference is accompanied by the specific data pertaining to the patristic passage from which that text originates--book, chapter and section of the patristic work, and the page and line of the edition-selected by the editors as the best available edition of that particular patristic work.

From volume 1:	(Book)	(Chapter)	(Section)	(Page)	(Line)
	Lib.	Cap.	Par.	Pag.	Lin.
MT. 5:31-32 Tert	Marc 5	7	6	683	9

Page 43 reveals that the reference is to Tertullian. *Adversus Marcionem*. Kroymann (Aem), CCL 1(1954) 441-726.

The critical text cited is that of Kroymann in the series CCL (Corpus Christianorum, Series Latina). In this edition the reference will be found on page 683, line 9.

The library does not have this work by Tertullian in the CCL but has it in the Migne series.

The library has an English translation of this work. The Oxford Early Christian Texts series has both the Latin text and the English translation.

From volume 3 - Origen:

Matt. 18:20 Matt. Com. 13,15 (216, 30)

Page 23 reveals that the reference is to *Commentarii in Matthaeum* Klostermann (E), Benz (E), GCS 40 (1935)

The critical text cited is that of Klostermann and Benz in Die Griechischen Christlichen Schriftsteller der ersten drei Jahrhunderte. The reference is to book 13, chapter 15, page 216, line 30.

An English translation of this citation is in the Ante-Nicene Fathers, volume 10, book 13, chapter 15.