STUDIES ON EARLY CHRISTIAN APOCRYPHA

Edited by J.N. Bremmer (editor-in-chief), I. Czachesz, A. Hilhorst, M. Pesthy and L. Roig Lanzillotta.

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The Pseudo-Clementines

JAN N. BREMMER (ed.)

PEETERS

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Contents

VI .	CONTENTS	
	M. Pesthy, Duae Viae in the Pseudo-Clementine Homilies	157
X	C.B. Horn, The Pseudo-Clementine Homilies on Challenges of the Conversion of Families	<i>the</i> 170
XI	J. Bolyki, Recognitions in the Pseudo-Clementina	191
XII	C. Jedan, Philosophy Superseded? The Doctrine of Free Will in the Pseudo-Clementine Recognitions	200
XIII	T. Adamik, Figures of Speech and Reason in Recognitions	the 217
XIV	F.St. Jones, Jewish Tradition on the Sadducees in Pseudo-Clementines	the 227
XV	A.L.A. Hogeterp, Proclaiming the Gospel in the Pseudo Clementine Recognitions. Historical Settings and Com municative Intention of Speeches in Recognitions	
XVI	M. Vielberg, Centre and Periphery in the Ancient and Christian Novel – A Comparison between the Pseudo-Clementine Homilies and Recognitions	the 255
XVII	A. Hilhorst, The Chapter on Clement in Jacobus de Voragine's Golden Legend	285
XVII	I J.N. Bremmer, Bibliography Pseudo-Clementines	307
Index	of names, subjects and passages	326

Preface

Jewish and Christian apocryphal literature exercised a profound influence on European thought that extended beyond Antiquity and the Middle Ages into modernity. Among the early Christian writings the *Pseudo-Clementines* occupy a special place, due to their complicated origin and their relevance in reconstructing Jewish Christianity.

The Studies on Early Christian Apocrypha series originated in the early 1990s with the collaboration of Professor Hans Roldanus (then Head of the Department of Church History of the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies at University of Groningen) and Professor Kálmán Tóth (then Head of the Department of Old Testament at Károli Gáspár Reformed University, Budapest). Between 1995 and 1999, we concentrated on the major Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles, publishing five volumes on the Acts of John (1995), Paul and Thecla (1996), Peter (1998), Andrew (2000) and Thomas (2001). In 2000 we started a new research period and proceeded with conferences on early Christian apocalyptic literature and the pseudo-Clementines. This work has yielded its first fruits in the form of volumes on the The Apocalypse of Peter (2003) and The Visio Pauli and the Gnostic Apocalypse of Paul (2007).

In this tenth volume of the *series* we present the proceedings of the eighth and ninth conferences of the Dutch-Hungarian research project on apocryphal literature. This volume starts with two chapters which discuss the problems of the date, place, text and genre of the *Pseudo-Clementines*. The majority of chapters focus on various aspects and passages of the *Homilies* and *Recognitions*. In the *Homilies* we look at philanthropy, the relationship between Judaism and Hellenism, Appion and Annoubion, Enochic traditions, Orphic cosmogonies,