

## *Contents*

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page xi</i>
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xvi

1	Irenaeus: argument and imagery	1
1.1	Life and work	1
1.2	Irenaeus philosophus?	7
1.3	The unexpected jungle	9
1.4	Source criticism and conceptual bankruptcy	10
1.5	Content, contour and conflict	12
1.6	Truth and beauty: the two criteria	18
1.7	The four concepts	20
1.8	Argument and images	22

### PART I DIVINE INTELLECT

2	One God: Intellect and love	27
2.1	Attributes of God: from opulence to omnipresence	28
2.2	Metaphysic of mind	32
2.3	Divine Intellect in Irenaeus	38
2.4	Plotinus	44
2.5	Knowledge, love and unity of the divine Intellect	46

### PART II ECONOMY

3	One creator: <i>ut sapiens architectus et maximus rex</i>	51
3.1	Two analogies – wise architect and sovereign king	51
3.2.1	Sovereign king	52
3.2.2	Enclosing, not enclosed	55
3.2.3	One creator, no regress	56
3.3.1	Wise architect – word and plan	58

3.3.2	Wise architect – the configuration of created things	60
3.4	Plotinus' argument for a good creator	62
3.5	God needs nothing	64
3.6.1	<i>Creatio ex nihilo</i> : concept without formula (Justin)	65
3.6.2	<i>Creatio ex nihilo</i> : formula without concept (Basilides)	68
3.6.3	<i>Creatio ex nihilo</i> : formula and concept (Irenaeus)	69
3.7	Immediacy	73
4	Economy: God as architect of time	74
4.1	Economy and divine architect	75
4.2.1	Economy as accustoming	80
4.2.2	Economy as progressive revelation	82
4.2.3	Economy as the ascent of man	85
4.2.4	Economy as polemic: history as knowledge	86
4.3	Trinity and the hands of God	89
4.4	River and movement	93
PART III RECAPITULATION		
5	Recapitulation: correction and perfection	97
5.1	Recapitulation, a complex concept	97
5.2	Correction	100
5.3.1	Perfection of being	104
5.3.2	Joy in truth; perfection of truth	108
5.3.3	Perfection of goodness	109
5.4.1	Christology: two Adams	110
5.4.2	Word of God	111
5.4.3	One mediator	112
5.4.4	Father and son	113
5.4.5	The name	114
5.5	The totality of recapitulation	115
6	Recapitulation: inauguration and consummation	117
6.1.1	Inauguration of new life	117
6.1.2	Life through the cross	118
6.2.1	Christ as head and cornerstone	121
6.2.2	The unity of the church	123
6.3	The economy of apostolic truth	126
6.4	New way of life	130
6.5	Baptism, eucharist and ministry	132
6.6.1	Consummation: one God alone will reign	134
6.6.2	When Christ shall come again	135
6.6.3	Resurrection	136

*List of contents*

ix

6.6.4	Communion and separation	137
6.6.5	Antichrist and chiliasm	138
PART IV PARTICIPATION		
7	Logic and the rule of truth: participation in truth	143
7.1	Canon and criterion	143
7.2	Compendium of truth	145
7.3	Charisma and truth	146
7.4	What does the rule say?	149
7.5	Conversion, recovery of reason, faith and sight	150
7.6.1	Heresy	150
7.6.2	Contemporary assessment	153
7.6.3	Sophistry	154
7.7	Parody: theology for horses	156
7.8	<i>Consonantia</i>	159
8	Scripture as mind and will of God: participation in truth	162
8.1.1	From prophetic spirit to eternal word	163
8.1.2	Mind and will of God	165
8.1.3	Prophecy: from prediction to presence	167
8.1.4	A rebirth of images	169
8.2.1	The unity and truth of scripture	170
8.2.2	Scripture and tradition	172
8.2.3	Principles of interpretation	172
8.4	Images of the economy: the four Gospels	175
8.5.1	Formation of the Christian bible	178
8.5.2	Canon of scripture	180
8.6.1	Typology and truth	182
8.6.2	Typology and economy	184
8.7	John	186
8.8	Paul	189
9	Aesthetics: participation in beauty	193
9.1	Persistence of aesthetics	193
9.2	A theological aesthetic?	195
9.3	Art and aesthetics in early Christianity	199
9.4	Manifestation, vision and participation	202
9.5.1	Glory	205
9.5.2	Criticism and difficulties	207
9.6	The limits of beauty	209

10	Human growth from creation to resurrection: participation in life	211
10.1.1	Image and likeness: the puzzle	211
10.1.2	Image and likeness: inseparable conjunction	212
10.1.3	Image and likeness: disjunction	213
10.1.4	Solutions to the problem: Fantino and Sesboué	214
10.2.1	Sin and fall, original sin	216
10.2.2	Perfection of Adam	219
10.3.1	Unity of man as body, soul and spirit	219
10.3.2	Breath of life	221
10.4.1	Spirit transforms flesh into incorruption	225
10.4.2	Strength made perfect in weakness	227
10.4.3	Flesh and glory	229
10.5	Growth through participation	230
11	Goodness and truth: ethics of participation	232
11.1.1	Free will and freedom	232
11.1.2	Horizons of freedom	235
11.2.1	Love of truth	237
11.2.2	Love and natural law	239
11.2.3	Lusts of the flesh	240
11.3	Martyrdom	241
11.4	Ethics and participation	243
11.5	Love of enemies as crux of recapitulation	245
PART V CONCLUSION		
12	The glory of God and man	251
12.1	Humanism: saving the self	251
12.2	Two criteria: argument and imagery	253
12.3.1	Optimism and growth through participation	256
12.3.2	Participation and exchange	257
12.4	The immediacy of God	262
	Appendix: Gnosticism	265
	<i>Select bibliography</i>	275
	<i>Citations from Irenaeus</i>	290
	<i>Citations from the bible</i>	295
	<i>Index of classical authors</i>	298
	<i>Index of patristic authors</i>	301
	<i>General index</i>	303