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978-0-521-89680-1 - Reconstructing the Theology of Evagrius Ponticus: Beyond Heresy

Augustine Casiday

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OF EVAGRIUS PONTICUS

Evagrius Ponticus is regarded by many scholars as the architect of the eastern heresy Origenism, as his theology corresponded to the debates that erupted in 399 AD and episodically thereafter, culminating in the Second Council of Constantinople in 553. However, some scholars now question this conventional interpretation of Evagrius' place in the Origenist controversies. Augustine Casiday sets out to reconstruct Evagrius' theology in its own terms, freeing interpretation of his work from the reputation for heresy that overwhelmed it, and studying his life, writings and evolving legacy in detail. The first part of this book discusses the transmission of Evagrius' writings and provides a framework of his life for understanding his writing and theology, whilst Part II moves to a synthetic study of major themes that emerge from his writings. This book will be an invaluable addition to scholarship on Christian theology, patristics, heresy and ancient philosophy.

AUGUSTINE CASIDAY is an Honorary Research Fellow at Cardiff University and is author of *Tradition and Theology in St John Cassian* (2006) and *The Trinity and Incarnate Word* (2008). He is editor of *The Orthodox Christian World* (2012), co-editor with Andrew Louth of *Byzantine Orthodoxies* (2006) and, with Frederick W. Norris, of *The Cambridge History of Christianity*, vol. II: *Constantine to c. 600* (2007).

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To my parents

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Lampeter, 24 April 2012

Abbreviations

<i>ACO</i>	<i>Acta Conciliorum Oecumenicorum</i> (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter)
<i>Ad mon</i>	Evagrius, <i>Ad monachos</i>
<i>CPG</i>	<i>Clavis Patrum Graecorum</i>
CS	Cistercian Studies (Kalamazoo, MI: Cistercian Publications)
CSCO	Corpus Scriptorum Christianorum Orientalium (Leuven: Peeters)
CSEL	Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum (Vienna: Verlag der Osterreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften)
DLT	Darton Longman and Todd
GCS	Griechische Christliche Schriften der ersten drei Jahrhunderte (Berlin: Akademie-Verlag)
GNO	Gregorii Nyssensis Opera (Leiden: Brill)
<i>KG</i>	Evagrius, <i>Kephalaia Gnostica</i>
LCL	Loeb Classical Library
LXX	The Septuagint text of the Hebrew Bible
NPNF	Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers of the Church (Edinburgh: T & T Clark)
PG	Patrologia cursus completus . . . series Graeca (Paris: Garnier)
PL	Patrologia cursus completus . . . series Latina (Paris: Garnier)
PO	Patrologia orientalis (Turnhout: Brepols)
<i>Prak</i>	Evagrius, <i>Praktikos</i>
PTS	Patristische Texte und Studien (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter)
SA	Studia Anselmiana (Rome: Sant' Anselmo)
SC	Sources chrétiennes (Paris: Les éditions du Cerf)
<i>sch.</i>	scholion, scholia
SP	Studia Patristica
<i>SVF</i>	J. von Arnim, ed., <i>Stoicorum Veterum Fragmenta</i>
TU	Texte und Untersuchungen zur Geschichte der altchristlichen Literatur (Leipzig: Hinrichs)