

Augustine's Theology of the Resurrection

In this volume, Augustine M. Reisenauer, O.P., provides a comprehensive study of Augustine's theology of the resurrection, the human return from death to life. Contextualizing Augustine within the early Church and the intellectual and religious cultures of the late Roman Empire, he interrogates the development of Augustine's thoughts on the historical resurrection of Jesus Christ, the spiritual resurrection of the soul in time, and the fleshly resurrection of the body at the end of time. Augustine offers profound insights into issues of personal and communal identity, human continuity and transformation, historical and eschatological events, and the God of the resurrection. He also elaborates a biblical paradigm that acknowledges how the resurrected Christ offers an intrinsic participation in his paschal mystery to the souls and bodies of the rest of humanity. Proposing fresh ideas regarding a central topic in Christian theology, Reisenauer's study also reveals Augustine's defenses of the resurrection against its pagan, philosophical, and heretical opponents.

AUGUSTINE M. REISENAUER, O.P., is an assistant professor in the Department of Theology, Providence College. A scholar of patristics and medieval theology, he is a Catholic priest and a Dominican friar of the Order of Preachers.

Augustine's Theology of the Resurrection

AUGUSTINE M. REISENAUER

Providence College, Rhode Island



Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-009-26906-3 — Augustine's Theology of the Resurrection
Augustine M. Reisenauer
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)



Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press
& Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the
pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international
levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009269063

DOI: 10.1017/9781009269032

© Augustine M. Reisenauer 2023

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the
provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction
of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge
University Press & Assessment.

First published 2023

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British
Library.*

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Reisenauer, Augustine M., author.

Title: Augustine's theology of the Resurrection / Augustine M. Reisenauer,
Providence College, Rhode Island.

Description: Cambridge, United Kingdom ; New York, NY, USA : Cambridge
University Press, 2023. | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2022038649 | ISBN 9781009269063 (hardback) |
ISBN 9781009269032 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: Augustine, of Hippo, Saint, 354–430. |

Resurrection – History of doctrines – Early church, ca. 30–600.

Classification: LCC BR65.A9 R38 2023 | DDC 189/.2–dc23/eng/20230106

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2022038649>

ISBN 978-1-009-26906-3 Hardback

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the
persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites
referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on
such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

For Jesus, my resurrected love.

Contents

Acknowledgments	<i>page</i> ix
List of Abbreviations	x
Approximate Dates	xiv
Introduction	1
I EARLY CONSIDERATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION	17
1 The Adumbration of the Resurrection	19
2 The Restoration of Humanity to the Pristine Stability of Paradise	44
3 The Transmutation of Human Flesh into an Angelic Body	57
II THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST	73
4 The Enduring Reality of Christ's Resurrected Flesh	75
5 The Encounter with Christ's Resurrected Flesh	87
6 The Sacramentality and Exemplarity of Christ's Resurrected Flesh	103

viii CONTENTS

III THE RESURRECTION OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT	119
7 The Contents of the Spiritual Resurrection	121
8 The Spiritual Resurrection of Augustine's Soul	138
9 Extreme Expressions of the Spiritual Resurrection	157
IV THE RESURRECTION OF HUMAN FLESH	173
10 The Future Event of the Fleshly Resurrection	177
11 The Fleshly Resurrection of the Damned	200
12 The Fleshly Resurrection of the Saints	215
Epilogue – Augustine Advancing toward the Resurrection	241
Bibliography	247
Index	271

Acknowledgments

I would first like to express my deep gratitude to John Cavadini at the University of Notre Dame, whose love for Augustine has been catching, and whose teaching and friendship have immeasurably enhanced the course of my scholarship and the path of my life. I am also grateful to my other teachers at Notre Dame who have contributed much to the stretching of my mind, notably Cyril O'Regan, Gustavo Gutiérrez, Brian Daley, Khaled Anatolios, Ann Astell, Stephen Gersh, and Robin Jensen.

This project owes its existence to the communal and financial support of the University of Notre Dame and its de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture. Its dissemination, however, would not have amounted to much without a publisher. Accordingly, special thanks are due to Beatrice Rehl at Cambridge University Press for taking an interest in the manuscript, sharing it with such considerate reviewers, and guiding it to publication. To these anonymous reviewers, I am indebted for your clever insights and valuable suggestions. I also thank you, my reader, for the kindness of your attention to my book.

Finally, I am bound to offer notes of gratitude to my family and friends. For their fraternal charity, I am grateful to my brethren in the Order of Preachers, especially at Providence College, and specifically Justin Brophy, Stu McPhail, and Bernard Timothy. Profound thanks go to my good friends, each of whom has proven to be a solid blessing, particularly Bryce Davisson, Douglas Finn, Justin Serafin, Zvonimir Sola, and Christopher Rios-Sueverkruebbe. Most of all, I would like to express my wholehearted gratitude to my family: to my parents, Daniel and Karen Reisenauer, for their love and provision; to my brothers and sisters-in-law, Brian and Anne Reisenauer, Danny and Katie Reisenauer, for their affection and good cheer; and to my nephews and nieces, Brooks, Elle, Liv, Ernest, and Alice Reisenauer, for their sharing with me all the fun of life.

For each and for all, I give humble thanks to God.

Abbreviations

WORKS OF AUGUSTINE

<i>Acad.</i>	<i>De Academicis libri tres</i>
<i>c. Adim.</i>	<i>Contra Adimantum Manichei discipulum liber unus</i>
<i>agon.</i>	<i>De agone christiano liber unus</i>
<i>an. quant.</i>	<i>De animae quantitate liber unus</i>
<i>beata u.</i>	<i>De beata uita liber unus</i>
<i>cat. rud.</i>	<i>De cathecizandis rudibus liber unus</i>
<i>ciu.</i>	<i>De ciuitate dei libri uiginti duo</i>
<i>conf.</i>	<i>Confessionum libri tredecim</i>
<i>cons. eu.</i>	<i>De consensu euangelistarum libri quattuor</i>
<i>corrept.</i>	<i>De correptione et gratia liber unus</i>
<i>cura mort.</i>	<i>De cura pro mortuis gerenda ad Paulinum episcopum liber unus</i>
<i>diu. qu.</i>	<i>De diuersis quaestionibus octoginta tribus liber unus</i>
<i>doctr. chr.</i>	<i>De doctrina christiana libri quattuor</i>
<i>duab. an.</i>	<i>De duabus animabus liber unus</i>
<i>en. Ps.</i>	<i>Enarrationes in Psalmos</i>
<i>ench.</i>	<i>Enchiridion ad Laurentum de fide spe et caritate liber unus</i>
<i>ep.</i>	<i>Epistulae</i>
<i>ep. Io. tr.</i>	<i>In epistulam Iohannis ad Parthos tractatus decem</i>
<i>ep. Rm. inch.</i>	<i>Epistulae ad Romanos inchoata expositio liber unus</i>

These abbreviations are mostly adopted from those in Robert Dodaro, Cornelius Mayer, and Christof Müller, eds., *Augustinus-Lexikon*, vol. 4 (Basel: Schwabe, 2018), pp. xi–lxv.

<i>exp. Gal.</i>	<i>Expositio epistolae ad Galatas liber unus</i>
<i>exp. prop. Rm.</i>	<i>Expositio quarundam propositionum ex epistula apostoli ad Romanos</i>
<i>c. Faust.</i>	<i>Contra Faustum Manicheum libri triginta tres</i>
<i>c. Fel.</i>	<i>Contra Felicem Manicheum libri duo</i>
<i>f. et symb.</i>	<i>De fide et symbolo liber unus</i>
<i>c. Fort.</i>	<i>Acta contra Fortunatum Manicheum liber unus</i>
<i>Gn. litt.</i>	<i>De Genesi ad litteram libri duodecim</i>
<i>Gn. litt. inp.</i>	<i>De Genesi ad litteram liber unus imperfectus</i>
<i>Gn. adu. Man.</i>	<i>De Genesi aduersus Manicheos libri duo</i>
<i>gr. et lib. arb.</i>	<i>De gratia et libero arbitrio liber unus</i>
<i>haer.</i>	<i>De haeresibus ad Quoduultdeum liber unus</i>
<i>imm. an.</i>	<i>De immortalitate animae liber unus</i>
<i>Io. eu. tr.</i>	<i>In Iohannis euangelium tractatus CXXIV</i>
<i>c. Iul. imp.</i>	<i>Contra Iulianum opus imperfectum</i>
<i>lib. arb.</i>	<i>De libero arbitrio libri tres</i>
<i>loc.</i>	<i>Locutionum in Heptateuchum libri septem</i>
<i>mag.</i>	<i>De magistro liber unus</i>
<i>mor.</i>	<i>De moribus ecclesiae catholicae et de moribus Manicheorum libri duo</i>
<i>mus.</i>	<i>De musica libri sex</i>
<i>nat. b.</i>	<i>De natura boni liber unus</i>
<i>ord.</i>	<i>De ordine libri duo</i>
<i>pecc. mer.</i>	<i>De peccatorum meritis et remissione et de baptismo paruulorum ad Marcellinum libri tres</i>
<i>qu.</i>	<i>Quaestionum in Heptateuchum libri septem</i>
<i>qu. c. pag.</i>	<i>Quaestiones expositae contra paganos numero sex (= ep. 102)</i>
<i>retr.</i>	<i>Retractionum libri duo</i>
<i>c. Sec.</i>	<i>Contra Secundinum Manicheum liber unus</i>
<i>s.</i>	<i>Sermones</i>
<i>s. dom. mon.</i>	<i>De sermone domini in monte libri duo</i>
<i>Simpl.</i>	<i>Ad Simplicianum libri duo</i>
<i>sol.</i>	<i>Soliloquiorum libri duo</i>

xii LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

<i>spec.</i>	<i>Speculum</i>
<i>trin.</i>	<i>De trinitate libri quindecim</i>
<i>uera rel.</i>	<i>De uera religione liber unus</i>
<i>uid. deo</i>	<i>De uidendo deo liber unus (= ep. 147)</i>
<i>uirg.</i>	<i>De sancta uirginitate liber unus</i>
<i>util. cred.</i>	<i>De utilitate credendi liber unus</i>

LATIN EDITIONS AND ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS
 OF AUGUSTINE

AS	The Augustine Series (Selected Writings from “The Works of Saint Augustine: A Translation for the 21st Century”), ed. John E. Rotelle (New York: New City Press, 1990–)
CCL	Corpus Christianorum Series Latina (Turnhout: Brepols, 1953–)
CSEL	Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum (Vienna: Hölder-Pichler-Tempsky, 1865–)
<i>EcOr</i>	<i>Ecclesia Orans</i> (Rome: Pontificio Istituto Liturgico, 1984–)
FaCh	The Fathers of the Church, ed. Roy J. Deferrari (Washington, DC: The Catholic University of America Press, 1947–)
Fredriksen	<i>Augustine on Romans: Propositions from the Epistle to the Romans; Unfinished Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans</i> , ed. and trans. Paula Fredriksen Landes, Text and Translations 23, Early Christian Literature Series 6 (Chico, CA: Scholars Press, 1982)
MA	<i>Miscellanea Agostiniana: Testi e studi pubblicati a cura dell’ordine eremitano di s. Agostino nel XV centenario dalla morte del santo dottore</i> , ed. Germain Morin and Antonio Casamassa, 2 vols. (Rome: Tipografia Poliglotta Vaticana, 1930–1931)

PG	Patrologiae Cursus Completus, Series Graeca, ed. Jacques-Paul Migne. (Paris: Migne, 1857–1866)
PL	Patrologiae Cursus Completus, Series Latina, ed. Jacques-Paul Migne (Paris: Migne, 1844–1855)
PLS	Patrologiae Latinae Supplementum, ed. Adalbert-Gautier Hamman, 3 vols. (Paris: Éditions Garnier Frères, 1958–1963)
Plumer	Eric A. Plumer, <i>Augustine's Commentary on Galatians: Introduction, Text, Translation, and Notes</i> (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003)
<i>RechAug</i>	<i>Recherches Augustiniennes</i> (Paris: Études Augustiniennes, 1958–)
<i>REAug</i>	<i>Revue des Études Augustiniennes</i> (Paris: Études Augustiniennes, 1955–)
<i>RB</i>	<i>Revue Bénédictine</i> (Namur: Abbaye de Maredsous, 1890–)
SC	Sources Chrétiennes (Paris: Cerf, 1942–)
SPM	<i>Sermones selecti duodeuiginti</i> , ed. Cyril Lambot, <i>Stromata Patristica et Mediaevalia</i> 1 (Utrecht – Brussels: In Aedibus Spectrum, 1950)
Weiskotten	<i>Sancti Augustini uita scripta a Possidio episcopo</i> , ed. and trans. Herbert T. Weiskotten (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1919)
WSA	<i>The Works of Saint Augustine: A Translation for the 21st Century</i> , ed. John E. Rotelle (New York: New City Press, 1990–)

Approximate Dates

<i>Acad.</i>	386/387
<i>c. Adim.</i>	393/394
<i>agon.</i>	396/397
<i>an. quant.</i>	387/388
<i>beata u.</i>	386/387
<i>cat. rud.</i>	403
<i>ciu.</i> ¹	
Books 1–3	412/413
Books 4–5	413/415
Books 6–11	415/417
Books 12–13	417/418
Books 14–16	418/420
Books 17–18	420/425
Books 19–22	425/427
<i>conf.</i> ²	
Books 1–9	397/400
Books 10–13	403
<i>cons. eu.</i> ³	403/404
<i>corrept.</i>	426/427
<i>cura mort.</i>	421/424
<i>diu. qu.</i>	388/396

Except as noted otherwise, these dates of Augustine's works have mostly been taken from volumes of *The Works of Saint Augustine: A Translation for the 21st Century*, ed. John E. Rotelle (New York: New City Press, 1990–); and from Allan D. Fitzgerald, ed., *Augustine through the Ages: An Encyclopedia* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1999). The ranges of these dates represent some of the most recent scholarly opinions on Augustine's compositions and publications, many of whose dates cannot be determined with absolute certainty or precision.

¹ See Johannes van Oort, *Jerusalem and Babylon: A Study into Augustine's City of God and the Sources of His Doctrine of the Two Cities* (Leiden: Brill, 1991), p. 62.

² See Pierre-Marie Hombert, *Nouvelles recherches de chronologie augustinienne* (Paris: Études Augustiniennes, 2000), pp. 9–23.

³ See Hombert, *Nouvelles recherches*, pp. 81–87.

<i>doctr. chr.</i>	
Books 1–3.25.35	395/396
Books 3.25.36–4	426/427
<i>duab. an.</i>	392/393
<i>en. Ps.</i> ⁴	391/422
<i>ench.</i>	421/422
<i>ep.</i>	386/430
<i>ep. Io. tr.</i>	407
<i>ep. Rm. inch.</i>	394/395
<i>exp. Gal.</i>	394/395
<i>exp. prop. Rm.</i>	394/395
<i>c. Faust.</i> ⁵	400/402
<i>c. Fel.</i>	December 12, 404
<i>f. et symb.</i>	October 8, 393
<i>c. Fort.</i>	August 28–29, 392
<i>Gn. litt.</i> ⁶	
Books 1–3.10.15	404/405
Books 3.11.16–12	412/414
<i>Gn. litt. inp.</i>	
1.1–16.60	393/395
16.61–16.62	426/427
<i>Gn. adu. Man.</i>	388/390
<i>gr. et lib. arb.</i>	426/427
<i>haer.</i>	428/429
<i>imm. an.</i>	386/387
<i>Io. eu. tr.</i>	
Homilies 1–16, 17–19, 23–54	406/407
Homilies 20–22	419/420
Homilies 55–124	Begun 419
<i>c. Iul. imp.</i>	429/430
<i>lib. arb.</i>	
Book 1	387/388
Books 2–3	391/395

⁴ For a table of scholarly proposals, see Michael Fiedrowicz, *Psalmus vox totius Christi: Studien zu Augustins Enarrationes in Psalmos* (Freiburg im Breisgau: Herder, 1997), pp. 430–439.

⁵ See Hombert, *Nouvelles recherches*, pp. 25–29.

⁶ See Hombert, *Nouvelles recherches*, pp. 137–188.

xvi APPROXIMATE DATES

<i>loc.</i>	419/420
<i>mag.</i>	389
<i>mor.</i>	387/389
<i>mus.</i>	387/391
<i>nat. b.</i>	399
<i>ord.</i>	386/387
<i>pecc. mer.</i>	411
<i>qu.</i>	419/420
<i>qu. c. pag.</i>	406/412
<i>retr.</i>	426/427
<i>c. Sec.</i> ⁷	403/405
<i>s.</i>	391/430
<i>s. dom. mon.</i>	393/395
<i>Simpl.</i>	396
<i>sol.</i>	386/387
<i>spec.</i>	427
<i>trin.</i> ⁸	
Book 1	400/405
Books 2–4	411/414
Books 5–12.14.23	414/418
Books 12.15.24–15	419/427
<i>uera rel.</i>	390/391
<i>uid. deo</i>	413/414
<i>uirg.</i> ⁹	404, 412
<i>util. cred.</i>	391/392

⁷ See Hombert, *Nouvelles recherches*, pp. 31–32.

⁸ See Lewis Ayres, *Augustine and the Trinity* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010), pp. 118–120.

⁹ See Hombert, *Nouvelles recherches*, pp. 109–136.