

THE WORLD OF SYMBOLS IN VALENTINIAN GNOSTICISM

Dr. Einar Thomassen, University of Bergen

Thursday February 7, 2013 at 18:00
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd West. room H-767

Why did Jesus die by crucifixion? He did so because the Cross is a symbol of the material world to which the human body is nailed, and by giving up his own spirit on the Cross, Jesus set all human spirit free from its corporeal chains. For the Valentinian Gnostics of early Christianity, every event of the Savior's life and death had a deep significance that could be unlocked by the perceptive mind. The lecture will describe this symbolic universe, which represents one of the earliest attempts to make theological sense of the life and death of Jesus.

The Religions and Cultures of Late Antiquity Lecture Series and the Nag Hammadi Seminar present a public lecture by Dr. Einar Thomassen (University of Bergen). Admission is free – all are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

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