

within ⁵ himself until the day when ¹ he should become worthy to be received ¹ above. He rejects for himself ¹ loquacity and ¹ disputations, and he endures ¹⁰ the whole place; and he bears up ¹ under them, and he endures ¹ all of the evil things. ¹ And he is patient ¹ with every one; he makes himself equal ¹⁵ to every one, and he also separates ¹ himself from them. And that which someone ¹ [wants, he brings] to him, ¹ [in order that] he might become perfect ¹ [(and) holy]. When the [. . . ²⁰ he] ¹ grasped [him], having bound him ¹ upon [. . .] and he was filled ¹ [with wisdom. He] bore witness to the truth ¹ [. . .] the power, and he went ²⁵ [into] Imperishability, the place ¹ whence he [came] forth, having left ¹ the world which has ¹ the appearance of the [night, ¹ and] those that whirl the ³⁰ [stars in] it.

This, therefore, is **45** the true testimony: When ¹ man comes to know himself ¹ and God who is over the truth, ¹ he will be saved, and he ⁵ will crown himself with the crown ¹ unfading.

John ¹ was begotten by the World through ¹ a woman, Elizabeth; ¹ and Christ was begotten by ¹⁰ the world through a virgin, ¹ Mary. What is (the meaning of) this mystery? ¹ John was ¹ begotten by means of a womb ¹ worn with age, but Christ ¹⁵ passed through a virgin's womb. ¹ When she had conceived she gave birth to ¹ the Savior. Furthermore she ¹ was found to be a virgin again. ¹ Why, then, do you (pl.) [err] ²⁰ and not seek after these mysteries ¹ which were prefigured ¹ for our sake? ¹

It is written in the Law concerning this, ¹ when God gave a command ²⁵ to Adam, "From every [tree] ¹ you may eat, [but] from ¹ the tree which is in the midst of ¹ Paradise do not eat, ¹ for on the day that you eat ³⁰ from it you will surely ¹ die." But the serpent was wiser **46** than all the animals that ¹ were in Paradise, and ¹ he persuaded Eve, saying, ¹ "On the day when you eat ⁵ from the tree which is in the midst ¹ of Paradise ¹ the eyes of your mind will be opened." ¹ And Eve obeyed, ¹ and she stretched forth her hand; ¹⁰ she took from the tree and ¹ ate; she also gave to her husband with ¹ her. And immediately they knew ¹ that they were naked, ¹ and they took some fig leaves ¹⁵ (and) put them on as girdles. ¹

But [God] came at the time of ¹ [evening] walking in the midst ¹ [of] Paradise. When ¹ Adam saw him he hid himself. ²⁰ And he said, "Adam, where are you?" ¹ He answered (and) said, ¹ "[I] have come under the fig tree." And at that very moment ¹ God [knew] that he had ²⁵ eaten from the tree of ¹ which he had commanded him, "Do not ¹ eat of it." And ¹ he said to him, "Who is it **47** who has instructed you?" And Adam answered, ¹ "The woman whom you have ¹ given me." And

the woman said, ¹ "It is the serpent who instructed me."⁵ And he cursed the serpent, and ¹ called him "devil."¹ And he said, "Behold, Adam has ¹ become like one of us, ¹ knowing evil and ¹⁰ good." Then he said, "Let us ¹ cast him out of Paradise ¹ lest he take from the tree ¹ of life and eat and live for ¹ ever."

But of what sort is ¹⁵ this God? First [he] ¹ maliciously refused Adam from ¹ eating of the tree of knowledge. ¹ And secondly ¹ he said, "Adam, where are you?" ²⁰ God does not have ¹ foreknowledge; (otherwise), would he not know from the ¹ beginning? [And] afterwards ¹ he said, "Let us cast him [out] ²⁵ of this place, lest he ¹ eat of the tree of ¹ life and live for ever."¹ Surely he has shown ¹ himself to be a malicious ³⁰ grudger. And **48** what kind of a God is this? ¹ For great is the blindness ¹ of those who read, and they did not ¹ know him. And he said, "I am ⁵ the jealous God; I will bring ¹ the sins of the fathers upon ¹ the children until three (and) four generations."¹ And he said, "I will make ¹ their heart thick, and I will ¹⁰ cause their mind to become blind, that ¹ they might not know nor ¹ comprehend the things that ¹ are said."¹ But these things he has ¹ said to those who believe in him ¹⁵ [and] serve him!

And ¹ [in one] place Moses writes, ¹ "[He] made the devil a serpent ¹ <for> [those] whom he has in his generation."¹ Also in the book which is ²⁰ called "Exodus," ¹ it is written thus (cf. 7:8-12): "He contended against the ¹ [magicians], when the place was full ¹ [of serpents] according to their [wickedness; and ¹ the rod] which was in the hand of Moses ²⁵ became a serpent, (and) it swallowed ¹ the serpents of the magicians."¹

Again ¹ it is written (Nm 21:9), "He made a serpent of ¹ bronze (and) hung it upon a pole **49** [...] which [...] ³ for the [one who will gaze] upon ¹ [this] bronze [serpent], none ⁵ [will destroy] him, and the one who will ¹ [believe in] this bronze serpent ¹ [will be saved]."¹

For this is Christ; ¹ [those who] believed in him ¹ [have received life]. Those who did not believe ¹⁰ [will die].

What, then, is this ¹ [faith? They] do not [serve . . . ²⁸ and you (pl.) . . .] ¹ we [. . . **50** and] you [do not understand Christ ¹ spiritually when you say], ¹ "We [believe] in Christ." For [this] ¹ is the [way] Moses [writes] ⁵ in every book. The [book of ¹ the] generation of Adam [is written for those] ¹ who are in the [generation] of [the Law]. ¹ They follow the Law [and] ¹ they obey it, [and . . .] ¹¹ together with the [. . .]. (pp. 51-54 almost completely missing)

[. . . , " . . . **55** the] Ogdoad, which is the ¹ eighth, and that we might