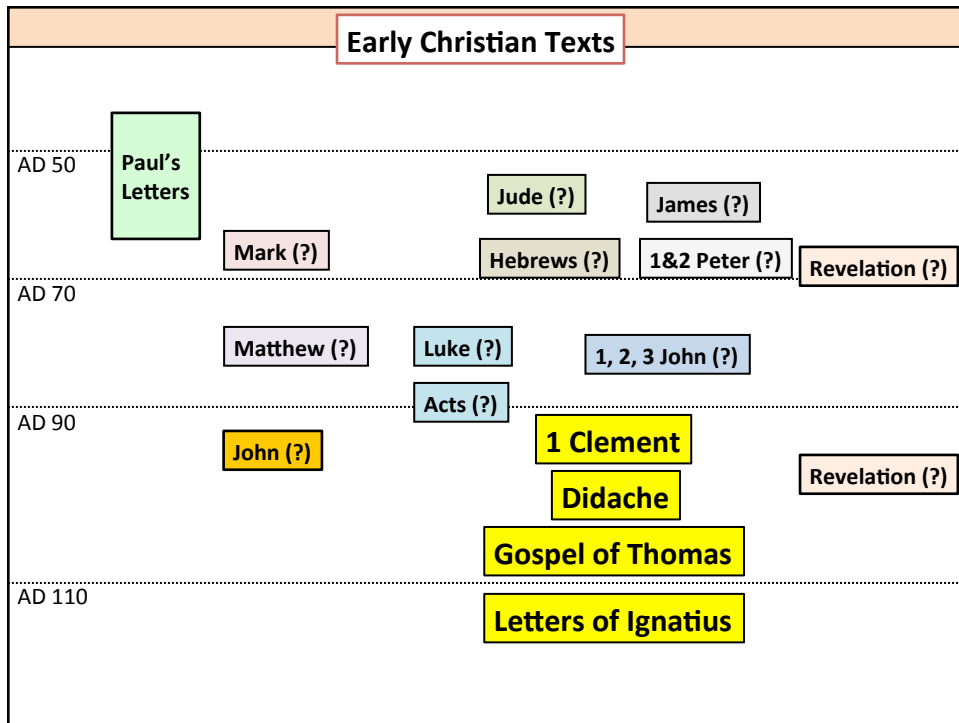


Didache

The Teaching of the Lord to the Gentiles by the Twelve Apostles



Codex Hierosolymitanus

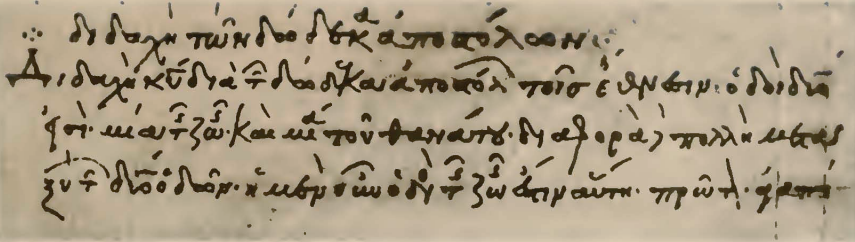


PLATE I. Fol. 76 a

J. Rendell Harris, *The Teaching of the Apostles*. London: Clay and Sons, 1887.

Codex Hierosolymitanus

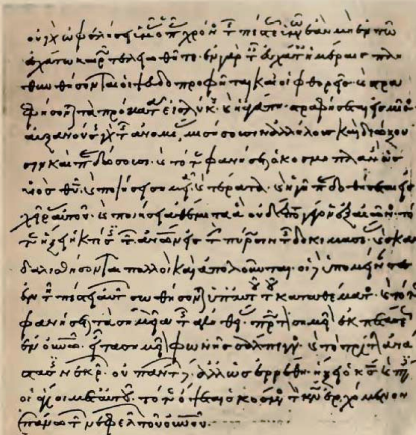


PLATE X. Fol. 80 b

Didache = The Teaching



P.Oxy. IV 1782 IV/V

Didache = The Teaching

Thematic Divisions in the *Didache*

- 1:1–6:2 The Two Ways
- 6:3–15:4 Instructions dealing with church practice and order
- 16:1–9 Apocalypse

“two paths”

Matthew 7:13–14

¹³ Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction (εὐρύχωρος ἡ ὁδὸς ἡ ἀπάγουσα εἰς τὴν ἀπώλειαν, and many there be which go in thereat:

¹⁴ Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life (τεθλιμμένη ἡ ὁδὸς ἡ ἀπάγουσα εἰς τὴν ζωὴν), and few there be that find it.

Epistle of Barnabas 18:1 But let us now pass to another sort of knowledge and doctrine. *There are two ways of doctrine and authority, the one of light, and the other of darkness.* But there is a great difference between these two ways. For over one are stationed the light-bringing angels of God, but over the other the angels of Satan.

² And He indeed (i.e., God) is Lord for ever and ever, but he (i.e., Satan) is prince of the time of iniquity.

19 The way of light, then, is as follows . . . (Ἡ οὖν ὁδὸς τοῦ φωτός ἐστὶν αὕτη)

20 The way of darkness is (Ἡ δὲ τοῦ μέλανος ὁδὸς ἐστὶν). . .

Didache 1:1

There *are two paths, one of life and one of death*, and the difference between the two paths is great (Ὁδοὶ δύο εἰσὶ μία τῆς ζωῆς καὶ μία τοῦ θανάτου διαφορά δὲ πολλὴ μεταξύ τῶν δύο ὁδῶν).

Didache

Didache 1:6

But it has also been said concerning this: “Let your gift sweat in your hands until you know to whom to give it.”

Agrapha (ἀγραφον; Greek for “non written”; singular agraphon) are the sayings of Jesus that are not found in the canonical Gospels.

Acts 20:35

Remember the word of the Lord Jesus, how he said:

“It is a more blessed thing to give, rather than to receive.”

Justin Martyr, *Dial.* 47.5

Wherefore also our Lord Jesus Christ said,

“In whatsoever things I apprehend you, in those I shall judge you.”

Judging

Matthew 7:1–2

¹ Judge not, that ye be not judged

JST Matthew 7:1

¹ **Now these are the words which Jesus taught his disciples that they should say unto the people.** Judge not **unrighteously**, that ye be not judged; **but judge righteous judgment.**

Roman Slavery

- 1 out of 6 persons was a slave, about 10 million slaves in the empire
- Roman slavery **not** based on race
- Master literally owned the slave as property
 - It was not a crime to kill one's slave; though this did happen it was uncommon
- **Not always an abusive relationship**
 - Many slaves were well educated, trained as teachers/tutors
 - Slaves could hold positions of some authority
 - Slaves could own their own property, some even owned their own slaves
 - Imperial slaves and freedmen (*familia Caesaris*) held important governmental positions



Jewish Slavery

- Recognized in the Law of Moses
- Not Racial
- Temporary (6 years)

Ways to Become a Roman Slave

- Prisoner of War
- People Sell themselves/Parents Sell Children
- Punishment for crime
- Kidnap children
- Exposure of infants
- As a result of excessive debt



Didache

Food Offered to Idols (6:3)



And concerning food, bear what you can. But especially abstain from food sacrificed to idols; for this is a ministry to dead gods.

Acts 15:29

that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled and from fornication. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell."

1 Corinthians 8

1 *Now concerning food sacrificed to idols*: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. . . . 8 "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. 9 But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. 10 For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols?

1 Cor 8:1, 8–10

1 Corinthians 10

19 What do I imply then? *That food sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything?* 20 No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be partners with demons. . . . 25 Eat whatever is sold in the meat market without raising any question on the ground of conscience, 26 for "the earth and its fullness are the Lord's." 27 If an unbeliever invites you to a meal and you are disposed to go, eat whatever is set before you without raising any question on the ground of conscience. 28 But if someone says to you, "This has been offered in sacrifice," then do not eat it, out of consideration for the one who informed you, and for the sake of conscience—

1 Cor 10:25–28

Didache

Fasting & Prayer (8)

1. But do not let your fasts coincide with those of the hypocrites. They fast on Monday and Thursday, so you must fast on Wednesday and Friday.

2. Nor should you pray like the hypocrites. Instead, pray like this, just as the Lord commanded in his Gospel:

“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our debt, as we also forgive our debtors.
And do not lead us into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one;
for yours is the power and the glory forever.”

3. Pray like this three times a day.

“Parting of the Ways”

- Jewish Christians & Judaizers
- Jewish Christians Divided into three different groups:
 - Ebionites
 - Jacobites
 - Nazarenes
- Two types of Judaizers:
 - adopted Jewish customs and kept Christian beliefs
 - adopted Jewish customs and abandoned Christian beliefs

Jerusalem Council

Acts 15:23–29

²³ And they wrote *letters* by them after this manner;

The apostles and elders and brethren *send* greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia:

²⁴ Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, *Ye must* be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no *such* commandment:

²⁵ It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,

²⁶ Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁷ We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, who shall also tell *you* the same things by mouth.

²⁸ For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things;

²⁹ *That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well.*

Fare ye well.

Jewish Liturgical Maledictions Against the Christians

Our rabbis taught: Simon ha-Pakuli ordered the Eighteen benedictions before Rabban Gamaliel in Yavneh. Rabban Gamaliel said to the sages: Is there no one who knows how to compose a benediction against the *minim*? Samuel Ha-Qatan stood up and composed it. Another year (while serving as precentor), he (samuel Ha-Qatan) forgot it and tried to recall it for two or three hours. Yet they did not remove him.

(b. Ber. 28b-29a)

For apostates let there be no hope, and the dominion of arrogance do Thou speedily root out in our days; and let Christians [*notzrim*] and heretics [*minim*] perish in a moment, let them be blotted out of the book of the living for ever and not be written with the righteousness.