Contents

2

Preface	ix
Sigla and abbreviations	х
Introduction	1
History of research 1	
Methodology and roadmap 13	
Notes 15	
References 19	
Text, translation, and commentary on Epiphanes, On Justice	23
The manuscript tradition 23	
Critical text and translation of Epiphanes, On Justice 23	
Clement's introduction to Epiphanes 30	
Epiphanes excerpt 1: justice as equal sharing, a law	
both cosmic and divine 40	
Excerpt 2: human laws introduce corruption 51	
Text and translation 51	
Excerpt 3: equality in sexual relationships 54	
Excerpt 4: a criticism of the Mosaic law 59	
Notes 70	
References 80	
Commentary on the earliest Carpocrates reports	88
Introduction 88	
Carpocratian theology 92	
The Carpocratian understanding of Jesus 96	
The imitation of Jesus 103	
Accusations of "magic" 110	
Carpocratians as scapegoats 113	

V111	- (OV	110	nts

Attacks on Carpocratian morality 117
The Carpocratian theory of transmigration 119
A recapitulation of Carpocratian ethics 134
Carpocratian ritual 137
Carpocratian soteriology 146
Notes 147
References 155

3 Carpocratianism in the Epistle to Theodore

Introduction 163
The Epistle's introduction 164
Attack on the Carpocratians 166
The question of truth 168
An account of the composition of Mark 171
The claimed corruption of Mystic Mark 176
Once again, the question of truth 178
Excerpts from Mystic Mark 180
The authenticity of the Epistle to Theodore and its use as a source for Carpocratianism 187
Notes 192
References 198

Conclusion: Contextualizing Carpocrates, Epiphanes, and Marcellina: An Attempt at a Profile

The Alexandrian context 202
Carpocrates's theological contemporaries 208
Carpocrates 212
Epiphanes 219
Marcellina 224
Notes 228
References 235

Index 241

163

202