

## What Has Apocrypha to Do with Hagiographa? A Reconsideration of the “Editing” of Apocryphal Acts (SBL 2021)

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### *Acts of Thomas* (CANT 245; ECCA 125)

- 81 Greek manuscripts; 12 Syriac; Armenian (martyrdom only); perhaps also Garsuni
- abbreviated versions by Nicetas of Thessalonica (BHG 1832; CANT 247; ECCA 297), Nicetas the Paphlagonian (BHG 1842; ECCA 294), Symeon Metaphrastes (BHG 1835; CANT 248; ECCA 228); entries in the Menologion of Basil II, and the Constantinople Synaxarium; all contain Acts 1, 2, and 10-13
- *Passion of Thomas* (BHL 8136; ECCA 296) and the *Miracles of Thomas* (BHL 8140; ECCA 295) (from the *Apostolic Histories*); the *Miracles* contains virtually the entire *Acts* but in abbreviated form
- *Acts of Thomas and His Wonderworking Skin* (CANT 246; ECCA 504): 8 Greek manuscripts; plentiful in Coptic-Arabic-Ethiopic; a version also in Church Slavic: parallels in the opening of *Acts Thom.* 1 but otherwise independent, except for some “contamination” from *Acts Thom.* 1, 2 and 13 in two manuscripts; promotes asceticism (after conversion Arsenoë will not sleep with her husband Leucius; Jesus appears to a would-be groom and tells him not to marry)

### *Acts of Peter* (CANT 190; ECCA 933)

- Reconstructed based on the Latin Vercelli Acts (or *Actus Vercellensis*) and the Syriac *History of Simon Cephas, Chief of the Apostles* (CANT 200; ECCA 252); a small portion of the text in Greek is extant in a fourth-century fragment (P. Oxy. 849)
- Martyrdom: 3 Greek manuscripts; also known in Coptic-Arabic-Ethiopic, Armenian, Georgian, Church Slavic, and Latin (*Pseudo-Linus*; CANT 181; ECCA 573) and is adapted in several other forms in Greek and Latin (see Eastman, *Ancient Martyrdom Accounts*; also Symeon Metaphrastes; =BHG 1493; CANT 196; ECCA 526) frequently combined with the martyrdom of Paul
- Other Petrine Acts: *Act of Peter* (CANT 190.I; ECCA 177; also found in *Acts of Nereus and Achilleus*; =ECCA 876); *Travels of Peter* (ECCA 699), *Exhortation of Peter* (ECCA 133), *Act of Peter in Azotus* (ECCA 690)
- Pseudo-Clementine Romance (CANT 290; ECCA 638); *Homilies* is complete in 2 Greek manuscripts and 3 excerpts, as well as a large portion in 1 Syriac manuscript; also pre-Metaphrastic (30 manuscripts; trans. into Georgian) and a Metaphrastic epitomes (over 100 manuscripts; trans. into Church Slavic and Arabic); Latin *Recognitions* is extant in over 100 manuscripts, portions in Syriac, and smaller pieces in Armenian and Arabic
- Portions also taken over in other texts including the *Book of the Rolls* (ECCA 950), the *Passion of Peter* (*Apostolic Histories*; CANT 195; ECCA 893), and *Preaching of Peter to Faustus* (CANT 204; ECCA 845)

### *Acts of Paul* (CANT 211; ECCA 779)

- *Acts of Paul and Thecla* (CANT 211.III; ECCA 787): 50 Greek manuscripts; also Syriac, Armenian, Church Slavic, and Ethiopic, but not, it seems, Arabic or Coptic, despite evidence for her veneration in Egypt. Adaptations: *Homily 97 on Thecla* by Severus of

*Antioch* (ECCA 476), *Life and Miracles of Thecla* (BHG 1717–1718; ECCA 792; in two forms in 26 manuscripts), *Martyrdom of Thecla* by Symeon Metaphrastes (BHG 1719; ECCA 206), *Panegyric to Thecla* by Ps.-John Chrysostom (BHG 1720; ECCA 475).

- 3 Corinthians (CANT 211.IV; ECCA 169): Greek, Armenian, Latin, Syriac (in commentaries by Ephrem and Aphrahat)
- Martyrdom: 7 Greek manuscripts, Coptic-Arabic-Ethiopic, Armenian, adaptations in Greek (including an *Encomium* of Nicetas the Paphlagonian [BHG 1472n]) and Latin (including the *Apostolic Histories* [CANT 213; ECCA 149])
- Ephesus Act (*Acts Paul* 9): P. Bodmer XLI (4th cent.)
- *Epistle of Pelagia* (CANT 211.VI): 5 manuscripts; also recounted in Nicephorus Callistus, *Hist. eccl.* 2.25

*Acts of Andrew* (CANT 225; ECCA 788)

- *Miracles of Andrew* by Gregory of Tours (CANT 225.II; ECCA 244) comp. late 6th cent.; extant also in the Latin *Acts of Andrew* (CANT 232), which combines Gregory with one of two martyrdom accounts: *Epistle of the Presbyters and Deacons of Achaia* (CANT 226; ECCA 888) or the *Passion of Andrew* (CANT 231; ECCA 236)
- Martyrdom: five Greek witnesses of various forms; also transmitted in the *Epistle of the Presbyters and Deacons of Achaia* (comp. in Latin but available also in three Greek forms), and another version known as the *Martyrium prius* (CANT 227; ECCA 904)
- *Acts of Andrew and Matthias* (CANT 236; ECCA 517): 37 Greek manuscripts, Coptic-Arabic-Ethiopic, Syriac, Church Slavic, Latin, Armenian, Georgian, and Old English
- Coptic: an “Act of Andrew” in 4th/5th-century Utrecht manuscript (=ch. 18 of *Mir. Andr.*)
- Armenian martyrdom (CANT 230)
- Other Greek accounts: the *Life of Andrew* by Epiphanius of Kallistratia (CANT 233; ECCA 557), *Story of Andrew* (CANT 229; ECCA 340; 6 manuscripts), Nicetas of Paphlagonia (BHG 106; 19 manuscripts), Symeon Metaphrastes (CANT 234; ECCA 433)
- Additional acts of Andrew: *Acts of Andrew and Bartholomew* (CANT 238; ECCA 319), *Acts of Andrew and Paul* (CANT 239; ECCA 464), *Acts of Andrew and Philemon* (CANT 240; ECCA 161), *Acts of Peter and Andrew* (CANT 237; ECCA 755), (*Coptic Martyrdom of Andrew* (CANT 235; ECCA 310)

*Acts of John* (CANT 215; ECCA 397)

- *Acts of John by Prochorus* (CANT 216; ECCA 515): 20 Greek manuscripts (out of 150!) include portions that make up today’s reconstructions: chs. 18–55, 55–56, 58–86, 106–15 (Metastasis); also extant in Coptic-Arabic-Ethiopic, Latin, Syriac, Armenian, Georgian, and Church Slavic
- Other Greek sources: *Act of John* in Vienna, Cod. hist. gr. 63 (chs. 87–105); P.Oxy. 850 (4th cent.)
- Metastasis: 5 Greek manuscripts, as well as Coptic-Arabic-Ethiopic; included in 5 Greek manuscripts of *Acts of John in Rome* (CANT 216; ECCA 515)
- Latin: *Virtutes Iohannis* (CANT 219; ECCA 718) and *Passion of John* by Pseudo-Melito (CANT 229; ECCA 944): draw on common text with the story of Drusiana (chs. 63–86), the fall of the Temple of Artemis (37–55), and the Metastasis

- Syriac: *History of John* (CANT 222; ECCA 934); contains independent versions of some shared traditions
- Additional Greek versions: Symeon Metaphrastes (CANT 221; ECCA 191; portions of *Acts of John in Rome* and other traditions), *Encomium on John the Theologian* by Pseudo-John Chrysostom (CANT 224; ECCA 370; 5 Greek manuscripts; also in Arabic), *Encomium on John* by Blemmydes (ECCA 842)

## Resources

Société des Bollandistes: BHLms: <http://bhlms.fltr.ucl.ac.be/>

Pinakes: Textes et manuscrits grecs: <https://pinakes.irht.cnrs.fr/>

e-Clavis: Christian Apocrypha (=ECCA): <https://www.nasscal.com/e-clavis-christian-apocrypha/>.

Hill Museum & Museum Library: <https://www.vhmdl.org/>

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