

Birgitte Secher Bøgh (ed.)

Conversion and Initiation in Antiquity

Shifting Identities – Creating Change



PETER LANG
EDITION

Contents

Abbreviations..... 7

Introduction..... 9

Theme 1. The choice: reasons, motivations, and results.

Birgitte Bøgh
In Life and Death: Choice and Conversion in the Cult of Dionysos..... 25

Éric Rebillard
Becoming Christian in Carthage in the Age of Tertullian..... 47

Jan N. Bremmer
Conversion in the oldest Apocryphal Acts..... 59

Theme 2. Agency and agents: The context of decision.

Jakob Engberg
Human and Divine Agency in Conversion in Apologetic
Writings of the Second Century: To “Dance with Angels”..... 77

Nicholas Marshall
Ontological Conversion: A Description and Analysis of Two Case
Studies from Tertullian’s *De Baptismo* and Iamblichus’ *De Mysteriis*101

Zeba Crook
Agents of Apostasy, Delegates of Disaffiliation..... 119

Theme 3. The change: the nature of reorientation.

Carmen Cvetković
Change and Continuity: Reading Anew Augustine’s Conversion..... 135

Luther H. Martin
‘The Devil is in the Details’. Hellenistic Mystery Initiation
Rites: Bridge-Burning or Bridge-Building? 153

<i>Kate Cooper and James Corke-Webster</i> Conversion, Conflict, and the Drama of Social Reproduction: Narratives of Filial Resistance in Early Christianity and Modern Britain.....	169
<i>Radcliffe G. Edmonds III</i> There and Back Again: Temporary Immortality in the Mithras Liturgy	185
Theme 4. Education: instructing and guiding the convert.	
<i>Anders-Christian Jacobsen</i> Identity Formation through Catechetical Teaching in Early Christianity.....	203
<i>Per Bilde</i> The Role of Religious Education in six of the Pagan Religions of the Hellenistic-Roman Period	225
<i>Roger Beck</i> Educating a Mithraist.....	247
<i>Elisabetta Abate</i> Observations on Late Antique Rabbinic Sources on Instruction of Would-Be Converts	257
<i>Tobias Georges</i> The Role of Philosophy and Education in Apologists' Conversion to Christianity: The Case of Justin and Tatian.....	271
General Index.....	287
Index Locorum.....	301