

## Study Guide: Christian Tradition Clement and Origen

### Key people

Clement (esp. on discipline, learning, and faith)

Origen (especially on scripture, the body & soul, and the trinity)

### Important themes & concepts

virtue & ethics as espoused by Clement — how a Christian lives in the world

Christianity's connection to classical/pagan culture and philosophy

Origen on the interpretation of scripture

Origen on creation and on the body and the soul

Origen against pagans

The trinity

QUIZ MAY CONTAIN terms on the Trinity from last time!

### **Readings adjusted:**

*ANT* texts 71, 69, 74, 14/ 2d ed. texts 91, 70, 94 + 67, 17,

- Clement: The Educator Book 2 chapters 1, 2, 5, 7, 10
- Origen: Commentaries on Genesis (OPTIONAL)
- Origen: On First Principles (text 74; 2d ed. texts 94 & 67)
  - on God, the trinity, Christ: beginning-ch 2, section 2
  - on the soul, creation, and Christ: ch. 8-Book II, ch 6
  - on interpreting scripture: Book IV ch 2: sections 4-9, ch 3: sections 1-5 (In 2nd ed. of *ANT* this is in text #67 pp 394, 396-402)
- Origen: Against Celsus chapters 1-3, 28, 30-32, 39-40, 68

### **Clement**

What are his ethics on various positions? How does he justify them? Do they seem reasonable to you? Why or why not? Would they seem reasonable, easy, or difficult to an ancient person?

**Study Guide: Christian Tradition  
Clement and Origen**

**Origen: Commentaries on Genesis *not required; we may discuss in class***

**Origen: On First Principles in *ANT***

According to Origen, what is the relationship between the soul and the body? How did humans come to be made of both bodies and souls? What is salvation, and how is a Christian saved? Can you figure out what Origen says happens to the body and the soul?

**Origen: Against Celsus chapters 1-3, 28, 30-32, 39-40, 68**

Origen is arguing with a pagan (Celsus) who wrote an entire book about how wrong Christianity is. (Celsus' points are in italics.) What are some of Celsus' main arguments? How does Origen refute Celsus' arguments? How understandable or reasonable are Celsus' points? How well does Origen refute them?