

PHILOSOPHY

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Methods of preservation and transmission of knowledge in the ancient Gnosticism

It is considered the current problem of the study of Gnosticism. On the basis of a large number of sources, as well as modern critical literature, the article conducts a study of the Gnostic ideas about the methods of how to preserve and transmit knowledge. Based on the analysis of the originality of the category of knowledge in Gnostic works, the characteristic features of these methods are distinguished and described. Considerable attention is paid to the specifics of Gnostic texts and rituals. In conclusion, it is substantiated the idea that for the Gnostics, ultimately, the only true method of reservation and transmission of knowledge is the direct revelation of the Absolute. The results of this work may be used in all areas of modern science in some way or another connected with the study of Gnosticism.

Key words: Gnosticism, Gnosis, Gnostics, text, ritual, revelation, exegesis.

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