Colloquia on the History of Origen’s Reception

Organization
Prof. Dr. Dr. Alfons Fürst
Origen Research Centre
Department of Catholic Theology
University of Münster

Contact
Origen Research Centre
Robert-Koch-Str. 40
48149 Münster
Germany
Phone: 0251/83-22624
Email: altkg@uni-muenster.de

Conference venue
Department of Catholic Theology
Johannisstr. 8–10
Room KTh I
48143 Münster

Participation is free.
We request an answer by October 6, 2014.

Sponsored by Fritz Thyssen Foundation

IV. Origenes Cantabrigiensis

Ralph Cudworth
Sermon before the House of Commons (1647)
**Colloquia on the History of Origen’s Reception**

The “Colloquia on the History of Origen’s Reception”, which take place annually at Münster University, focus upon the eventful reception history and the legacy of the Origenian metaphysics of freedom and, in particular, its significance in the shaping of the modern concept of man’s autonomy and dignity.

**IV. Origenes Cantabrigiensis**

The daring Sermon before the House of Commons which the thirty-year-old Ralph Cudworth delivered at the height of the English civil wars is a passionate plea for religious tolerance. Orthopraxy, the love of one’s neighbour, rather than orthodoxy, the belief in certain dogmas, Cudworth insists, is to be the sole criterion of true Christianity. Besides being a watershed work in the history of the notion of tolerance, the Sermon is a chief testimony of Cudworth’s Origenism. Not only does the young Cambridge Platonist share with the Alexandrian Church Father the commitment to man’s freedom, but he also translates the latter’s practical Christology into a historic early modern rational theology which views love and virtue as instrumental in the fallen soul’s redemption and renewed participation in the Father’s eternal Word.

**Public Evening Lecture**

*Friday, October 17th*

18.00–20.00 Douglas Hedley, Cambridge
Origenism and Cartesianism at Cambridge in the 17th Century

**Workshop**

*Saturday, October 18th*

10.00–10.15 Alfons Fürst, Münster
Welcome and Introduction

10.15–11.15 Sarah Hutton, Aberystwyth
The Contemporary Context of Ralph Cudworth’s Origenism in his Sermon before the House of Commons

11.30–12.30 Christian Hengstermann, Essen
The Inner Christ and Salvation as Practical Virtue. Cudworth’s Origenian Soteriology in his Sermon before the House of Commons

12.30–14.00 Lunch Break

14.00–15.00 Alfons Fürst, Münster
The Legacy of Origen in Ralph Cudworth’s True Intellectual System of the Universe

15.00–16.00 Thomas Leinkauf, Münster
Ralph Cudworth’s Philosophy of Religion in John Locke’s Letter Concerning Toleration and his Reasonableness of Christianity