



Our Divine Double

By Charles M. Stang

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What if you were to discover that you were only one half of a whole—that you had a divine double? In the second and third centuries CE, Charles Stang shows, this idea gripped the religious imagination of the Eastern Mediterranean, offering a distinctive understanding of the self that has survived in various forms down to the present.

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Editorial Review

Review

Our Divine Double is intellectually rich and historically detailed. **Stang** asks readers to contemplate a theological and philosophical ‘road not taken,’ one that might challenge various Christian orthodoxies of the self and the divine. The book is a triumph; Stang has uncovered an unacknowledged but vital strain of thinking about God and the cosmos that generated centuries of productive thinking about the ‘I’ and the ‘Other.’ (Andrew Jacobs, Scripps College)

In this lively, insightful book, **Stang** tackles a major problem in the history of ancient religion, and sheds much light on a forgotten chapter in the archaeology of the person. Major instances, such as Thomas, Jesus’s twin brother, and Mani’s heavenly twin, are studied in the context of a Platonic tradition going from Socrates’s daimon to Plotinus. (Guy Stroumsa, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and University of Oxford)

About the Author

Charles M. Stang is Professor of Early Christian Thought at Harvard Divinity School.

Users Review

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