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By Gerard Vallee

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Because the author wishes to study early Christianity in context, he examines: the cultural and religious legacies of Greek society and Judaism, the historical developments of the time, including the establishment of Christianity as the religion of the empire, the division of the empire and the growing split between East and West, and theological controversies and the literature accompanying such debates as the nature of Christ, the procession of the Spirit, and the role of Mary.

Vallée highlights primary sources, and includes charts, maps, and a glossary to help readers better understand the different aspects of the patristic era. Aimed at a general audience, as well as college students and teachers, this reader-friendly work will make fascinating, intellectually stimulating reading.

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The Shaping of Christianity: The History and Literature of Its Formative Centuries (100-800) By Gerard Vallee Bibliography

- Rank: #2163111 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Paulist Pr
- Published on: 1999-07-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.97" h x .60" w x 6.03" l, .85 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 265 pages

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Will surely be welcomed in classrooms and by others who seek an introduction to the formative centuries of Christianity. -- *National Catholic Reporter*

About the Author

Now retired, Gérard Vallée was a professor of religion at McMaster University in Canada. He has a D.Th. in ecumenical theology from Münster University, Germany. He lives in Hamilton, Ontario.

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