

## Philosophy and Early Christianity: Reflections on the Meaning of Patristic Philosophical Theology

Filosofía y Orígenes del Cristianismo: Reflexiones sobre  
el significado de la teología filosófica patristica

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**Abstract:** Christians had to structure their *kerygma* and teachings philosophically. It is on philosophy that they built the dogmatics of Christianity in the first ecumenical councils, which discussed Trinitarian theology and Christology. This was imperative, since Christ is the Logos and is the centre of all Christianity. So, Christianity must be logical/rational and informed philosophically. Many were the protagonists of Patristic Philosophical Theology, but Origen of Alexandria played a pivotal role in this strategic move.

**Keywords:** Philosophy, Early Christianity, Origen, Patristic Philosophy, Philosophical Theology.

**Resumen:** Los cristianos tuvieron que estructurar filosóficamente su kerigma y sus enseñanzas. Sobre la filosofía construyeron la dogmática del cristianismo en los primeros concilios ecuménicos, que discutieron la teología trinitaria y la cristología. Esto era imperativo, ya que Cristo es el Logos y el centro de todo el cristianismo. Así pues, el cristianismo debe ser lógico-racional y estar informado filosóficamente. Muchos fueron los protagonistas de la teología filosófica patristica, pero Orígenes de Alejandría desempeñó un papel fundamental en este movimiento estratégico.

**Palabras clave:** Filosofía, Cristianismo primitivo, Orígenes, Filosofía patristica, Teología filosófica.

# Reflections On Early Christianity

**R Barnett**



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