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Asceticism and Exegesis in Early Christianity

The Reception of New Testament Texts in Ancient
Ascetic Discourses

*This volume deals with the complex
relationship between asceticism and
Scripture.*

From the beginning many of the early
Christian communities led an ascetic
lifestyle, although a good number of
New Testament texts do not seem
suitable for justifying radical ascetic
and encratite practice. The question
thus arises how the different forms of
asceticism could be justified on the
basis of those scriptures.

The articles of the volume focus on the
interpretation and application of New
Testament texts in various ascetic
milieus and in the works of several
early Christian authors and on the
reception history of New Testament
texts either supporting or resisting an
ascetic relecture.

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