



## Biblical Exegesis and the Formation of Christian Culture

By Frances M. Young



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In this study of the influence of the late ancient educational system on patristic biblical exegesis, simplistic reductions to discrete methods (moral, typological, allegorical) and schools (Alexandrian, Antiochene) give way to a more nuanced appreciation. Professor Young's lucid study shows how early Christians used the interpretive tools of Greco Roman culture to build an alternative Christian culture on the basis of the biblical text.

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#### Review

"In the present revival of interest in early Christian biblical interpretation, Frances Young's book stands out, head and shoulders, over everything else currently available in English. She offers us at once a thorough, synthetic overview of the development of patristic exegesis and a wise and thoughtful assessment of its theological and cultural importance. For its rich detail and for its wider narrative, the book has no competitors."

--Brian E. Daley, S.J., University of Notre Dame

"Frances Young's study significantly alters the traditional map of patristic scriptural interpretation. Moving beyond the simple allegory vs. literalism dichotomy, she insightfully examines the much wider spectrum of reading strategies actually used by both Alexandrines and Antiochenes. This is a major study by a scholar accomplished in both patristics and New Testament studies."

--Margaret M. Mitchell, The University of Chicago -- *Review*

#### About the Author

Frances M. Young is Edward Cadbury Professor of Theology at the University of Birmingham, England.

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