



# The Christian Doctrine of Apokatastasis : A Critical Assessment from the New Testament to Eriugena (Supplements to Vigiliae Christianae)

*By Ilaria Ramelli*

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Apokatastasis (restoration) is a major patristic doctrine stemming from Greek philosophy and Jewish-Christian Scriptures. Ramelli argues for its presence and Christological and Biblical foundation in many Fathers, analysing its meaning and development from the birth of Christianity to Eriugena.

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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

"A rich and provocative study ... surely by far the most erudite attempt to prove the orthodoxy of apokatastasis ... We shall need no further evidence that Christian belief can be sustained without the prospect of an everlasting hell." Mark J. Edwards, *Journal of Theological Studies* 65.2, 2014 "An impressive book" Johannes van Oort, *Vigiliae Christianae* 64 (2014) "In the course of this stunning work, Ilaria Ramelli explores with wonderful learning and precision the doctrine of universal salvation the impressive feature of this volume is the amount of scholarship brought to bear on the central issue an amazing combination of breadth and accuracy amazing learning and complexity." Anthony Meredith SJ, *International Journal of the Platonic Tradition* 8.2 (2014) 255-257 "Ilaria Ramelli's tome ... is a labor of manifest erudition and capability. ... "The Christian Doctrine of Apokatastasis" is a treasury of philosophical, theological, exegetical, historical, and philological insights of great value to the philosophical theologian." Steven Nemes, Fuller Theological Seminary. *Journal of Analytic Theology*, Vol. 3, May 2015"

""The most definitive account of the oft-controversial Christian version of the doctrine of the apokatastasis, or restoration/reintegration/reconstitution and will probably remain such for a considerable time ... a jewel in the crown of books on Patristics, Early Christian Studies, and Christian Philosophy.... a book that cuts to the very core of theological thought, dialogue, and controversy in early Christianity. Highly recommended!"" Chris L. De Wet, *Journal of Early Christian History* 5.2 (2015) 1-3 "A rich and provocative study ... surely by far the most erudite attempt to prove the orthodoxy of apokatastasis ... We shall need no further evidence that Christian belief can be sustained without the prospect of an everlasting hell." Mark J. Edwards, *Journal of Theological Studies* 65.2, 2014 "An impressive book" Johannes van Oort, *Vigiliae Christianae* 64 (2014) "In the course of this stunning work, Ilaria Ramelli explores with wonderful learning and precision the doctrine of universal salvation the impressive feature of this volume is the amount of scholarship brought to bear on the central issue an amazing combination of breadth and accuracy amazing learning and complexity." Anthony Meredith SJ, *International Journal of the Platonic Tradition* 8.2 (2014) 255-257 "Ilaria Ramelli's tome ... is a labor of manifest erudition and capability. ... "The Christian Doctrine of Apokatastasis" is a treasury of philosophical, theological, exegetical, historical, and philological insights of great value to the philosophical theologian." Steven Nemes, Fuller Theological Seminary. *Journal of Analytic Theology*, Vol. 3, May 2015 ""What Ramelli has done, is to marshal all the possible textual evidence with which scholars will have to contend in future years and in doing so she has done us a fine service." Morwenna Ludlow, University of Exeter, "Journal of Ecclesiastical History" Volume 66 (July 2015)"

""A remarkable book Let me conclude by stressing the scholarly quality of a book that rests on many years of laborious research. It is clearly written, abundantly documented, engagingly argued, and meticulously proof-read not just an exemplary treatment of the doctrine of apokatastasis but also a mine of information about a range of issues in early and medieval Christian theology It will be the standard work on the subject for a long time and a book of reference for advanced students of early and medieval Christianity." George Karamanolis, *International Journal of the Platonic Tradition* 10.1 (2016), pp. 142-146 ""The most definitive account of the oft-controversial Christian version of the doctrine of the apokatastasis, or restoration/reintegration/reconstitution and will probably remain such for a considerable time ... a jewel in the crown of books on Patristics, Early Christian Studies, and Christian Philosophy.... a book that cuts to the very core of theological thought, dialogue, and controversy in early Christianity. Highly recommended!"" Chris L. De Wet, *Journal of Early Christian History* 5.2 (2015) 1-3 "A rich and provocative study ... surely by far the most erudite attempt to prove the orthodoxy of apokatastasis ... We shall need no further evidence

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#### About the Author

Ilaria Ramelli, Ph.D.(2000), has been Professor of Roman Near East History, and Assistant in Ancient Philosophy (Catholic University, since 2003); she is also Senior visiting Professor of Greek Thought, of Church History, Senior Fellow (Durham), Theology Chair, academic and scientific consultant, research director, and member of directive boards of scholarly journals and series. She has written many books and articles on patristics in outstanding scholarly series and journals and received prestigious academic prizes.

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