

Contents

Acknowledgments ix

Introduction 1

PART 1

What did Baur Learn from Böhme?

- 1 The Idea of Creation 13
 - The Creation of Creation 13
 - The Hierarchy of Being 22
 - From Absoluteness to Finitude 28
 - The Will and God between Creation and Fragility 34
 - The Materiality of the World between the Devil and Man 42
 - From God to God's Word, Lucifer, and Man 51

- 2 The Image of Lucifer 60
 - Lucifer as God's Creation 60
 - Lucifer and the Idea of Light 67
 - Lucifer and Opposition against God 73
 - Lucifer and Rebellion 81
 - Lucifer and Sin 91
 - Lucifer and Death 100
 - Lucifer and Evil 105
 - Lucifer and the World 110
 - Lucifer and the Foundation of Dualism 116

- 3 The Structure of Dualism 125
 - Gnosis as Fundamental Dualism 125
 - The Dualism of Light and Darkness 129
 - The Dualism of Matter and Spirit 134
 - Dualism Explained: The Idea of Fragility 140
 - Dualism Explained: The Idea of Birth 146
 - Dualism Explained: The Idea of Agony 151
 - Light and Darkness in Creation 156
 - Christ and Lucifer in Creation 164
 - The Word and the Son in Creation 170

PART 2**What did Baur Learn from Hegel?**

- 4 The Overlapping of Spirit and Matter 179**
 Baur's Hegelian Understanding of God as Spirit in the Human
 Being 179
 Baur's Hegelian Understanding of God as Corporeal in Christ's
 Being 194
- 5 The Connection between Philosophy and Religion 213**
 The Correlation of Philosophy and Religion as Interpenetration of
 Humanity and Divinity 213
 Religion as Christianity, Paganism, and Judaism 231
- Concluding Remarks. Baur's Synthesis of Böhme and Hegel:
 Gnosis as a Christian Philosophy of Religion in History 262**
 Gnosis and the Old Philosophy of Religion 263
 Gnosis and Manichaeism 265
 Gnosis and Augustinianism 272
 Gnosis and the Middle Ages 276
 Gnosis and the Reformation 279
 Gnosis between Absolute Truth, Salvation, and Faith 285
 Personal Conclusions 290
- Bibliography 295**
Index 356