

Shirley Paulson, PhD, of Early Christian Texts shares insight about the *Secret Revelation of John* with members of your church or organization!

Introductory class offered in-person or online

Shirley Paulson, PhD



Shirley Paulson's exploration and research into the 'Bible and Beyond' began with her Master of Theological Studies work at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, which led to her PhD in Religion and Theology from the University of Birmingham (UK).

The unique contribution of Shirley's work is the combination of her contemporary ecumenical work with research in early Christian thought and writings. Combining her experience in healing, theological scholarship, and Practical Theology with research in Biblical and extracanonical texts evokes ever-new questions and conversations for scholars, spiritual seekers, and Bible enthusiasts. The foundational text for her research is the *Secret Revelation of John*.

Shirley has over three decades of experience presenting lectures, classes, and workshops on early Christian texts, plus her Christian Science lectures. Since 2017 she has been the driving force behind Early Christian Texts (earlychristiantexts.com), an organization offering an assortment of online educational programs including a newsletter, articles, blog, podcast, discussion series, and adult learning courses.

Her first book, *Illuminating the Secret Revelation of John*, was published by Cascade Books in April of 2022.

Bible and Beyond Presentations by Shirley Paulson of Early Christian Texts

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Class Description

Introduction to the *Secret Revelation of John* with special interest for Christian Scientists

The *Secret Revelation of John*, unearthed in 1945, has bewildered and excited scholars and religious thinkers ever since its discovery. It was found in central Egypt, near Nag Hammadi, with several other ancient writings. These writings, together and separately, have shifted scholars' views of early Christianity in startling ways. This one—the *Secret Revelation of John*—offers a deeply spiritual understanding of creation, salvation, and healing, and was shared and appreciated by groups of early Christ people.

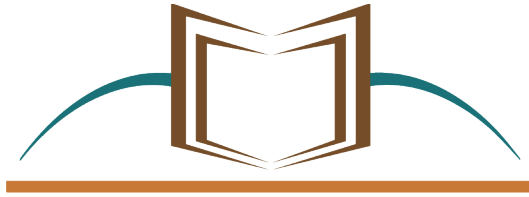
Christian Scientists will be surprised to discover unusual ideas that are strikingly similar to the teachings of Mary Baker Eddy. Shirley Paulson explains these topics in the context of the evolution of early Christianity and illuminates their significance for modern Christian Science healing practice and their enduring significance in the 21st century. Unlike the book included in the biblical canon (the *Revelation to John*), this relatively new discovery includes the whole Christian story: of creation, how evil operates in the world, and how the Savior saves.

How the Classes Work

Onsite presentations are composed of a live lecture and follow up discussion taking approximately 90 minutes total.

Online presentations include distribution of a 30-minute prerecorded video presentation which participants can watch at any time, and a scheduled 60-minute interactive Zoom meeting for discussion.

Classes are offered throughout the year, either at your location or online. You choose the venue, time, and date of your event. Please contact Shirley for availability.



What Is Included

Organizations sponsoring classes are provided with materials needed to promote and host a successful event, including:

- 20 Printed flyers to post or distribute.
- Text and images you can post on your website and use in your email newsletters.
- 2 copies of the book by Shirley Paulson, *Illuminating the Secret Revelation of John: Catching the Light*, to use as gifts or registration incentives.
- Handout materials relevant to the subject.
- An online registration form (if requested – collecting registration payments is the responsibility of the sponsoring organization).
- Online courses additionally include:
 - Access to a private web page with information about the class, handouts, and the pre-recorded lecture.
 - The link to the Zoom discussion.

Costs

There is a sliding scale pricing structure in place for the Bible and Beyond introductory presentations. Online presentations will generally cost less than in-person events because of the cost incurred for reimbursing Shirley's travel and lodging expenses. Your organization will set the fee for presentation participants.

Please email connect@earlychristiantexts.com for additional pricing information.