

The Thunder, Perfect Mind (a)

CODEX VI

I was sent forth from the power,
and I have come to those who reflect
upon me,
and I have been found among those who
seek after me.

Look upon me, you who reflect upon me,
and you hearers, hear me.

You who are waiting for me, take me to
yourselves.

And do not banish me from your sight.

And do not make your voice hate me, nor your
hearing.

Do not be ignorant of me anywhere or any
time.

Be on your guard!

Do not be ignorant of me.

For I am the first and the last.

I am the honored one and the scorned one.

I am the whore and the holy one.

I am the wife and the virgin.

I am <the mother> and the daughter.

I am the members of my mother.

I am the barren one

and many are her sons.

I am she whose wedding is great,
and I have not taken a husband.

I am the midwife and she who does not bear.

I am the solace of my labor pains.

I am the bride and the bridegroom,
and it is my husband who begot me.

I am the mother of my father
and the sister of my husband
and he is my offspring.

I am the slave of him who prepared me.

I am the ruler of my offspring.

But he is the one who begot me before the
time on a birthday.

And he is my offspring in (due) time,
and my power is from him.

I am the staff of his power in his youth,
and he is the rod of my old age.

And whatever he wills happens to me.

I am the silence that is incomprehensible

and the idea whose remembrance is
frequent.

I am the voice whose sound is manifold
and the word whose appearance is
multiple.

I am the utterance of my name.

Why, you who hate me, do you love me,
and hate those who love me?

You who deny me, confess me,
and you who confess me, deny me.

You who tell the truth about me, lie about me,
and you who have lied about me, tell the
truth about me.

You who know me, be ignorant of me,
and those who have not known me, let
them know me.

For I am knowledge and ignorance.

I am shame and boldness.

I am shameless; I am ashamed.

I am strength and I am fear.

I am war and peace.

Give heed to me.

I am the one who is disgraced and the great
one.

Give heed to my poverty and my wealth.

Do not be arrogant to me when I am cast out
upon the earth,
and you will find me in those that are to
come.

And do not look upon me on the dung-heap
nor go and leave me cast out,
and you will find me in the kingdoms.

And do not look upon me when I am cast out
among those who
are disgraced and in the least places,
nor laugh at me.

And do not cast me out among those who are
slain in violence.

But I, I am compassionate and I am cruel.

Be on your guard!

Do not hate my obedience
 and do not love my self-control.
 In my weakness, do not forsake me,
 and do not be afraid of my power.
 For why do you despise my fear
 and curse my pride?
 But I am she who exists in all fears
 and strength in trembling.
 I am she who is weak,
 and I am well in a pleasant place.
 I am senseless and I am wise.

Why have you hated me in your counsels?
 For I shall be silent among those who are silent,
 and I shall appear and speak,
 Why then have you hated me, you Greeks?
 Because I am a barbarian among the
 barbarians?
 For I am the wisdom of the Greeks
 and the knowledge of the barbarians.
 I am the judgement of the Greeks and of the
 barbarians.
 I am the one whose image is great in Egypt
 and the one who has no image among the
 barbarians.
 I am the one who has been hated everywhere
 and who has been loved everywhere.
 I am the one whom they call Life,
 and you have called Death.
 I am the one whom they call Law,
 and you have called Lawlessness.
 I am the one whom you have pursued,
 and I am the one whom you have seized.
 I am the one whom you have scattered,
 and you have gathered me together.
 I am the one before whom you have been
 ashamed,
 and you have been shameless to me.
 I am she who does not keep festival,
 and I am she whose festivals are many.
 I, I am godless,
 and I am the one whose God is great.
 I am the one whom you have reflected upon,
 and you have scorned me.
 I am unlearned,
 and they learn from me.
 I am the one that you have despised,
 and you reflect upon me.
 I am the one whom you have hidden from,
 and you appear to me.
 But whenever you hide yourselves,

I myself will appear.
 For whenever you appear,
 I myself will hide from you.
 Those who have [...] to it [...] senselessly [...].

Take me [... understanding] from grief.
 and take me to yourselves from
 understanding and grief.
 And take me to yourselves from places that are
 ugly and in ruin,
 and rob from those which are good even
 though in ugliness.
 Out of shame, take me to yourselves
 shamelessly;
 and out of shamelessness and shame,
 upbraid my members in yourselves.
 And come forward to me, you who know me
 and you who know my members,
 and establish the great ones among the
 small first creatures.
 Come forward to childhood,
 and do not despise it because it is small
 and it is little.
 And do not turn away greatnesses in some
 parts from the smallnesses,
 for the smallnesses are known from the
 greatnesses.

Why do you curse me and honor me?
 You have wounded and you have had mercy.
 Do not separate me from the first ones whom
 you have known.
 And do not cast anyone out nor turn anyone
 away
 [...] turn you away and [...] know] him not.
 [...].
 What is mine [...].
 I know the first ones and those after them
 know me.

But I am the mind of [...] and the rest of [...].
 I am the knowledge of my inquiry,
 and the finding of those who seek after
 me,
 and the command of those who ask of me,
 and the power of the powers in my
 knowledge
 of the angels, who have been sent at my
 word,
 and of gods in their seasons by my
 counsel,

and of spirits of every man who exists
with me,
and of women who dwell within me.
I am the one who is honored, and who is
praised,
and who is despised scornfully.
I am peace,
and war has come because of me.
And I am an alien and a citizen.
I am the substance and the one who has no
substance.

Those who are without association with me are
ignorant of me,
and those who are in my substance are
the ones who know me.
Those who are close to me have been ignorant of
me,
and those who are far away from me are
the ones who have known me.
On the day when I am close to you, you are far
away from me,
and on the day when I am far away from
you, I am close to you.

[I am ...] within.
[I am ...] of the natures.
I am [...] of the creation of the spirits.
[...] request of the souls.
I am control and the uncontrollable.
I am the union and the dissolution.
I am the abiding and I am the dissolution.
I am the one below,
and they come up to me.
I am the judgment and the acquittal.
I, I am sinless,
and the root of sin derives from me.
I am lust in (outward) appearance,
and interior self-control exists within me.
I am the hearing which is attainable to
everyone
and the speech which cannot be grasped.
I am a mute who does not speak,
and great is my multitude of words.

Hear me in gentleness, and learn of me in
roughness.
I am she who cries out,
and I am cast forth upon the face of the
earth.
I prepare the bread and my mind within.

I am the knowledge of my name.
I am the one who cries out,
and I listen.
I appear and [...] walk in [...] seal of my [...].
I am [...] the defense [...].
I am the one who is called Truth
and iniquity [...].

You honor me [...] and you whisper against me.
You who are vanquished, judge them (who
vanquish you)
before they give judgment against you,
because the judge and partiality exist in
you.
If you are condemned by this one, who will
acquit you?
Or, if you are acquitted by him, who will
be able to detain you?
For what is inside of you is what is outside of
you,
and the one who fashions you on the
outside
is the one who shaped the inside of you.
And what you see outside of you, you see
inside of you;
it is visible and it is your garment.

Hear me, you hearers
and learn of my words, you who know
me.
I am the hearing that is attainable to
everything;
I am the speech that cannot be grasped.
I am the name of the sound
and the sound of the name.
I am the sign of the letter
and the designation of the division.
And I [...].
(3 lines missing)
[...] light [...].
[...] hearers [...] to you
[...] the great power.
And [...] will not move the name.
[...] to the one who created me.
And I will speak his name.

Look then at his words
and all the writings which have been
completed.
Give heed then, you hearers
and you also, the angels and those who

have been sent,
and you spirits who have arisen from the
dead.

For I am the one who alone exists,
and I have no one who will judge me.

For many are the pleasant forms which exist in
numerous sins,

and incontinencies,
and disgraceful passions,
and fleeting pleasures,
which (men) embrace until they become
sober

and go up to their resting place.

And they will find me there,
and they will live,
and they will not die again.