NEW TESTAMENT ABSTRACTS

Weston Jesuit School of Theology Cambridge, Massachusetts

Vol.: 55 Num.: 2(2011) Pag.: 4	430-431
--------------------------------	---------

M. SIMONETTI AND E. PRINZIVALLI, *Storia della letteratura cristiana antica*, Primi secoli 3 (rev. ed.; Bologna: Dehoniane, 2010, paper €48.60) 646 pp. Bibliography. Indexed. ISBN: 978-88-10-45303-2.

The revised and updated version of a work first published in 1999 by Piemme, this history of early Christian literature first treats writings from the 1st to the 3rd century: the prose literary forms of Christian origins; heretical literature; poetical literature up to the 2nd century; apologetic literature; homiletic, anti-heretical, and exegetical literature; Alexandrian literature; the beginnings of Christian literature in the Latin language; the beginnings of Christian historiography; and hagiographical literature. Then it deals with writings from the 4th and 5th centuries (up to A.D. 450): general characteristics of Christian literature in late antiquity; Egyptian and Libyan literature between the Arian and Nestorian controversies; the Cappadocians; Antiochene literature; monastic literature; Christian historiography after Eusebius; Christian letters in the west in the 4th century; Christian poetry in the west; Jerome and his milieu; Augustine; and the successors and adversaries of Augustine. Both authors are professors at the Università La Sapienza di Roma.