

# The Question of Origen's Conversion and the Philosophico-Theological Lexicon of *Epistrophē* (Handout)

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## 1. Origen's Own Conversion? Problems and Hints

> How the notion of "conversion" is treated in the sources: contrasts

## 2. Origen's Terminology of *Epistrophē*

- Dovetailing Lexica in Origen: ἐπιστροφή and ἀποκατάστασις
  - > implications for the relation with Platonism
  - > implications for the exegesis of Scripture in Origen's philosophical and eschatological reading
- Use and function of ἐπιστροφή in later Neoplatonism, 'pagan' and Christian alike
  - > 'pagan' Neoplatonism down to Proclus and Damascius
  - > Christian Neoplatonism down to Ps. Dionysius and Eriugena
- Comparative use of *shuv* - *yšb* (Hebrew), ἐπιστροφή-lexicon and ἀποκατάστασις-lexicon in the LXX and the NT, Origen's knowledge (also through his *Hexapla*) and interpretation
- Key passages in Scripture and their exegesis
- Translations of Scripture and of Origen's works: *converto*, *conversio*; *restituo*, *restitutio*
- Influence on Didymus, Eusebius, Dionysius, Eriugena, as well as on 'pagan' late Platonism

## 3. What Is Conversion for Origen?