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he does¹³ not specifically attribute this view on the levirate as a *θητή ἀνάστασις* to the Sadducees.

Coming back to the question of the background of the idea that "the resurrection has taken place in the children that we have", we suggest, in agreement with Zahn, that it is the Jewish institution of the levirate, in terms of *Gen.* 38, 8: ἀνιστάναι σπέρμα. This expression could easily pave the way for a different understanding of the ἀνάστασις¹³. On the other hand, it should be noticed that the levirate is rooted in the same profoundly human desire as referred to by Plato in *Nom.* 4, 721C: the desire for the permanence of the name (τὸ... μὴ ἀνώνυμον κεῖσθαι τετελευκότεα τοῦ τοιούτου ἐστὶν ἐπιθυμία; cf. *Deut.* 25, 6: οὐκ ἐξαλειφθήσεται τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ ἐξ Ἰσραὴλ). We may point to another similarity between Plato and the Jewish tradition. As for the former a person's ἀρετή is a superior way of immortality than his posterity (*Symp.* 209CD), so the author of the Book of Wisdom judges it better not to have children and to possess virtue (ἀτεχνία μετὰ ἀρετῆς), because immortality (ἀθανασία) is attached to its memory (4, 1). This observation makes it even more difficult to say from what source Demas and Hermogenes derived their teaching. It may be that the author of the Acts of Paul labelled a belief that was common to Greek and Jew, or even a commonplace that can be heard at any period of the history of mankind ("immortality by posterity"), with the christian name of resurrection, and put that in the mouth of Paul's opponents to make it the counterpart of his own ('pauline') teaching ("resurrection only by virginity"). This labelling may have been suggested to him by *Gen.* 38, 8 via *Mt.* 22, 24.

To conclude, for the author of the APT^h there are two ways which lead to resurrection: procreation (in marriage) or virginity. The two are diametrically opposed: one chooses either the one or the other, but the only way a christian is allowed, or rather, obliged to take is that of virginity. The other way is that of lust and impurity, and leads to death and corruption. This means that marriage is to be rejected. This exclusiveness is characteristic of the Encratites' radicalism.

2. The Gospel of the Egyptians (EvEg).

In the Third Book of the Stromateis Clement of Alexandria gives the following description of the egyptian Encratites:

they have received the resurrection, as they say, and for that reason they reject marriage (48,1).

We notice immediately a striking difference with the APT^h. Whereas in the latter the resurrection is the future remuneration for those who reject marriage, the Encratites criticized by Clement seem to have taken over the viewpoint of Paul's opponents in the APT^h, viz. that the resurrection has already taken place. As G. Quispel has rightly seen, the Encratites' attitude rests on an exegesis of *Lk.* 20, 34-36¹⁴. As this text is very important for our subject and has played a considerable role in ascetic and monastic literature¹⁵, we must deal briefly with it. It is part of the Lord's answer to the Sadducees' question on the resurrection. It runs like this:

The children of this world marry and are given in marriage; 35 but they which are accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage: 36 neither can they die anymore: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.

13. But whereas the words from *Gen.* 38,8 say that it is the seed that is raised, in APT^h it is not clear, whether it is the parents that rise in their children, or the children that rise, or are raised by the parents.

14. Makarius, *das Thomasevangelium und das*

Lied von der Perle, Leyden, 1967, p. 83.

15. See S. FRANK, 'ATTELKOE BIOE. Begriffsanalytische und begriffsgeschichtliche Untersuchung zum „engelgleichen Leben“ im frühen Mönchtum, Münster 1964.

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