Record Nr. UNINA9910788251303321 Autore Jacobs Andrew S. <1973-> **Titolo** Christ circumcised [[electronic resource]]: a study in early Christian history and difference / / Andrew S. Jacobs Philadelphia, : University of Pennsylvania Press, c2012 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-89865-9 0-8122-0651-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xi, 314 pages) Collana Divinations: rereading late ancient religion Disciplina 232.92 Church history - Primitive and early church, ca. 30-600 Soggetti Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Includes bibliographical references (p. [191]-308) and index. Nota di bibliografia Introduction: Splitting the Difference -- Circumcision and the Cultural Nota di contenuto Economy of Difference -- (De-) Judaizing Christ's Circumcision The Dialogue of Difference -- Heresy, Theology, and the Divine Circumcision -- Dubious Difference Epiphanius on the Jewish Christians -- Scriptural Distinctions Reading Between the Lines -- "Let Us Be Circumcised!" Ritual Differences. In the first full-length study of the circumcision of Jesus, Andrew S. Sommario/riassunto Jacobs turns to an unexpected symbol-the stereotypical mark of the Jewish covenant on the body of the Christian savior-to explore how and why we think about difference and identity in early Christianity. Jacobs explores the subject of Christ's circumcision in texts dating from the first through seventh centuries of the Common Era. Using a diverse toolkit of approaches, including the psychoanalytic, postcolonial, and poststructuralist, he posits that while seeming to desire fixed borders and a clear distinction between self (Christian) and other (Jew. pagan. and heretic), early Christians consistently blurred and destabilized their own religious boundaries. He further argues that in this doubled approach to others. Christians mimicked the imperial discourse of the

> Roman Empire, which exerted its power through the management, not the erasure, of difference. For Jacobs, the circumcision of Christ vividly illustrates a deep-seated Christian duality: the fear of and longing for an other, at once reviled and internalized. From his earliest appearance in the Gospel of Luke to the full-blown Feast of the Divine Circumcision

in the medieval period, Christ circumcised represents a new way of imagining Christians and their creation of a new religious culture.