

13 St Barnabas and the Jews

Headnotes

Source: **B** UUB C 528, f. 61v2–13 (1400–50).

Parallel texts: **C** SRA E 8900, p. 158:6–20 (1450–70); **D** SKB A 3, f. 156va4–28 (1502).

Original text: **LegAur** 527–28.

Editions: **B** *FsvLeg* I 296; *FsvLeg* PAW II 419–21.

Edition (**B** UUB C 528)

- S**anctus · dorotheus scrifuir · at barnabas predicadhe vidh rom ok war
første biscofer jnnan melan · En dagh saa barnabas carla ok quinnæ
3 danza nakin for sinom afgudhum · **O**k tha bannadhe han mōnstreno swa at thet
fiol /
widh iordh · **O**k mykit folk wndher thy til bana · **S**idhan gripu iudha bar-
nabam ok wildu drægha han for domin ok for thy at the ræddus en wæl
6 burin herra eusebium neronis keysara · frenda at han toke han medh wald aff
thera handum · drogho the barnabam wtan stadhin ok brændu a bale / hans
ben ok asku lagdhu the j blykistu · ok badh sœnkia them til grunda **J**ohannes
9 hans discipulus ok hans thwe compana gatu fangit kistuna vm nat medh benum

1 barnabas] sanctus barnabas C; war] wardh C. 2 jnnan] j C; carla] mæn C; quinnæ] Possibly quinna / B, quinnor C, qwinno D, mulieres LegAur. 3 danza nakin] danza nak{in} B, nakna dantza C, nudas currentes et sua festa agentes LegAur; **O**k ... swa] **O**k \tha/ bannadhe \han/ mōstreno swa B, Barnabas bannade swa thera mōnstre C, Oc bannade mōnstreno / swa D, unde idignatus templo maledixit LegAur. 4 wndher thy] ther vnder C; bana ·] dōdh B, C, oppressit. Tandem Salaminam deuenit et ibidem contra eum predictus magus seditionem non modicam excitauit LegAur; **S**idhan] **T**ha C. 5 drægha han] dr{[a>æ]gha ha}n B, dragha C, dragha han D; domin] dom / C, doom · D, iudici ciuitatis LegAur; for thy] fore C. 5–6 wælburin] magnus et potens LegAur. 6 keysara] ~ C, kesara D; toke] tok[o>e] B, toghe C, toke D. 6–7 han medh ... handum ·] han medh wald aff thera handum · [ok] B, han aff thom medh waldh thy C, han medh wald / aff thera handom Oc D, de manibus eorum eriperet et sic liberum abire permitteret LegAur. 7 drogho ... stadhin] Ligantes igitur funem in collo eius extra portam eum traxerunt LegAur; the] \the/ B, the C, ~ D; barnabam] han C. 7–8 a ... asku] han a baale · **A**sco oc ben medh signadha · likama C, combusserunt. Denique nec sic Iudei impii satiat i ossa eius LegAur. 8 badh] willo C; them] ~ C. 9 ok] medh C; hans thwe] twem hans C, hans twe D; compana] kompanom C; gatu fangit] fingo C; kistuna ... nat] om nat kistona · C. 9–10 benum ... ascu ·] helgodomom C.

ok ascu · ok iordhadhu diupt j eno iordhhuse · **Ok** la næstan ·D· ar til ge-
 lasius paua wardh ok zeno keysare / tha visadhe han siælfuir · hwar hans
 12 ben ok asku lagho

Translation

St Dorotheus¹ writes that Barnabas preached in Rome and was the first bishop of Milan. One day, Barnabas saw men and women [or: (a) woman] dancing naked before their idols. And then he cursed the temple so that it fell to the ground and killed many people underneath it. Then the Jews seized Barnabas and wanted to drag him before the court and as they were afraid that a noble lord, Eusebius, a relative of the emperor Nero, would take him by force out of their hands, they dragged Barnabas outside of the city and burnt him on a pyre. They laid his bones and ash in a leaden case and asked to have it sunk to the bottom [of the sea]. During the night, John, his disciple, and two of his companions managed to get hold of the case with the bones and ash and buried it deep in a crypt. And it remained there for nearly five hundred years until Gelasius became pope and Zeno emperor² when he [i. e., Barnabas] himself revealed where his bones and ash were lying.

10 iordhhuse] cripta occulte ... ut ait Sigebertus *LegAur*; næstan ·] ther C; ·D·] fæm hundrath C, d·D. **10–11** gelasius] gela[d>s]ius B, gelasius C, D. **11** paua wardh] wardh pawe / C; zeno] uero D; visadhe] wiiste C. **12** lagho] waro swa længe gømpdh C.

1 That is, Pseudo-Dorotheus. Several late third-century works are pseudepigraphically attributed to Dorotheus of Tyre (c. 255–362). They describe the lives of the Apostles and their disciples, and they include the tradition of Barnabas living in Rome.

2 Pope Gelasius, r. 492–96; Emperor Zeno (c. 425–91), r. 474–75, 476–91.