



# Book 2

## Focus: The First Century

# David Birnbaum

New Perceligim Malifix"

THE DIRECT TRAJECTORY FROM THE CANON GOSPELS IN THE FIRST CENTURY TO AUSCHWITZ IN THE TWENTIETH

www.Crucifixion1000.com

# CRUCIFIXION



# Book 2

### Focus: The First Century

# David Birnbaum

New Percellen Melifx\*



21st CENTURY PUBLISHING

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## THE CRUCIFIXION of the jews

David Birnbaum's The Crucifixion is a uniquely distinctive work on the extraordinary historical odyssey of the Jews during a pivotal slice of history.

This work focuses on the 1300 year time frame bracketing the emergence of Christianity in the First Century, followed by the Christianizing of the Roman Empire post-Constantine, and finally, by the ending of the Crusades c. 1300 CE.

The author focuses on the crushing historical forces at-play. The Jewish nation which entered this period, is unrecognizable from the Jewish nation which emerged....

\* \* \*



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#### About the Author

**David Birnbaum** is known globally as "the architect of Potentialism Theory" – a unified philosophy/cosmology/metaphysics. The paradigm-challenging theory is delineated in Birnbaum's 3-volume Summa Metaphysica series (1988, 2005, 2014).

A riposte to Summa Theologica of (St.) Thomas Aquinas, the Birnbaum treatise (see PotentialismTheory.com) challenges both the mainstream Western philosophy of Aristotelianism and the well-propped-up British/atheistic cosmology of Randomness (see ParadigmChallenge.com). The focus of over 150 reviews and articles (see SummaCoverage.com), a course text at over 15 institutions of higher learning globally (see SummaCourseText.com), Summa Metaphysica was the focus of an international academic conference on Science & Religion April 16-19, 2012 (see BardConference.com).

David Birnbaum is, as well, the Editor-in-Chief of the in-progress Mesorah Matrix series on Jewish thought and spirituality: 10-volume, 10-theme, 150+ global Jewish thought leader essayists (see Mesorah1000.com).

In the history realm, David Birnbaum is the author of the 2-volume The Crucifixion – of the Jews, and of the 7-volume Jews, Church & Civilization. His Crucifixion series, in particular, traces a direct trajectory from the Canon Gospels in the First Century to Auschwitz in the Twentieth.

Birnbaum is a graduate of Yeshiva University High School (Manhattan), CCNY (City College of New York – Engineering) and Harvard. His commentary blog is www.ManhattanObserver.com.

See also www.DavidBacademic.com

(David Birnbaum bio above updated 10/01/15)

#### published by NEW PARADIGM MATRIX

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#### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

First Printing 2010

Birnbaum, David.

The Crucifixion Book 2 / David Birnbaum

ISBN 978-0-9843619-6-0

1. History. 2. Holocaust. 3. Canon Gospels. 4. Judaism. 5. anti–Semitism. 6. Jewish History. I. Title



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- 10-volume Mesorah Matrix (www.mesorah1000.com) (target completion: 2020)
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# CRUCIFIXION

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#### Dis-entangling the First Century

*Via à vis* the Jews, few centuries were as pivotal as the First Century C.E.

Not only was it a disastrous century for the Children of Abraham, but the century would also *set—the—stage* for 20+ centuries of diasporah and obloquy.

The birth of Christianity – a religion holding–up a banner of love – would also, in–tandem, and as a direct consequence – also herald–in a 20–century sentence of opprobrium and spasmodic mass–murder.

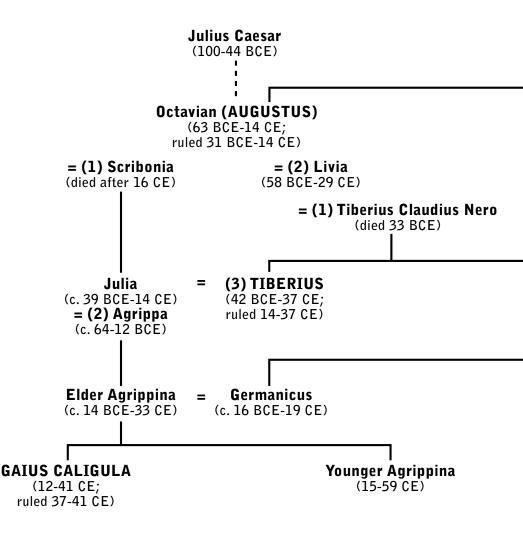
The Christian hierarchy would only rarely actually pull–the–trigger, but it would prime the gun, incite the shooter, devalue the victim's heritage, and finally, demonize the intended target.

History would show that no more than that was needed....

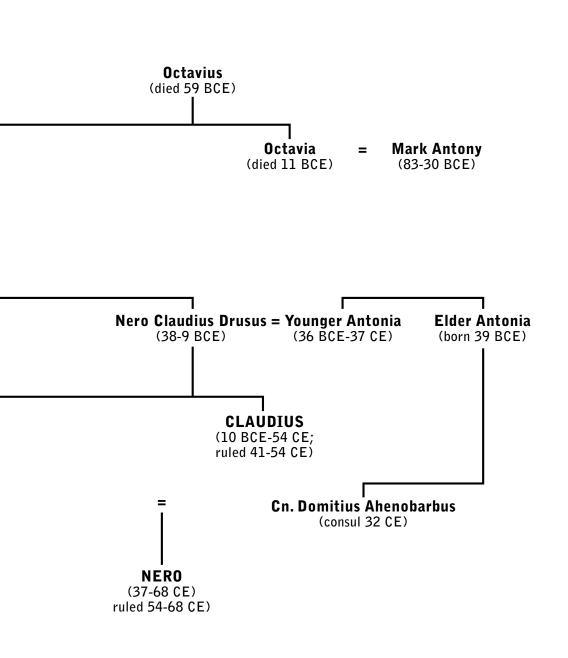
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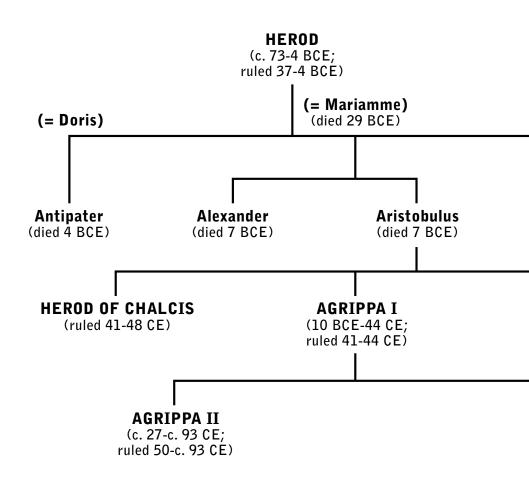
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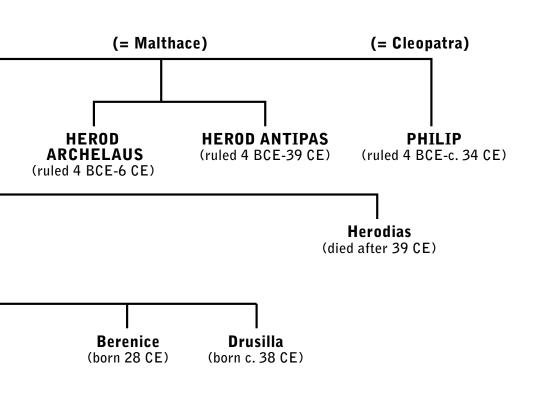


source: Martin Goodman, Rome and Jerusalem, New York: Vintage Books, © 2007



#### THE HERODIAN DYNASTY





#### THE CRUCIFIXION

#### **The Core Problem**

\*\*\*

The core problem with anti-Semitism vis à vis the Church, is not that Pius XII was "silent," nor that Pope Benedict (XVI) is not "forthcoming"

For the core problem is not that there are traces of a lethal virus in the "**software**" of the Church

The core problem is that there is a virulent and lethal virus in the core "*hardware*" of the Church

The core problem, with anti-Semitism (*vis à vis* the Church), is that it would seem to be endemic and intrinsic to the bedrock of the Church, and intertwined with the Church core canon, core theology, and core narrative

\*\*\*

#### 445 FOCUS: THE FIRST CENTURY

#### Sources / First Century

(1 of 4)

The classic wisdom is that *history is written by the victors*.

In the case of The First Century, the victors were Christianity (the *ultimate* victor) and Rome (the *intermediate term* victor). As it happens, both were enemies of the Jews.

And these two formidable enemies of the Jews thus controlled the true information locally relating to the First Century. Consequently, *bulletproof* information on the First Century is an orphan. But the underlying realities are discernible, and, it turns out, unequivocal.

As regards the pursuit of accurate information, over the immediate several centuries, these are some of the issues:

- The Catholic Church does not want it, because it inevitably does not dovetail *with the script.*
- The Greek historians had to filter reality through a light anti– Jewish bias in the popular Greek culture, as Greek culture had competed with Jewish culture in the Mediterranean area.
- The Roman historians

cont'd

#### **Sources / First Century**

[continued] (2 of 4)

The Jews are reliant to a great extent on Josephus, who was in the 'traitor' zone, and had his own 'ingratiation agenda' *vis à vis* Rome. Even the later Talmud sometimes naively bought into fragments of (erroneous) lore pervasively disseminated by the Church as 'history' hundreds of years after the 'fact.'

But the major problem with accessing documented information *vis à vis* the First Century is that it has essentially disappeared.

The Jews, key components of the First Century Jesus-saga, who are notoriously obsessive chroniclers and record keepers, seem to have left almost no trace. No records? No contemporaneous Jew-ish records of Jesus? How is that possible?

cont'd

#### 447 FOCUS: THE FIRST CENTURY

#### Sources / First Century

[continued] (3 of 4)

Respectfully, the key suspect is the Church of the Roman Empire period. With the Church having hegemony over the Empire, and the Empire having hegemony over Judea, all documents were potentially vulnerable. The Church hegemony gave the Church vast power over any document troves within the Empire's reach. For hundreds of years onward from the conversion of Constantine's empire in the 300s CE, any 'politically incorrect' document was 'vulnerable.'

Thus, the Church was 'in position' to vigilantly protect its legitimacy, and its spin on history. Any *politically incorrect* documentation could be destroyed. The document didn't even have to make its way up the *power chain* to headquarters in Rome. The local cleric reviewing the 'incendiary document' could '*remove the issue*.' Of course, from time to time, *document destruction* was an official 'happening.' \*\*\*

cont'd

#### **Sources / First Century**

[continued] (4 of 4)

However *nexus point history* always leaves a trail. Even those who would alter the historical record, as a group leave a trail. Sometimes an incontrovertible trail.

In the case of the First Century, the reality is clearly manifest once one examines matters just below the *surface spin*. The underlying reality, indeed, ends up being quite incontrovertible.

\*\*\*see also encyclopedia entries:

Catholic Church – book burnings talmud burnings Inquisition

\*\*\*

Some segments of this Appendix are specifically anchored academically in the works of Hyam Maccoby

see www.MaccobyBio.org

## **Revolution in Judea**

The beginning of the First Century Jewish revolt in Judea is generally dated as c. 67 CE.

However, there were actually three Jewish revolutions in Judea in the First Century.

The first was the blossoming of the *Hillel-thrust* of Pharisee Orthodox Judaism. Hillel was the direct philosophical predecessor of Jesus. His humanistic thrust, and even his direct sayings, are to a great extent adopted by the Jewish rabbinic Jesus of Nazareth. (see exhibit: **Roots I** later in this Appendix)

The second revolution was the blossoming of the *synagogue* as the primary religious venue in Judaism, supplanting the Temple, which had been "polluted" by the High Priest/Sadducee/Roman alignment.

The third revolution was the uprising against Rome. Although this flared into open rebellion c. 67 CE, the resistance against Rome commenced at the very point that the High Priesthood was initially co-opted by Rome in 6 CE. The resistance of Jesus to the High Priest/Roman alignment was thus part of this greater and ongoing Jewish resistance.

Of the three revolutions, the first two have prevailed to this day.

\*\*\*

#### 5 BCE

# (Three years after King Herod has completed his turbo-charged version updating of the Second Temple)

At this point, two-thirds of the nearly eight million Jews of the ancient world lived outside of Judea, but primarily in the Mediterranean area.

By any standard, Herod's Temple was an extraordinary achievement. It was a construct of triumphant splendor. To the Jews, who were wary of Herod on multiple levels, the completion of the extraordinary Temple project could not but have impressed. Others talked; Herod had acted. As noted in the text, aside from its beauty, Herod's version of Temple II was 5–10 times larger than the original Temple II (constructed in the 500s BCE).

As noted as well, Herod's Idumaen ancestors had been (forcibly) converted to Judaism only two generations earlier. Herod's father was technically 100 percent Jewish, but his mother was Idumaen. She was Idumaen nobility, but nevertheless pure Idumaen, and not Jewish. Thus, to many, if not most, Herod was not Jewish.

And Herod had been busy full-time *playing to Rome*, as well. Recently, Herod had built an entire city on the Mediterranean from scratch, an engineering marvel. Conceptualized from the get–go as an engineering triumph with an integral artificial harbor, the Mediterranean port of Caeserea Maritima, was constructed, built and named in honor of Herod's Roman patron, Augustus Caesar.

## THE CRUCIFIXION

5 BCE [continued]

Thus, the construction of the extraordinary Temple (completed in its entirety by 8 BCE) shored–up Herod's standing with his key local constituency, the Jews. Appointed initially by the Roman Senate as 'King of the Jews,' Herod now came closer to actually earning acceptance and legitimacy by those Judean Jews.

However, from the Jewish Orthodox perspective, by 5 BCE, Herod had veered 'off course' – as somewhere in the 8 BCE–5 BCE period, Herod had authorized the placement of a contentious statue on the Temple grounds. Herod placed a huge gilded eagle with outstretched wings over the gate of the Court of the Gentiles at the new Temple complex.

As the outstretched eagle was widely legitimately perceived as the symbol of the armed might and glory of Imperial (and pagan) Rome, the Jews were not amused. On multiple levels, religious and nationalistic, the placement of the gold–leafed Roman eagle at the nexus of Judaism and Judea, was highly offensive. It struck at the core.

\*\*\*

#### 4 BCE March (1 of 2)

In early March 4 BCE, two of the most highly respected teachers of Jewish law in Jerusalem decided to inveigh against the 'eagle statue' (see just-previous exhibit 5 BCE) which Herod had placed on the Temple grounds. The two prominent Jewish teachers, Mattathias ben Margalit and Judah ben Zippori, were both Pharisees (i.e. Orthodox Jews from the 'humanistic' wing of Judaism).

Mattathias and Judah exhorted their students in their Jerusalem school to destroy the offending statue. The teachers and about forty of their students then charged through the streets of Jerusalem, making their way to the Temple site of the offending statue, rappelled up the ceremonial gate, toppled the eagle to the ground, and summarily hacked the offending symbol of Imperial Rome to pieces.

#### 4 BCE March [continued] (2 of 2)

Herod's troops arrested the entire group. Fearing a popular uprising by Jerusalemites in support of the protestors if they were incarcerated or punished in Jerusalem, Herod had the group chained and force-marched twenty-three miles eastward to Jericho.

On the thirteenth day of March, the two teachers and the several students who had actually physically toppled and hacked the statue were burned alive in Jericho in public. The balance of the forty students were executed in private.

\*\*\*

source: William Klingaman, *The First Century*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 1990, p. 6

#### 4 BCE April

#### LORE

Within a month of the *burning alive* of the Pharisee rabbinics, Herod himself would die of his various physical afflictions. But not before he had his son Antipater executed for conspiring to poison Herod himself.

For Herod's funeral procession, his body lay on a golden bier, and was covered with a purple cloak embroidered with precious stones. A gold crown was on Herod's head.

A procession of notables accompanied him on his last journey to his tomb at the fortress-palace Herodium, whose construction Herod himself had conceived and overseen. Located twelve miles southeast of Jerusalem, between Bethlehem and the Dead Sea,

Arab inhabitants call Herodium Jabal al-Foundis or 'Mountain of Paradise.'

According to lore, many denizens of Judea wept the week following the death of Herod, but primarily because Herod had prearranged for the execution of a group of Jewish notables to take place immediately upon his death. The megalomaniac Herod had wanted to be absolutely, positively sure that Judea was in mourning, one way or another, the week following his death. And so it was.

source: William Klingaman, *The First Century.* New York: HarpersCollins Publishers, 1990, p. 12

+++

Not far from Herodium, and eighteen months later, a Jewish infant named Jesus was born in Judea, on the Bethlehem–Nazareth axis (now in the so–called 'West Bank').

2011 years later, in 2007, Hebrew University Professor Ehud Nezer announced that he had discovered Herod's gravesite in Herodium. Subsequently, the elaborate sarcophagus (burial ark) of Herod was located and positively identified. The sarcophagus had clearly been deliberately smashed into pieces. The smashing of the sarcophagus, along with the destruction of the monument to Herod at the site, was archeologically determined to have taken place in the 66–72 CE period. This was the time–frame when Jewish rebels against Rome, known as well for their contempt of the late Herod the Great, had briefly taken hold of the site before retreating southeastward to...Masada. – *author* 

\*\*\*

#### Jesus

(1 of 3)

Jesus was a teacher/rabbinic/preacher in Galilee (northern Israel today). Born: 4 BCE; executed by Rome: 33 CE

The Common Era calendar commences with his birth. A calculation error by the calendar-formulators resulted in his birth year being 4 BCE instead of 0 CE.

Jesus of Nazareth was neo-Orthodox Jewish.\*A Apoclytic and messianic, pressing the outer boundaries of messianic doctrine, but neo-Orthodox nevertheless.

His life and death are employed as the centerpiece of Christianity, a religion whose creation as a composite was started by Paul (of Tarsus) in the c. 50 CE period and advanced first by the Greek Paulines (in the 62-100 CE period) after him. However, Christianity is simultaneously severely anti-Jewish. The intense anti-Jewish thrust of Christianity spans its core documents as well as its institutional dogma and actions over the centuries.

To view the entire Chapter 10 of the Maccoby book online, go to www.MaccobyJesus.org

<sup>\*</sup>A (1 of 2) see Hyam Maccoby, *Revolution in Judaea*, entire chapter 10: Jesus, Rabbi and Prophet, pp. 103-114.

<sup>\*</sup>A (2 of 2) see David Flusser, Jesus, Jerusalem, The Hebrew University Magnes Press © 2001

All evidence – from multiple directions – vectors to the conclusion that Jesus was neo-Orthodox Jewish - author.

Both Maccoby and Flusser, preeminent scholars of the era and of the subject under discussion, were themselves Orthodox Jewish - and both categorized Jesus as "Orthodox Jewish."

Maccoby believed, as well, that for at least a part of his life, Jesus was a nazir (religious ascetic) as well. Flusser believed, as well, that Jesus was a *tsadik* (righteous/saintly individual).

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#### Jesus

[continued] (2 of 3)

Christianity severely downplays the neo- Orthodox Jewish component of Jesus and all of his Disciples. Many Christians are not aware that Jesus was even Jewish at all, let alone neo-Orthodox Jewish.

The New Testament positions Jesus as antagonistic to Pharisee (mainstream) Judaism. This New Testament portrayal is an inversion of the truth. Jesus was *part and parcel* of the greater Pharisee *humanistic* thrust of Judaism, as well as part of the greater Pharisee *activist* thrust against both the Caiaphas family (i.e. the High Priest's family) and its puppet–master, Rome.

Jesus is portrayed in Christian gospels as a *faith healer, messianic* and *apocalyptic* simultaneously. None of these components – individually or in–combination – would automatically relegate Jesus as *over the red line* of normative (Pharisee) Orthodox Judaism.

In that spiritually tumultuous time period under Rome's oppressive occupation of Judea, others had traveled similar paths, had been executed by Rome and been mourned by the Jews. In the absence of contemporaneous rabbinic literature castigating Jesus, there is no particular reason to conclude that Jesus overstepped any *halachic* lines. On the contrary, Jesus was probably meticulously careful not to.

No discussion of Jesus at all is found in any contemporaneous (First Century) Jewish rabbinic texts. The conclusion would have to be that he was neither considered a major threat to any Jewish constituency (priestly, rabbinic or other), nor necessarily a preeminent factor on the Jewish religious scene at that time. He may have been a potentially explosive figure in the political scene, however.

#### Jesus

[continued] (3 of 3)

If he was a very major factor on the Jewish religion scene, and there was documentation, it was most probably destroyed by the Church for reasons of its own. The Jews were *on the run* from c. 70 CE onwards. From c. 350 CE onwards, the Church had major leverage over all Jewish document troves in greater Europe and greater Judea.

Apparently beloved by his small group of Orthodox Jewish followers, Jesus' execution by Rome for sedition in 33 CE can be presumed to have been mourned – via Orthodox Jewish modalities – by the members of the Jerusalem and Galilee Jewish/Pharisee communities.

[For some context and perspective into the Jewish world, it should be noted that a large piece of the contemporary and vibrant worldwide (Orthodox Jewish) Lubavitch community mourns the late Lubavitcher Rebbe (Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson zt'l) as a messianic figure, more than a decade after his death. During his life, the rebbe intimated that he was messianic; he died in 1994; no miraculous unfolding has occurred since his death; but nothing stops his adherents from believing he was/is the messiah. An entire vibrant global sub–culture surrounds this situation to this day.]

\*\*\*

## THE CRUCIFIXION

### Was Jesus Orthodox Jewish?

(1 of 2)

There is a spectrum of scholarly opinion.

#### ON THE RIGHT

There have been distinguished scholars who believe that Jesus' position was within the Orthodox Jewish range. (see scholarship of Hyam Maccoby, Joseph Klausner, David Flusser).

Some believe that Jesus shifted "rightward" over the years from (classic) Orthodox to Nazirite (Orthodox) at the time of his killing. Note that Nazirite is a highly ascetic mode of Orthodox, and more to the "right" than (classic) Orthodox. His younger brother, James the Just was Nazirite.

#### ON THE LEFT

Others believe that he was to the 'left' of Orthodox. These scholars sometimes employ the term "common Judaism" (see scholarly works of E.P. Sanders) to describe his practice. By that, they mean sort-of Traditional, which itself is a pretty wide term. Here they mean the Judaism of the "average (or random) Jew" of the First Century: Festivals, Temple, Kashrut. Of course, that is not the observance of the 'average (or random) Jew of the 21st Century, which is typically far to the 'left' of that Festivals-Kashruth cluster.

Note, as well, that Jesus may indeed have shifted ground within Judaism over the years." The scholarship on the subject ("the real Jesus") itself shifts subtly over-the-years.

## Was Jesus Orthodox Jewish?

(2 of 2)

#### NEO-ORTHODOX

We employ the term "neo-Orthodox," which is somewhere in-between the above numerated positions. See scholarship of Julius Wellhausen and Brad Young. More precisely, 'neo-Orthodox' would be somewhat to the "left" of classic Orthodox and "to the right" of Traditional.

Many contemporary Orthodox rabbinics aggressively denounce any description of Jesus as anything but apostate. Their fear is that labeling him as anywhere near Orthodox Judaism implies that he was a Mainstream Jewish teacher/rabbinic promulgating Christianity. The contemporary rabbinics should relax. While Jesus was clearly within the Jewish fold, and most probably neo-Orthodox, he most certainly did not promulgate Christianity.

#### Historian Wellhausen on Jesus

"Jesus was not a Christian: he was a Jew. He did not preach a new faith, but taught men to do the will of God; and, in his opinion, as also in that of the Jews, the will of God was to be found in the Law of Moses and in the other books of Scripture."<sup>1</sup>

Julius Wellhausen (May 17, 1844 – January 7, 1918) was a German biblical scholar and orientalist, noted particularly for his contribution to scholarly understanding of the origin of the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible).

See p. 368 of Klausner's Jesus

1. Einleitung in die drei ersten Evangelian, Berlin, 1905, p. 113

source: Joseph Klausner, *Jesus of Nazareth*, New York: Bloch Publishing Company, © 1989, p. 363

#### Historian Klausner on Jesus

"Jesus was a Jew and a Jew he remained till his last breath. His one idea was to implant within his nation the idea of the coming of the Messiah and, by repentance and good works, hasten the 'end." \*<sup>A</sup>

Joseph Klausner was known in the world of Jewish scholarship not only for his historical studies, but also for his efforts to broaden the Hebrew language to meet modern needs. He was born in Lithuania in 1874 and received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Heidelberg. From 1904 to 1919, he held various academic positions in Odessa; in 1920 he went to Palestine, where the taught modern Hebrew language and literature at the Hebrew University.

Dr. Klausner has written a number of books, notably Jesus of Nazareth, From Jesus to Paul and History of the Second Temple Era.

\*A See B. Jacob, *Jesu Stellung zum Mosaischen Gesetz*, Göttingen, 1893.

source: Joseph Klausner, *Jesus of Nazareth*, New York: Bloch Publishing Company, © 1989, p. 368

## Historian Young on Jesus

(1 of 3)

"The fact that Jesus was a Jew is seldom questioned today, but its far-reaching ramifications for the interpretation of his life are routinely passed over. Although Jesus was Jewish, his theology is sometimes treated as if he were Christian. But Jesus never attended a church. He never celebrated Christmas. He never wore new clothes on Easter Sunday. His cultural orientation was rooted deeply in the faith experience of his people. His teachings concerning God's love and the dignity of each human being were based upon the foundations of Jewish religious thought during the Second Temple period. The more we learn about this fascinating period of history, the more we will know about Jesus. Jesus worshipped in the synagogue. He celebrated the Passover. He ate kosher food. He offered prayers in the Temple in Jerusalem. The Jewish religious heritage of Jesus impacted his life in every dimension of his daily experience.

#### Historian Young on Jesus

[continued] (2 of 3)

Jesus must be understood as a Jewish theologian. His theology is Jewish to the core. The tragic history of the relationship between Judaism and Christianity makes it extremely difficult to hear his forceful voice. The attacks of the church against the synagogue have stripped Jesus of his religious heritage. As Christians we have been taught wrong prejudices about Jews and Judaism. Hatred for the Jewish people has erected a barrier separating Jesus from his theology. Ethnically he may be considered a Jew, but [to Christians] religiously he remains [pictured as] a Christian who failed to reform the [allegedly] corrupt religious system of the Jews...Jesus is Jewish both in his ethnic background and in his religious thought and practice.

Why was Jesus killed? In the age of Roman supremacy, political intrigue, and the intense strife between popular religious movements and diverse local authorities maintaining a balance of power, the question might even be asked in another way. Was Jesus killed because he was a bad Jew? Or was he killed because he was a good Jew?

#### Historian Young on Jesus

[continued] (3 of 3)

From a raw historical perspective, who should be blamed for his death? The cause for Jesus' execution in the Roman court of Pontius Pilate was infinitely more connected to politics and the determined policy of the imperial government, which sought to root out all Jewish messianic hopes, than it was related to a revolutionary theology or religious upheaval. Jesus' theology did not prompt his death. Jesus was killed as a devout Jew loyal to the heritage of his faith. The political circumstances of a difficult era of history, where Jews were persecuted for being devout, and, above all, where the old messianic hope has to be suppressed, describe the background for Jesus' trial and execution."

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Brad H. Young, Ph.D Hebrew University, studied under David Flusser and is the author of *Jesus and His Jewish Parables* and *The Jewish Background to the Lord's Prayer*. He is the president and founder of the Gospel Research Foundation, which is committed to exploring the Jewish roots of the Christian faith, and is on the editorial board of the Compendia Rerum Iudaicarum ad Novum Testamentum.

source: Brad H. Young, *Jesus The Jewish Theologian*, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers, 1995

#### Rosemary Ruether on Jesus: Central v. Tangential

"Christians must reckon with the paradox that what is, for them, the great revelatory and salvic event, dominating the center of world history, is, for Judaism's own historical consciousness, a buried footnote in a curious side-path of Jewish religious history, which ended, [theologically] as far as rabbinic Judaism was concerned, in a dead end. Although the Pharisees apparently did not take such note of Jesus in his own lifetime that one can say, literally, that they rejected him, they did reject him [i.e. that which the Church morphed him into] retroactively, in the sense that they rejected the [allegedly antagonistic] Christ presented to them by the Church. They did so in the same spirit in which they turned their back on all the messianic activism of this period. For them this development had revealed itself as a false direction, destructive alike to the nation and to the individual religious personality."

Rosemary Radford Ruether (b. 1936) is an American feminist scholar and theologian.

source: Rosemary Ruether, *Faith and Fratricide*, Oregon: WS Publishers, © 1995, Chapter 1, p. 59.

#### **No Partners**

in the Sentencing or Crucifixion\* (1 of 2)

"That Pilate would want to execute Jesus makes perfect sense. In fact, Roman law prohibited capital punishment at the hands of local courts such as those of the Jews. Capital punishment in any case had been made virtually impossible according Jewish law, which requited that the two witnesses see each other, that the witnesses warn the perpetrator, etc.—all making it almost impossible that Jews would have wanted to actually go through with an execution. Under Roman rule, Jews themselves, without Pilate, without the Romans, would never have been permitted to carry on capital punishment of anybody...

#### No Partners in the Sentencing or Crucifixion [continued] (2 of 2)

...a tenth–century Arabic version [of Josephus] indicates what the correct text of Josephus originally was, because it has no Christianizing elements:

At this time there was a wise man who was called Jesus. And his conduct was good, and he was known to be virtuous. And many people from among the Jews and the other nations became his disciples. Pilate condemned him to be crucified and to die. And those who had become his disciples did not abandon his discipleship. They reported that he had appeared to them three days after his crucifixion and that he was live; accordingly (they thought that) he was perhaps the Messiah concerning whom the prophets have recounted wonders.

Actually, this little paragraph can be taken as a simple statement of what actually happened."

Lawrence H. Schiffman, Chair of New York University's Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, is also a member of the University's Center for Ancient Studies and Center for Near Eastern Studies. He is a past president of the Association for Jewish Studies. (Additional biographical info later.)

\*Lawrence Schiffman, *Crucifixion*, http://lawrenceschiffman.com/?page\_id=141, (accessed September 2, 2009)

#### Historian Jules Isaac on The Crucifixion

(1 of 2)

"A Roman punishment, the Cross erected on Calvary pointed the finger of guilt not toward Caiphas but toward Pilate. Nothing could have been more inconvenient or troublesome for the Christian apostolate, anxious at all costs to placate the Roman government. How were they to cope with the difficulty? Each of the Evangelists [i.e. Gospel Writers] did the best he could, in his own fashion—which brings us to our second example, the vital confrontation between the data of history and those of the Evangelists.

For we have historical information concerning the matter. As we have seen, we have information concerning the Jewish people who were then so passionately anti–Roman, so ripe for revolt. We have information on the procurators, and especially on Pontius Pilate, showing him for what he really was—a bloodthirsty tyrant.\*<sup>A</sup>

As a witness against him we have, first of all, his contemporary (and therefore the contemporary of Jesus), the distinguished Jewish philosopher Philo of Alexandria, who mentions "the crimes [of Pilate], his rages, his greed, his injustices, his abuses, the citizens he has put to death without trial, his intolerable cruelty." In the next generation the Jewish historian Flavius Josephus tells of three incidents in the governorship of Pilate, two of which resulted in massacres.

Another witness is Luke the Evangelist himself, who mentions (13:1) a massacre of Galileans ordered by Pilate.

#### Historian Jules Isaac on The Crucifixion

[continued] (2 of 2)

Modern Catholic exegesis is obliged to admit that (as Father Leon– Dufour puts it) "the behavior of Pilate in the Gospel accounts seems to be out of keeping with the data of history." In short, the bloodthirsty tyrant has been transformed in the Gospel accounts of the Passion into an honest man, anxious to find Jesus innocent and to save his life, who yields in spite of himself before the [allegedly] furious pressure of the Jews—not only of the Jewish leaders but of the people themselves, [allegedly] bent on bringing about the crucifixion of Jesus, one of the their own people, by the hated Romans.

Here we have the successful [read: nefarious] metamorphosis of a *crucified* into a *crucifying* people, which may be in the interest of catechism, but is clearly not in the interest of historical truth."

Jules Isaac (b. November 18, 1877; d. 1963, Aix–en–Provence) was a Jewish French historian.

\*A See passages quoted in *Jésus et Israël*, pp. 453-456.

source: Jules Isaac, *The Teaching of Contempt,* Canada: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, © 1962, pp. 134–136

#### Rosemary Ruether on "The Coming of the Messiah": Christianity v. Judaism

"The most fundamental affirmation of Christian faith is the belief that Jesus is the Christ. He is that Messiah whom the prophets "foretold" and the Jews "awaited." On this affirmation, everything else in Christian theology is built. To ask about this affirmation is to ask about the keystone of Christian faith. For Judaism, however, there is no possibility of talking about the Messiah having already come, much less of having come two thousand years ago, with all the evil history that has reigned from that time to this (much of it having been done in Christ's name!), when the Reign of God has not come. For Israel, the coming of the Messiah and the coming of the Messianic Age are inseparable. They are, in fact, the same thing. Israel's messianic hope was not for the coming of a redemptive person whose coming would not change the outward ambiguity of human and social existence, but for the coming of that Messianic Age which, as Engels was to put it, is "the solution to the riddle of history."

source: Rosemary Ruether, Faith and Fratricide, Oregon: WS Publishers, © 1995, Chapter 4, pp. 246–247.

## Historian Schiffman on Caiaphas the High Priest

(1 of 2)

"The exclusivist nature of the Jewish religion and the organization of Judea as essentially a Temple state around Jerusalem meant that the Romans had to govern with the help of some kind of Jewish leadership. That is why they had tried the Herodian dynasty. This time, they decided to select high priests from families originating outside the land of Israel, to place them in charge of the Temple, and to use them as a bridge to the Jewish population. This scheme, however, meant that the high priests whom the Romans selected had little support among the populace, for their status was dependent only on their wealth and closeness to the Roman authorities.

In Jesus' time, the high priest appointed by Pontius Pilate was Joseph Caiaphas, whose tomb was recently found in Jerusalem. He had married into a family that, together with related aristocratic Sadducean families, controlled the priesthood generation after generation. Caiaphas lasted in office for about eighteen years (c. 18–36 CE). Most high priests lasted no more than a year, and one lasted one day! How did he manage to hold on to his position for so long? In fact, he was essentially a collaborator. His job was to keep the peace, especially at the festivals, so that the Roman Empire could pursue its policy in the East, untrammeled by trouble from the Jews...

#### Historian Schiffman on Caiaphas the High Priest

[continued] (2 of 2)

What do we know about Caiaphas? Apparently, he was a collaborator, but we have no evidence that he was involved in this [Jesus killing] or any other execution. Pilate [the Roman Procurator], however, was known for his cruelty, and in the Gospels he is [conveniently] represented as washing his hands [allegedly], allowing the Jews to execute [read: condemn] Jesus. But in Luke (13:1) he is described as mingling the blood of the sacrifices with the blood of the Jews he killed. So who is the most likely choice for the guilty party? It is obviously Pilate."

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source: Lawrence Schiffman, *Crucifixion*, http://lawrenceschiffman.com/?page\_ id=141, (accessed September 2, 2009)

## The Transmutation of Jesus

(1 of 2)

A transmutation of Jesus is effected by Church lore on several levels: (Note that some of these *bullet points* overlap significantly.)

- Jesus, the activist who protested against Rome, is transmuted into an alleged *challenger* of the rabbinic authorities.
- Jesus, the challenger against Sadducee collaboration with Rome, is transmuted into an alleged *blasphemer* against Judaism.
- Jesus, the neo-Orthodox Jewish teacher with a heavy emphasis on humanism, is transmuted into a *quasi–universalistic* preacher of humanism, who had rejected his core Judaism.

# The Transmutation of Jesus

[continued] (2 of 2)

- Jesus the neo-Pharisee Jew, is transmuted into Jesus the anti-Pharisee Jew.
- Jesus, an advocate of humanistic neo-Orthodox Judaism, is sometimes transmuted into an advocate of embryonic Christianity.
- Jesus, a fully committed Jewish teacher, crucified by Rome for sedition, is transmuted into a blasphemer *de facto* executed by the Jewish authorities.
- Jesus, adherent of monotheistic Judaism, is transmuted by the Church into the central icon of a religion maintaining a Trinity– ism, with Jesus as the *Christ the King* centerpiece.
- Jesus, who was born Jewish, who lived and died committed Jewish, and who came from a multi–generation Jewish family, is transformed into the central icon of a religion, which will denigrate, and persecute the Jews for over 19 centuries.

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#### James the Just

(1 of 8)

Jesus' surviving brother James ("James the Just") assumed the leadership of the local Jerusalem nazirite Orthodox Jewish group upon the death of Jesus. The nazirites were a group within the fold of the Orthodox Jewish Pharisees. They were an ultra-pious, ascetic Orthodox Jewish group. James's Nazirites internalized the *Jesus* as *Messiah* doctrine.

A Jewish nazirite – as per the Torah – typically leads an ascetic life dedicated to spirituality and God. For a 30+ day period of time, they deny themselves wine, cutting their hair, and any contact with corpses or graves. It is possible, as well, that Jesus had been a *nazirite* Pharisee Orthodox Jew for part of his adulthood, possibly including at the point of his execution.

The Christian world tries to label this (James the Just) group as the embryonic or early Christian Church. Respectfully, it was not. Notwithstanding attempts to label this Jewish synagogue–centered group as –

the "Mother Church" the "Jerusalem Church" the "Old Church" the "Nazarene Church"

*it* was simply not a church. Its theology and practice were antithetical to the Church.

Usage of the term *Jewish Christians* is as well, a severe distortion of the historical record and of the Orthodox Jewish reality of these nazirites. Jewish and secular historians *who take the bait* and employ misleading nomenclature do no justice to their craft.

## James the Just

[continued] (2 of 8)

The nazirite group was not Christian, was not from Nazareth, and was not Jewish Christian. They were ascetic Orthodox Jewish *nazirites* who believed that Jesus was the messiah. The nazirites had no part of either the *Virgin Birth theology* or the *Trinity theology* to come. On the contrary, this nazirite group fully embraced *halachah* (Jewish law and practice).

The nazirite group observed the Sabbath, the dietary laws, the laws of purity, and the laws of tithing. The nazirite group was heir to the committed Jewish legacy of Jesus in thought and in deed, except that it was more "religious" (more Orthodox Jews) than Jesus, had been the bulk of his short-lived life.

The nazirite group, as Jesus before them, was opposed by the quisling Caiaphas High Priest family and the Roman–Hellenistic alignment in Judea. The nazirite group, like Jesus before them, was supported by the Jewish establishment, the Pharisees.

Thus, contrary to the interesting inversion of history in the New Testament, Jesus – as well as brother and "successor," James – are *allied–with* and *embraced–by* the Pharisee normative wing of Judaism.

The nazirite group viewed Jesus as messianic, but not as divine, as the Church would. This is the crucial distinction. Viewing Jesus as *messianic* would be within *halachic* (Orthodox Jewish legal) parameters. Viewing Jesus as *divine* would not be.

#### James the Just

[continued] (3 of 8)

Thus, notwithstanding the *smoke and mirrors* employed by the Vatican *et al.* as regards this nazirite group, this synagogue group of James the Just was not part of any embryonic Christian Church.

James the Just and Paul of Tarsus are both killed approximately 60–62 CE. At this point, the Greek Paulines *make their move*. Early Christianity is founded / invented / created / launched by these Greek Paulines.

Early Christianity was launched by the Greek Paulines initially in a lo-key manner subsequent to the killing of the two personages Paul and James the Just in 60–62 CE. It is turbo-charged further 70–100 CE, when the Jews of Judea are under *full scale* Roman assault.

By c. 73 CE, the nazirite group, patriotic Jewish nationalists as well as religious adherents, are sidelined, if not decimated, by the Roman War and assault on Jerusalem. The result is to leave the Greek Paulines a "clear field."

Thus, it is not the crucifixion of Jesus which is history's *pivot point*. It is actually the dual killing 60–62 CE of James the Just, the Orthodox Jewish brother of Jesus, and of Paul of Tarsus, which is the pivot point of Jewish, Western, and Christian history. Their murders become the *birth point* of Early Christianity. Paul's former Greek Pauline allies, now his successors, at this point, and not coincidently, significantly morph Paul's vision to their own theological and political ends.

#### James the Just

[continued] (4 of 8)

Via the Greek Paulines, "Savior and Redeemer" themes, "Resurrection" theology, literal "son of God" and "Virgin birth" themes now find more tangible expression in Christian doctrine and writings. Approximately 69–70 CE, with the Roman assault on the Jews of Judea now in full crescendo, the Greek Paulines also in-tandem introduce a wide panoply of literary and image-laden anti-Semitic motifs *into the mix*.

As noted, James the Just, an Orthodox Jewish nazirite, had been both a *disciple-of* and the *brother-of* neo-Orthodox Jewish Jesus. James symbolically *holds the baton* of Jesus. A man of rectitude, piety, devotion, commitment and sincerity, James maintained a stellar stature both in the Jewish community and within surrounding religious *wannabe* groups.

Committed to maintaining the Orthodox Jewish heritage of Jesus, James embodied the true legacy of Jesus. With his stellar stature as well as his commitment to – and championing of – Orthodox Jewish law, theology and philosophy, James was the guardian of the Jesus legacy of commitment to Torah Judaism.

While James was alive, the genuine Jesus–legacy would never be altered, breached or compromised by James the Just – notwith-standing importuning by even the charismatic Paul and/or his insistent Greek Pauline allies.

But in c. 62 CE, twenty-nine years after the death of Jesus, James the Just is killed. As Paul is beheaded earlier the same year in Rome, Early Christianity is then launched/created by the Greek Paulines.

#### James the Just

[continued] (5 of 8)

Christianity, under Greek Pauline auspices post–62 CE, will be a religion morphing Jesus from martyr to – God or neo–god or Son of God – or some combination thereof. Whatever its category or label, it is not truly monotheistic.

Christianity will profess to be monotheistic and to be carrying on the heritage of Jesus. Respectfully, both assertions are flawed.

The neo-Orthodox Judaism of Jesus and his Disciples, as well as the ascetic Orthodox Judaism of James the Just and his followers, the nazirites of Jerusalem, the legitimate successor line to Jesus, will be thoroughly uprooted.

The Greek Paulines will hold the banner of Jesus aloft as their iconic *standard.* But the reality of Christianity will not be consonant with the banner. Indeed, under the banner of Jesus, Christianity as crafted/ morphed by the Greek Paulines post– 62 CE, will doom the "mother nation" of Jesus to persecution and mass murder. Under the banner of Jesus, Christianity will undermine and submerge Jesus' original legacy of devotion to neo-Orthodox Jewish law and practice.

Under the banner, as well, of the original Bible, (the so-called 'Old Testament'), Christianity will simultaneously eviscerate the original Bible, and undermine its theology, law and practice. Christianity will then trash its protectors and original recipient-nation.

With the killings of James the Just and Paul of Tarsus, there is, of course a power vacuum. Paul had founded Embryonic Christianity. The Greek Paulines at this point launch a turbo–charged version, Early Christianity.

## THE CRUCIFIXION

#### James the Just

[continued] (6 of 8)

By 75 CE, within 12 years of Christianity's its launching by the Greek Paulines in 62 CE, Judea will have witnessed the total destruction of Jewish resistance by the Romans. The remnants of the Jewish elite will be distracted, to say the least. The Greek Pauline Early Christians will, consequently, post–74 CE, have considerably more *room to maneuver* than after the killings of Paul and James.

Early Christianity will be launched by non–Judeans. It will be launched by pro–Roman, pro–Greek, anti–Jewish non–Jews. Its *center of gravity* and gospel writers will now be outside of Judea. Its gospel writers will write in Greek, not Hebrew or Aramaic. It will be heavily anti–Jewish. It will be quite a few steps removed from the neo-Orthodox Jewish Jesus of Judea, to put it mildly.

Notwithstanding the *surround sound* "assertion" by the Church chorus spanning 19+ millennia that James the Just *et al.* held Jesus to be the Son of God and/or of virgin birth and/or part of a Trinity and/or a vicarious Divine, the "assertion" simply does not wash. And repeating it a trillion times in tens of thousands of venues still does not make it wash. Because the assertion is patently false.

#### Nazarenes or Nazirines?

The nazirite group of James the Just, is generally referred-to as the Nazarenes

#### spelling with 'a':

Nazarene (with the fourth letter being an 'a') implies that the major thrust of the group was focus on the crucified Jesus of **Nazareth** aspect.

#### spelling with 'i':

Nazirine (with the fourth letter being an 'i') implies that the major focus of the group was its **nazir-ite** – or ascetic Jewish Orthodox aspect.

#### James the Just

[continued] (7 of 8)

So, the Church would have a huge multi-century stake in spelling 'a.'

Indeed the Church position is that this early "sect" (but, actually, in reality, a messianic Pharisee Jewish group) accepted the "Virgin birth" of Jesus of Nazareth, hence the focus on the town of Nazareth.

But there are four fairly insurmountable problems with the Church historical-spin:

1) Linguistically, the transformation from the Greek roots of the term Nazarene/Nazirine to the preferred Christian translation (Nazarene with an 'a'), is apparently untenable. The Greek roots lead to the Nazirites (with an 'i') term.

2) The "Virgin birth" theology in Christianity only emerged much later historically.

3) To postulate that these *nazirite* Jewish Orthodox adherents of – Jesus as Messiah – made the leap to "Virgin birth" theology a year after the death of Jesus, is a contradiction in terms – as Orthodox Jews are not into "Virgin birth" theologies.

While *messianism* has rich roots in Jewish lore, "Virgin birth" is neopagan mythology, and well outside the realm and tolerance of Jewish tradition. Judaism, indeed, sanctifies classic in-wedlock sexual procreation; it does not ever *in any shape, manner or form* ascribe it to inferior realms.

## James the Just

[continued] (8 of 8)

4) Bethlehem is the asserted birthplace of Jesus, not Nazareth. If the group sought to focus on "Virgin Birth theology," somehow out of time sequence of Christian theological development, and somehow in total contradiction to the religious orientation (nazirite Orthodox Jewish) of James the Just, "Bethlehemites" would be the play, not "Nazarites." Bethlehem is an iconic historic Jewish religious site from the time of Jacob and Rachel. Nazareth c. 40 CE was *nowhere in the league* of Bethlehem – on any parameter, secular or religious – Jewish or non–Jewish.

[My educated conjecture is that focused research will further "clarify" the matter to the position that the correct appellation should be Nazirites (with an 'i'). The spelling of Nazarites with an 'a' is only a (yet another) manipulation to obscure the nazirite Orthodox Jewish commitment of the key historical group of James the Just.]

For amplification on James the Just/Nazirites, see link www.MaccobyJames.org

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(Note: Maccoby, for all his astuteness, took the bait, as well, regarding the spelling)

#### Stoning Blood Libel (1 of 8)

Christian lore incorporates at least two sagas of alleged Sanhedrin stoning of key First Century personages – Stephen and James the Just (who was nazirite Orthodox Jewish).

Over the centuries, the church conferred sainthood and other titles and honorifics on both individuals.

The entire issue of James the Just is discussed in the prior exhibit of this appendix. However, in Church lore he is stoned (c. 60–64 CE) by the Sanhedrin, as was, according to Church lore, Stephen before him (c. 33–35 CE)

These alterings of the historical record, in turn parallel the Church concoction of the key blood libel of all-time, the alleged Sanhedrin trial and death-sentencing of Jesus (c. 33 CE).

The evidence is compelling that these two sagas, relating to Stephen and James the Just, are fabrications and anti–Jewish canards insofar as they pin the stonings, if there were, indeed, stonings at all, on the Sanhedrin, in particular\*.

#### Stoning Blood Libel [continued] (2 of 8)

What leads me to this conclusion?

- There was no bona fide genuine Sanhedrin this entire period.
- The Sanhedrin, in any event, in its various incarnations over its entire multi-century span, never sentenced anyone to death.
- There was no authorized capital punishment in Jerusalem the entire bracketing time-span (30–70 CE First Century period) by any entity other than Rome.
- Even if a genuine Sanhedrin existed in this period (which it did not), and even if a Sanhedrin could independently sentence a Judean to death in this period (which it could not), and even if all the rigorous requirements concerning witnesses were met (which they were not), the Sanhedrin was still bound to convene on a second day (which these alleged lynch–mobs did not) to execute judgment in this (asserted) *capital punishment* genre case.

Regrettably, these poisonous 'stoning canards' have been assiduously disseminated over the centuries – to this day– by the Church hierarchy.

#### Stoning Blood Libel [continued] (3 of 8)

What is described in Acts re: Stephen is not a trial, but an ad hoc lynching (i.e. mob murder).

So, the high-brow Sanhedrin which was in any event non-existent at the time is now suddenly supposed to in reality be a low-life lynch mob – which stones an individual at-whim – and on the spot – for allegedly uttering something which is in no way blasphemous to begin with. This *on the spot* murder allegedly takes place at a point in history when no entity save for the Roman prefect could either sentence or execute capital punishment. The Sanhedrin, in its day one of the most august bodies of all time, which legislated in the Chamber of Hewn Stone on the Temple grounds, is portrayed in the Church lynch-vignette in Acts just-noted as gathering mob-like somewhere outside Jerusalem ("they gnashed on him with their teeth") and then themselves murdering Stephen ("with one accord ran violently upon him...."). Church lore relating to the later 60–65 CE (alleged) lynching of James the Just is almost verbatim the same.

Finally, and respectfully, quite damning as to the credibility of Acts, to begin with, is that the concept of "Holy Ghost" [cited in Acts 7:55 (supposedly narrating events of 34 CE)] is only introduced into Christian doctrinal–flow at all 75–275+ years later, and formally incorporated into Church–doctrine only in 325 CE at the First Council of Nicaea. This was the same time frame during which the Church was entering its maximum power–position in Rome within which to tamper with all historical records of Judea and the Roman Empire to date.

# Stoning Blood Libel [continued]

(4 of 8)

The concept of "Holy Ghost" is a quite–nuanced theme, and generally comes packaged with the Trinity concept – the Father, the Son and the "Holy Ghost." But here, in Acts, it is disembodied and allegedly proclaimed by a believer in Jesus [Stephen] within 0–36 months of the crucifixion – before even embryonic Pauline Christianity surfaces. Thus, Acts has Stephen mouthing Church–doctrine of 290 years *in the future*. [Note that in the stoning saga, Paul himself is positioned with the (wicked) stoners, before his storied epiphany on the road to Damascus.] So, has Paul magically morphed into member of the Sanhedrin?

Thus, while the saga is allegedly written – by the anonymous author – c. 34 CE, its content dates it to c. 325 CE, well within the 100–400 CE time frame in which the Church Fathers were most virulently anti–Semitic in public, and quite busy demonizing the Jews on all fronts. Many allegedly First Century episodes were doctored by the Doctors of the Church in the 100–400 CE period.

This anonymous stoning concoction, whenever it was written in the 60–400 CE period, is then given 16–20 centuries of traction by the Church. These 'stoning' fabrications help construct a parallel theme to the fabricated *deicide* (murder of a god) charge relating to the crucifixion of Jesus. The parallel theme is what I would call *apostlecide* (murder of an Apostle).

Note that The Book of Acts is a book of the Christian Bible, and that Acts now stands fifth in line in importance/sanctity in the New Testament, right after the four Canon Gospels.

#### Stoning Blood Libel [continued]

(5 of 8)

#### Christian lore and the murder of James the Just

According to Church lore, yet again the Sanhedrin tried and then stoned an iconic figure. This time James the Just is the asserted victim of nefariousness of the Jewish establishment. But there are several major twists and problems in this (fabricated) saga.

James the Just, brother of the executed Jesus, was steadfast and stalwart in refusing to give his *imprimatur* to the Greek Paulines. But, the Church editors would invert the historical record, and rewrite history to make him into an Apostle of Christianity. The historical reality is, however, that he was a 20+ year antagonist – until the day of his murder – of the Apostles of Christianity. It would appear that it was his resistance to Christianity, which caused him his life.

The Church Fathers would simultaneously first hijack general legacies, and then re-write or even totally invert their respective cores. This "hijack & rewrite" tactic would be the ongoing *modus operandi* of the Church.

The legacies of Sinai, Jesus and then of James the Just – among other key icons -would all get this "treatment": All three icons would first be hijacked by the Church – and then altered historically. The Church would hollow-out their respective cores to suit its doctrinal and proselytizing objectives.

The legacy of Sinai would be hijacked – and then stripped of both pure Monotheism and of full legitimacy for the Church era. The legacy of Jesus would be hijacked – and then stripped of the Jewish *halachic* observance core. Finally, the general legacy of James the Just would

# Stoning Blood Libel

[continued] (6 of 8)

first be hijacked - and then his core historical legacy altered and, indeed, inverted. First the Church editors would strip him of his ascetic Orthodox Jewish observance, and then the Church editors would invert his outright antagonism to the Greek Paulines – into supposed whole-hearted support for the Greek Paulines.

After Church lore hijacks the true Orthodox Jewish legacy of James the Just, and transforms this historical **opponent** of the Apostles of Christianity into an iconic Apostle **of** Christianity, Church lore then sets him up for martyrdom. As per its standard *modus operandi* the Church lays his death at the hands of its favorite institutional villain, the (Jewish) Sanhedrin.

If the Sanhedrin had formally convened at that point, the quickest route towards crucifixion for its own noble members, would have been to usurp Roman authority and start executing denizens of Judea – of any stripe.

But, the plot thickens further.

Why would a (Jewish) Sanhedrin stone one of the most pious Jews of the land?

The answer, of course, is that it did not stone James the Just; nor, if it formally convened at the time, would the Sanhedrin even *blink the wrong way* at a surviving brother of the hallowed Jewish martyr against Rome. James the Just was a pious nazirite Orthodox Jewish leader, among the most pious and respected Jews in the land

#### Stoning Blood Libel [continued] (7 of 8)

- A) To the Pharisee Jews, James was a bulwark against the Greek Paulines trying to create a new religion but employing an iconic Orthodox Jewish martyr (Jesus) as their iconic neo-deity.
- B) To the Sadducee priests, James was honored-by and closely affiliated-with, the Pharisees, and hence, under Pharisee political protection.
- C) To the Roman prefect, the nazirite James the Just was the scholarly head of a theological sect; he was not inciting against Rome; consequently, the Romans would not want to incite the Jews of Judea further by killing the brother of a Jewish martyr. Indeed, some historians believe that his eventual murder in the early 60s CE, indeed radically ratcheted–up the ongoing turmoil in Judea.
- D) Which begs the now increasingly–obvious question:
   Did elements within the Greek Paulines themselves first arrange the murder of James the Just (one way or another)
   c. 60–64 CE; then, eventually in the c. 100–250 CE era morph his historical legacy into that of an Apostle of Christianity; and then for the final flourish, in the c. 250–400 CE era brand/frame a non–existent (Jewish) Sanhedrin with his murder?

Attuned to the hyper-receptivity of the Mediterranean masses to their amalgam-construct, the Greek Paulines would have well-grasped that possibly James the Just alone – stood between them and a religious **empire**.

Lead-in

# Stoning Blood Libel

(8 of 8)

The three sequential blood libels, as regards First Century icons Jesus, Stephen and James, set the stage *in and of themselves* for the demonization of the Jews over the centuries.

One by one, of course, when these three Church–inspired canards are put under careful scrutiny, their corruption of the historical record is manifest, however.

All three fabricated Sanhedrin-murders are of central and iconic "Christian" luminaries. The toxicity sown by these anti-Semitic canards is incalculable.

But actions have real and dire consequences. And the three blood libels, in concert with the entire Church–orchestrated multi–century *demonization of the Jews* campaign, will, indeed, set the stage for mass murder.

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\*alert to reader: Many history books are definitive to the effect that both of these personages were indeed stoned by the Sanhedrin.

# The Book of Acts Focus

(1 of 9)

#### Acts Chapter 7

#### **King James Bible**

- 51. Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the **Holy Ghost**: as your fathers did, so do ye.
- 52. Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the **betrayers and murderers:**
- 53. Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.
- 54. When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they **gnashed on him with their teeth.**
- 55. But he, being full of the **Holy Ghost**, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,
- 56. And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.
- 57. Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and **ran upon him with one accord**,
- 58. And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

### The Book of Acts Focus

[continued] (2 of 9)

#### Acts Chapter 7

#### **American King James Version**

- 51. You stiff necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, you do always resist the **Holy Ghost:** as your fathers did, so do you.
- 52. Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which showed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom you have been now the **betrayers and murderers:**
- 53. Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.
- 54. When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they **gnashed on him with their teeth.**
- 55. But he, being full of the **Holy Ghost**, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,
- 56. And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.
- 57. Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and **ran on him with one accord**,
- 58. And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

#### The Book of Acts Focus

[continued] (3 of 9)

#### Acts Chapter 7

#### **Douay-Rheims Bible**

- 51. You stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the **Holy Ghost:** as your fathers did, so do you also.
- 52. Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? And they have slain them who foretold of the coming of the Just One; of whom you have been now the **betrayers and murderers:**
- 53. Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.
- 54. Now hearing these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed with their teeth at him.
- 55. But he, being full of the **Holy Ghost**, looking up steadfastly to heaven, saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God. And he said: Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.
- 56. And they crying out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and with one accord **ran violently upon him.**
- 57. And casting him forth without the city, they stoned him; and the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man, whose name was Saul.
- 58. And they stoned Stephen, invoking, and saying: Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

### The Book of Acts Focus

[continued] (4 of 9)

#### Acts Chapter 7

#### **English Revised Version**

- 51. Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the **Holy Ghost:** as your fathers did, so do ye.
- 52. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? and they killed them which shewed before of the coming of the Righteous One; of whom ye have now become **betrayers and murderers;**
- 53. ye who received the law as it was ordained by angels, and kept it not.
- 54. Now when they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they **gnashed on him with their teeth.**
- 55. But he, being full of the **Holy Ghost**, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,
- 56. and said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.
- 57. But they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and **rushed upon him with one accord;**
- 58. and they cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul.

#### Body

#### The Book of Acts Focus

[continued]

(5 of 9)

En toto, the Book of Acts/Stephen saga (c. 34 CE) is highly incendiary.

However, there are at least ten salient highly anomalous issues with regards the Acts/Stephen saga. Any one of these ten issues *alone* would, respectfully, cast doubt on the authenticity of the entire saga:

- The historically disjointed appearance of the "Holy Ghost" theme (appearing here almost 300 years before the 325 CE Council of Nicae which adopted the "Trinity" – including the "Holy Ghost" – as a Christian orthodoxy).
- The portrayal of the venerated and scholarly Sanhedrin judges, as a rabid mob allegedly "gnashing their teeth" on Stephen. The portrayal is bizarre, at a minimum.
- 3a) The (literary) fact that Stephen and the Stephen saga appears seemingly from out of nowhere...seemingly out of *thin air*.
- 3b) We have *no clue* of any such Stephen prior to the appearance of this highly-charged work.
- 4a) The absence of Romans (one of the fatal problems with the accuracy of the Canon Gospels) – even at a capital (death penalty) trial.
- 4b) A capital trial outside of Roman hands would have been illegal in the first place. This (alleged and illegal) trial-lynching takes place on the very outskirts of Jerusalem, the key nexus-center of Roman power in Judea.

#### The Book of Acts Focus

[continued] (6 of 9)

- 5a) Even in the era pre-Roman authority over Judea, when the Sanhedrin did have the power to conduct a capital (death penalty) trial, which is no longer had post-6 CE, Jewish law required that any hypothetical execution implementation required a second convening of the Sanhedrin on a second day.
- 5b) As noted prior, the Sanhedrin is known to have never in its history actually handed down a death sentence.
- 5c) The locale of the asserted Sanhedrin capital trial/execution is outside the gates of Jerusalem. Unfortunately for the spin artist Church saga-crafters, however, the First Century Sanhedrin did not meet outside of Jerusalem, nor even outside the Temple Court (Hall of the Hewn Stones) at the core of Jerusalem. The august 71-member body typically met there every day except Festivals, and was not known to take Day Trips outside for a little *tooth gnashing & stoning* foray.
- 5d) Contrary to the toxic-fairy-tale lynch-mob dynamic laid out as the Sanhedrin *modus operandi* by the Book of Acts, the actual Sanhedrin is well-documented to have consistently employed meticulous *due process* with regards even minor matters, let alone with regards a hypothetical capital (potential death penalty) case.
- 5e) As noted related to the crucifixion of Jesus in 33 CE, Jesus of Nazareth was a neo-Orthodox Jewish patriot. The concocted notion that sympathizers with Jesus were enemies of the Jews, to be cavalierly *stoned to death*, is ludicrous in the extreme.

#### The Book of Acts Focus

[continued] (7 of 9)

- 6) The subsequent seemingly seamless evaporation from the historical landscape of any follow-through to this alleged intense and lethal *Stephen* saga.
- 7) Similar to the problem of the disjointed appearance of the "Holy Ghost" theme (noted above), the historically disjointed appearance of a variation on the "Son of God" theme (appearing here almost 300 years before the 325 CE Council of Nicae which adopted the "trinity" as a Christian orthodoxy) –

"Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man (Jesus) standing on the right hand of God"

- Acts 7:56

 The curious coincidence that both Jesus and Stephen – both asserted by Christian lore to have been doomed by the Sanhedrin – seem to have almost the same precise death-scene vision, down to the precise placement/positioning of the parties in the vision –

re: the crucifixion of Jesus (c. 33 CE)

"Why ask ye me concerning Jesus the Son of Man? He Himself [himself] sitteth in heaven, **at the right hand** of the Great Power...."

 Eusebius of Caeseria, quoting Hegessipus and Clement of Alexandria (Historia Ecclesiaie, 2, 23)

### The Book of Acts Focus

[continued] (8 of 9)

re: Stephen Acts saga (c. 34 CE)

"...But Stephen...looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing **at the right hand** of God"

- Acts 7:55

- 9) The curious coincidence that both Stephen and James the Just - both asserted by Christian lore to have been lynchexecuted by the Sanhedrin – albeit 22 years apart - seem to coincidentally utter the same precious and precise deathscene words – asking God to forgive their executioners.
- 10) The Book of Acts is allegedly a contemporaneous account of events by Paul c. 40 CE. The Province of Cilica is noted in Acts 6:9. Unfortunately for the spin-artist Church saga-editors, however, the Roman Province of Cilica had been on hiatus from 27 BCE, and was only reestablished by Emperor Vespasian in 72 CE... Thus, the Province of Cilica did not even formally exist c. 40 CE, the time of the asserted Acts/Stephen saga.

#### The Book of Acts Focus

[continued] (9 of 9)

Acts has brought the *demonizations* to yet a more toxic level. *Connecting the dots* leaves one no reasonable room to believe in the historical authenticity of the highly-toxic and extremely defamatory Church gambit.

As noted in the introductory section to this work, the Book of Acts is fifth in line in "standing" (read: Christian-holiness) in the entire New Testament, coming right after the Book of John of the Canon Gospels.

As per the Book of John, the Book of Acts is, as well, overtly rabidly anti-Semitic.

"you [the Jews] have become betrayers and murderers"

- Acts 7:52

Inasmuch as Paul, the asserted inspiration of Acts was (proudly) Jewish, it is somewhat unlikely that he actually advanced this virulent hate-mongering. So, the Book of Acts, whoever fabricated its key and virulent sections, consistently suits the ongoing – and unceasing – demonization gambit and anti-Semitic vitriol of the Church Fathers.

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# **Procurators and Tetrarchs**

(1 of 2)

In the First Century, Rome controlled Greater Judea.

It maintained political control over the expanse via two modalities, employing one or the other to cover the entire land.

Direct control: via prefects or procurators (both are often lumped together as procurators) [The preeminent one was Pontius Pilate, who was Prefect of Judea from 26–36 CE]

Indirect control: via tetrarchs, specifically the Herodian line of 'tetrarchs/kings'

(such as Herod Antipas 4 BCE - 39 CE)

The domain of the tetrarch was generally to the geographical northeast of the domain of the procurator. Jerusalem was generally under the domain of the procurator.

#### **Procurators and Tetrarchs**

[continued] (2 of 2)

Procurators (who were Roman/Gentile) almost always had more power than tetrarchs (who were Idumaean and almost–Jewish). A wise tetrarch did not mess with the neighboring procurator.

Both of the above, procurators and tetrarchs, were often under the putative domain of the Legate of Syria (headquartered to the northwest).

Thus, whether one was a Roman–appointed procurator, or a Roman–appointed tetrarch (sort of, king) one often had at least two masters

- the Emperor of Rome
- the Legate of Syria

This was not all bad, however, as the Legate of Syria often tempered assorted incendiary directives and gambits emanating from Rome.

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#### Mediterranean Missionary 45 CE (1 of 2)

A hotbed of missionary activity from sundry religious systems, the Mediterranean area in 45 CE (twelve years after the death of Jesus) was a swirl of various masses in search of a fulfilling and convincing religious system.

Missionary competition was active. Converts meant flocks of adherents, with all which that implied for the proselytizers, including potentially not inconsiderable power, for starters.

Missionaries might discern receptivity to sundry themes with particular "energy" resonating through the region

- sundry variations on *dualism* (often laced through Gnosticism)
- sundry Trinity paradigms
- sundry Virgin birth themes
- sundry Savior/Redeemer themes (particularly popular with Mystery Cult and sundry neo-pagan movements)
- 'love thy neighbor' themes
   (recently given emphasis by the Pharisees in their Jewish
   'outreach' endeavors)
- a wide-spread appreciation for the 'authenticity' of 'Sinai' (and of Moses / the Torah) c. 1250 BCE

Within three hundred years, by the conclusion of the (Christian) first Council of Nicae 325 CE in Bithynia (present-day Iznik in Turkey), Christianity would embrace and/or integrate ALL of the above themes – *one way or another* – into its corpus.

#### **Mediterranean Missionary**

45 CE [continued] (2 of 2)

By 45 CE, the teacher Jesus of Nazareth had been martyred twelve years prior....His successor brother, James the Just, refused to allow his Jewish Jesus-as-Messiah followers to transform the martyr and Jewish patriot Jesus into a neo-deity and/or a Savior/Redeemer deity.

James the Just only permitted classic Orthodox Jewish messianic themes. Jesus, as per James's directive, was to be memorialized as a *messianic* albeit mortal figure. This same James furthermore balked at allowing any dilution of commitment to Jewish law – enroute to full conversion to Judaism, no matter which movement – Jewish or Pauline – was doing the converting.

**son of god / historical point:** According to widely accepted lore, in 332 BCE, three hundred+ years prior to the crucifixion of Jesus, Alexander the Great, following *on-the-heels* of his conquest of Syria and Egypt, detours from his conquest march, and visits the Siwa Oasis in western Egypt. The Siwa Oasis is 50 miles long x 12 miles wide. Siwa is 30 miles east of the Libyan border, and 348 miles due west of Cairo. Alexander's purpose was presumably to get another layer of *legitimization*, this time from the Oracle of Siwa.

The context of the saga is that Alexander's forces control *the guns, the gold and the media organs*, as they were. Alexander emerges from the momentous meeting and proclaims that the Oracle has confirmed him as an incarnation of Zeus-Ammon, that is, as a "son of god." There is no challenge from the Oracle or her desert court to Alexander's postmeeting proclamation of *deification*. Thus, the "Son of God" theme will reverberate powerfully and yet once-again across the Mediterranean.

#### Paul Embryonic Christianity 40–62 CE (1 of 2)

Paul arrives on the scene in Jerusalem intermittently after the death of Jesus.

Paul ultimately unilaterally de–links his followers from the Torah– observance of Jesus. The overwhelming bulk of the 613 Torah Precepts of Judaism are basically brushed–aside.

The key ritual of Christianity for males to enter Paul's new faith becomes baptism, in contradistinction to *ritual circumcision* in Judaism. A debate within Christendom will then follow revolving around the extent of baptism, meaning, whether *full-body* or *lesser mode*.

The self-styled Apostle to the Gentiles is actually crafting a new religion – for the Gentiles. Thus, while he uses the Jewish Jesus for his *Jewish Martyr* iconography front-and-center, Paul then totally marginalizes the *Observant Jew* aspect of Jesus. That which was central to the actual Jesus, namely traditional Judaism and Jewish theology and practice, is essentially dispensed with totally by Paul.

#### Paul

Embryonic Christianity 40–62 CE [continued] (2 of 2)

After Paul is executed by Rome in Rome in c. 60-62 CE after several years of incarceration, he bequeaths a pro–Gentile legacy for his missionary followers. At the heart of his legacy are two simultaneous pillars: The first is, of course, Jesus as Messiah; the second is some variation of a *non–requirement* of Jewish law for Gentile converts.

In Paul's schema, the martyrdom of Jesus obviated the need for *halachic* practice. To Paul, *baptism* and *faith* in conjunction with (belief-in) the martyrdom of Jesus, supplant the need for *observance* of Jewish law. But, without Jewish law, of course, the Gentiles are effectively converting to something radically different from Judaism.

To the Jewish followers of James the Just, Paul was '*undermining the brand*.' Little did they know the extent of the "horrors" which were in store for Judaism as a consequence.

\*

\*\*\*

Paul emerges as a preeminent saint and preeminent Founding Father of the Christian Church.

#### **Continuum?**

the stakes (1 of 2)

As noted, Christian lore and tradition sideline the neo-Orthodox Jewishness of Jesus and his Disciples. Concurrently, Christian lore and tradition (invalidly but conveniently) position the nazirite group of James the Just as Jewish Christians and (invalidly but conveniently) position the nazirites as in basic harmony with Paul.

Church lore and tradition thus attempt to establish a 'Paul continuum.' This asserted 'Paul continuum' is (invalidly but conveniently) crafted as allegedly tracking back straight to Jesus, as follows:

Jesus >>

- Disciples of Jesus
- James the Just
- ≻ Paul
- The Greek Paulines
- The Church Fathers

This attempts to establish a key 'holy continuum.'

However, the theology of the first group of three, namely –

- Jesus
- Disciples of Jesus
- James the Just / Nazirites

### Continuum? the stakes [continued] (2 of 2)

 was in direct opposition to the theology of the second group of three, namely –

- Paul
- The Greek Paulines
- The Church Fathers

The 'building blocks' simply do not connect. There is no continuum. The blocks are in *opposition*, not in *continuum*.

Paul was not in harmony with the James the Just / nazirite group. Paul had no particular interest in the 613 precepts of Jewish law (*Taryag mitzvot*). Paul did not even read Hebrew. Paul was a theological adversary of the James the Just / nazirite synagogue group.

Jesus was a neo-Orthodox Pharisee Jew. His Disciples were neo-Orthodox Pharisee Jews. The James the Just / nazirite synagogue group was not neo-Christian or Jewish Christian by any stretch of the imagination. They were (ascetic) nazirite Orthodox Pharisee Jews.

As noted, Nazirite does not mean deifying Jesus of Nazareth; Nazirite is an ascetic form of Orthodox Judaism. *Nazir* is a Hebrew term – direct from the Torah.

As noted, Christianity is a new religion, inspired by Paul and then crafted/created initially by the Greek Paulines – in opposition to the theological practice of the (Orthodox Jewish) James the Just / nazirites.

# **Disciples and Apostles**

(1 of 4)

The Disciples of Jesus are often (invalidly or conveniently or deliberately) 'confused' with the later Apostles of the Church.

The 12 Disciples of Jesus were with Jesus during at least the latter part of his rabbinical ministry, and were by his side at the Last Supper and at his crucifixion.

The Disciples were all Orthodox or neo-Orthodox Jewish. They venerated and observed Jewish Law. The Disciples were centered in Judea (the Galilee and Jerusalem areas in particular). They spoke Hebrew (not Greek). They were obviously not anti–Semitic.

The Apostles were the sundry leading Christian missionaries.

99 percent of the Apostles were not Jewish. The Apostles negated 90 percent of Jewish Law. The Apostles were centered in Asia Minor (the current day Greece, Turkey and Syria areas). They spoke Greek (and not Hebrew). Many of the Apostles after the death of (the Jewish) Paul including all the writers of the Canon Gospels, were anti– Semitic, some virulently.

Ongoing attempts by the Church to fudge the two groups – and synthesize a 'continuum' – are a distortion and involve a substantive fabrication of the historical record.

### **Disciples and Apostles**

[continued] (2 of 4)

Not only were the two groups not synchronous, the two groups were antagonistic to each other. Ultimately the Church Fathers would literally hijack, expropriate and then distort the legacy of the 12 Disciples.

Church lore over the centuries sublimates the Orthodox Jewish legacy of the 12 Disciples and their undiluted classic Jewish *monotheism.* Christianity mutates the monotheistic Orthodox Jewish legacy of the Disciples into their becoming *de facto* 'poster boys' (and girl) for *Christianity cum Trinity–ism.* 

Note:

Mark, Luke, Matthew and John the Evangelist, are names of Apostles. Their names and identities are assigned by the Church as authors of the four Canon Gospels. However, as noted, the true identities of the authors of the Canon Gospels are unknown to this day. What is 100 percent clear is that the authors of the Canon Gospels were not Disciples, and were certainly not Mark, Luke, Matthew or John the Evangelist.

The Gospel of Judas, unearthed and pieced-together in the late twentieth century, is a gospel *about* Judas, not *by* Judas.

# **Disciples and Apostles**

[continued] (3 of 4)

James the Just was a Disciple. Church lore maintains erroneously that he was as well an Apostle of Christianity. Actually, James aggressively fought the Apostles.

Peter (crucified by Rome in Rome) was neither a Disciple of Jesus, nor an Apostle of Christianity. Peter is noted in Jewish rabbinical literature as a (quite revered and) learned and holy Orthodox Jew. He was well–regarded in Orthodox Jewish lore for his work in advocating and disseminating the Noachide Laws among the Gentiles.

Peter was crucified *upside-down* in Rome by Rome in the early 60s CE period. Perhaps the reason he was crucified *upside-*down, was that he was not a Christian proselytizer. And the Christian proselytizers were being crucified right-side-up by Nero's enforcers.

Church lore asserts erroneously that Peter was both a Disciple of Jesus and an Apostle of Christianity. As noted just prior, he was neither. Peter was a solo operator.

# **Disciples and Apostles**

[continued] (4 of 4)

The Church goes to extreme lengths to rework history to attempt to directly connect:

the Disciples of Jesus > Apostles of Christianity

the Disciples of Jesus > Authors of the Canon Gospels.

Both multi–century and ongoing gambits fail multiple rudimentary tests of historicity.

Sanders could find no substantial points of opposition between Jesus and the Pharisees, and he viewed Jesus as abiding by Jewish law and the disciples as continuing to keep it (cf. e.g., Acts 3.1; 21.23-26, for their worship in the Temple).\*

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\* Wikipedia Online, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E.\_P.\_Sanders (accessed November 15, 2012)

# **Development of Christianity \***

the first 700 years:\*\*\* a rough schematic

40–62 CE Paul: Embryonic Christianity

The de-linking of halachah.

- 60-62 CE Paul and James the Just killed
- 62–100 CE The Greek Paulines: Early Christianity

The period includes the parallel creation of anti–Semitism and the writing of the the four Canon Gospels in Asia Minor.

101–749 CE **The Church Fathers:** Layering–on and Consolidating Church Doctrine

This period includes the incorporation of the *Trinity paradigm* into Christian doctrine.

- The breakdown is mine: the terminology is mine; the groupings are mine.
- \*\*\* Dating is based on simplifying the rough scholarly consensus.

#### **Sedition or Blasphemy**

(1 of 6)

Jewish tradition and virtually all contemporary critical scholarship maintain that Jesus was crucified by Rome for *sedition* against Rome.

Catholic lore and the Canon Gospels project that Jesus was crucified for *blasphemy* against the God of Israel.

But, if Christian lore is correct, why should the Romans do the 'dirty work'? Why should blasphemy against the God of Israel concern the Romans at all? If anything, blasphemy against the God of Israel, should be *music to Roman ears*? If Jesus had been *marked for death* by the Sanhedrin, which Church lore spins as all–powerful, why did this allegedly sinister and all–powerful Sanhedrin not just execute/stone Jesus itself? Stoning, according to the Gospels themselves, was the "handy" Jewish remedy for transgressions against God?

But, in any event, what were the alleged blasphemies?

According to Christian lore the alleged blasphemies by Jesus against the God of Israel, revolved around the following:

- 1) Jesus as 'Messiah'
- 2) Jesus as 'Son of Man'
- 3) Jesus as 'King of the Jews'

#### **Sedition or Blasphemy**

[continued] (2 of 6)

There is no contemporaneous documentation for any of the three assertions. In addition, the gospels and Christian lore are highly–suspect in relation to all matters relating to the Jews. But let us examine these Christian assertions for their alleged 'blasphemy quotient.'

#### MESSIAH:

Alluding that others believe oneself to be the Messiah, had Jesus done so, may have been *seditious* in Roman eyes, but, is simply not *blasphemous vis à vis* Judaism.

Proclaiming oneself divine is taboo in Judaism, but there is no canonical assertion that Jesus ever did so.

#### Sedition or Blasphemy

[continued] (3 of 6)

#### Son of Man:

The title Son of Man, is, as well, not a divine title in Judaism. It is applied in Jewish tradition and lore as well to regular people, to prophets, and to angels – but never to God or a god. Thus, if Jesus used the term, it would not cross any Jewish theological *red lines*. [Note – The contemporary Hebrew word for 'human' is *ben adam* – Son of Man.]

The *line of attack* employed by the Christian Canon to set up Jesus in opposition to rabbinic Judaism is false. This is *wishful thinking,* and does not withstand even elementary scrutiny. Jesus committed no potential heresy.

\*

### **Sedition or Blasphemy**

[continued] (4 of 6)

#### King of the Jews:

Respectfully, there is nothing anti-halachic to this. The messiah in time-honored tradition is referred to as *Melech Ha-Mashiach* – the Messiah-the King. There is nothing anti-halachic to this; in fact it is used in contemporary Jewish religious parlance as well.

Of course, its potential usage might not have endeared Jesus with Pontius Pilate.

James the Just, brother of Jesus and authentic heir to the Jesus legacy, *picked up* where Jesus *left off* – aligned pitch-perfect with Orthodox Pharisee Judaism.

James embraced Orthodox Pharisee Judaism, and Orthodox Pharisee Judaism embraced James. The Orthodox Pharisee Jewish movement indeed protected the James group from political and religious persecution, and exerted political retribution against those who would attack it.

Thus, all attempts to revise genuine history and assert that the Jesus legacy was one of potential *blasphemy* towards the rabbinic Jewish Pharisee establishment, fatally err and mislead – and do a disservice to the honor of the Pharisee Orthodox Jewish rabbinic Jesus of Nazareth.

#### Sedition or Blasphemy

[continued] (5 of 6)

If James the Just, who lived through the Last Supper and the Crucifixion of Jesus, remained committed-to, and part-of, and allied-with – Orthodox Pharisee Mainstream Judaism, does it truly jive that his late brother had blasphemed God? Does it truly jive that these same Orthodox Jewish Pharisees had betrayed his late brother, howled for his brother's death, and then *aided and abetted* his crucifixion?

Jesus was executed by Rome for sedition against Rome.

Asserting that Jesus was crucified for Pharisee–alleged *blasphemy* against God, is a perversion of the historical record, and a misguided political attempt to blacken the Jews, and to exculpate Rome.

Ambiguous language concerning First Century Jewry as regards this matter in contemporary *Nostre Aetate* may soften matters to the Jews. However, respectfully, the carefully calibrated and nuanced document does not neuter the inflammatory power of the Canon Gospels, the toxic power of the passion sagas, the toxic power of still–uncorrected Christian texts, and the toxic power of 1900 year–old Christian lore.

### **Sedition or Blasphemy**

[continued] (6 of 6)

But what about the Trinity paradigm?

The Trinity paradigm – which Judaism would indeed hold as a violation of the First Commandment – is only formally incorporated into Christian doctrine about 300 years after the crucifixion of Jesus. The Trinity paradigm post-dates Jesus, post-dates the Canon Gospels, and is not mentioned in them.

But what about the assertion that Jesus overturned tables at the Temple?

As noted, the Sadducee High Priest was an enemy of the Jews. The 'Mainstream Jews' – the Pharisees – the Synagogue Jews – were in alignment with Jesus *against* the High Priest.

Overturning tables at the Temple periphery would seem to be an appropriate protest against the Sadducee's usurping of the Jewish Temple and of their collaboration with Rome against the Mainstream Jews. Overturning the tables at the Temple periphery was *sedition* against Rome and its quisling ally.

\*\*\*

Respectfully, there is no *blasphemy* in overturning tables.

### Some Appendix–Related Reference Points\*\*\*

(1 of 3)

(all dates approximate)

6 CE	Herod deposed by Augustus; Judea, Samaria and Idumea annexed as Roman provinces under direct Roman administration
9 CE	Hillel dies (a.k.a. Hillel the Elder, Hillel the Sage)
28 CE	John the Baptist begins his ministry
33 CE	Jesus crucified in Jerusalem by Rome (i.e. via Roman Procurator Pontius Pilate)
36 CE	Pontius Pilate recalled to Rome for excessive cruelty after crucifying many Samaritans
c. 60-62 CE	James the Just killed in Jerusalem – underlying instigators unknown
c. 60-62 CE	Paul beheaded in Rome by Rome
c. 60-64 CE	Peter crucified (upside down) in Rome by Rome

#### Some Appendix–Related Reference Points\*\*\*

[continued] (2 of 3)

- 66 CE "Q Document," hypothesized Greek text thought by many critical scholars to have been used as a key source in the writing of Matthew and Luke in particular, and in the writing of Mark, as well
- 66 CE Creation of anti-Semitism
- 66 CE Jewish Revolt, and the Roman counter–assault on Judea commences
- 68 CE Commencement of the writing of 'Mark,' first of the four Canon Gospels

\*

Resurrection of Jesus theology appears in gospel of 'Mark' (c. 68–73 CE), skipped in 'Luke' and 'Matthew,' and then appears in 'John' (c. 90–110 CE)

73 CE Last Stand of the Jews at Masada

The Canon Gospels of 'Matthew' and 'Luke' (written in the 70-100 CE period but edited c. 350 CE) reference a *virgin birth.* 

#### Some Appendix–Related Reference Points\*\*\*

[continued] (3 of 3)

- 301 CE Armenia becomes the first country to recognize Christianity as its official religion. Armenian Orthodox Church established.
- 321 CE Constantine decrees Sunday as state "day of rest."

*Trinity theology* – The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost – or Trinitarianism, is developed in the 100–400 CE period, with the doctrine established as a Christian orthodoxy at the First Council of Nicaea (in present day Turkey) in 325 CE.

The same Council also de–linked Easter from the Jewish lunar calendar *Nissan* 15 (Passover) computation.

\*\*\* some of these reference points were noted in the main TimeLine text

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### The Nazirites

#### after the death of James the Just (1 of 3)

As the authentic heir to Jesus, integrity–laden and stature–filled James the Just and his Orthodox Judaism in Jerusalem – were a barrier that neither Paul nor his Pauline Greek associates could penetrate while James was alive.

Upholding Jewish law and theology, James the Just and the 33–62 CE version of his Nazirites were an implacable roadblock.

With the deaths in 62 CE of both James (in Jerusalem) and Paul (in Rome), the (non–Jewish) Greek Paulines had 'running room' to politically launch a new religion. They would co–opt the legacy of the Orthodox Jewish martyr, the rabbinic Jesus of Nazareth. The rudimentary parameters of the new religion had been percolating since roughly 50 CE.

The nazirite group of James, hitherto the *center of gravity* of the heirs to the Jesus legacy, would need to be brushed off the political scene. And the sooner the Greek Paulines could 'edit' the nazirite legacy, the better.

### The Nazirites after the death of James the Just [continued]

(2 of 3)

Image–wise, contemporary Catholic lore literally cloaks the authentic Orthodox Jewish ascetic James in inauthentic Catholic clerical garb. Betrayed theologically, his legacy inverted, the true story of his Orthodox Jewish commitment would be submerged, diluted and mangled by the Church. To this day.

The Church will employ Jesus, the martyred brother of James as centerpiece, but will jettison the Orthodox Jewish practice, heritage and theology of both Jesus and his brother James the Just. Christianity will keep James in very blurry focus – as *clear focus*, does not advance the *party* line.

With the legacy of Jesus co-opted by the Church, and with the Greek–dominated Catholic Church increasingly anti–Jewish after the Roman destruction of Judea in the 70s CE, the nazirites, albeit sincere and devout, are increasingly *radioactive* as far as their Orthodox Jewish brethren are concerned.

# The Nazirites

#### after the death of James the Just

[continued] (3 of 3)

With Judea in ruins, its leadership decimated, portions of its populace enslaved and exiled, and Christendom having turned against the people who birthed its progenitor, the messianic Orthodox Jewish nazirites now faced hostility on all fronts.

Revering Jesus as the Messiah, the nazirites found themselves in political *no mans land*. They would be officially *banned from the synagogue* in 90 CE. Sincere or not, Orthodox Jewish or not, operating within *halachic* parameters or not, they had been co–opted. And the consequences to the Jews at–large had been horrific.

The legacy of James the Just is crushed in the unfolding historical saga. 62 CE was the *firing of the starting gun* for Christianity.

In conjunction, the two killings roughly the same year were epoch changing. Theorists can conjecture whether the timing of two killings – both in the same 2-year period – were coincidental.

\*\*\*

### Hijackings

(1 of 3)

Subsequent to the killings c. 62 CE of both Paul and James the Just, the Greek Paulines would effect three historical/theological hijack-ings:

In each case the hijacking would be accompanied by a *transmutation.* 

In each case, the "shell" would be maintained, but the "core" neutered or *transmuted*.

#### Paul:

The iconography of Paul would be hijacked from his benign legacy.

The "non-observance for the Gentiles" mantra would be preserved.

The pro-Jewish component of Paul's world view, would be jettisoned.

### THE CRUCIFIXION

### Hijackings

[continued] (2 of 3)

#### The "Old Testament":

The (shell of the) Torah, accepted by many as God-given to the Jews at Sinai, would be incorporated into the Greek Pauline "mix."

However, over 90 percent of the "observance" contents of the Torah would be jettisoned.

#### The Martyr Jesus:

The martyr iconography of Jesus, would be incorporated by the Greek Paulines into the new religion.

However, the "observance" aspect of Jesus would be jettisoned – as would the neo-Orthodox Jewish component of Jesus. The "new Jesus" would somehow be stripped of his neo-Orthodox Jewish core and orientation. He would be morphed into a quasi-universalist figure.

The Greek Paulines would then *turn on* the Jews.

### Hijackings

[continued] (3 of 3)

#### Summation of exhibit

So, with regards key iconography of Christianity noted above, while the "originals" were all Jewish, the Greek Pauline *transmutation* mutates the iconography out of its original core in each case.

Having successfully *effected the transplant,* the Greek Paulines then move to *undermine the donor,* meaning, the Jews.

#### **Epilogue to exhibit**

The Church Fathers, from 100 CE onwards for the next several centuries, would note the successful traction of the 'hijack gambits' of the Greek Paulines.

In due course, extraordinary temporal power would flow to the Church Fathers in the 300–400 CE period...during which the "hijack gambit" would be applied, as well, to both (the neo-Orthodox Jew-ish) Peter and to (the Orthodox Jewish) James the Just, respectively. Both would find themselves newly reincarnated by Christian editors as picture–perfect Apostles of the Church, their Orthodox Jewish dedication and cores *stripped–clean* out of them.

\*

#### Nero Scapegoats the (Embryonic) Christians 64 CE (1 of 0)

(1 of 2)

In the year 64 CE Emperor Nero ratcheted–up his public debauchery. Banquet–orgies were given in his honor. He went through a wedding ceremony with another male, and engaged in public sexual relations with him in front of witnesses.

That summer a catastrophic fire broke out in Rome. When it was over, ten of Rome's fourteen districts had been gutted. As part of his multi–faceted response, Nero opened his own gardens to the homeless and presided over an orderly relief effort.

However, several weeks after the fire, Nero made an official and public decision to build his dream palace upon the ashes of the ravished hillsides. Included was the planned Golden House, a mansion which was to have an arcade spanning more than a mile.

These plans for an imperial palace upon the ruins of the homes of ordinary citizens, gave rise to rumors that Nero's agents had set the Great Fire in the first place. With public anger rising, Nero attempted to deflect the outrage by blaming the Great Fire on the tiny 'nascent–Christian'\* community. These 'nascent–Christians' were hounded, arrested and tortured. He impaled scores of them on stakes and then burned them alive as human torches to illuminate the city at night.

#### Nero Scapegoats the (Embryonic) Christians 64 CE

[continued] (2 of 2)

Nero would rule until June 9, 68 CE when he committed suicide. *On the run* from the Roman Senate, at the villa of a friend outside of Rome, Nero drove a dagger into his throat. [According to lore] "*What an artist the world is losing*" whined Nero, the would–be dramatist, as he prepared for suicide. \*\*\*

In 66 CE, two years before his death, in response to a newer and higher level of militant violence, Nero had dispatched his top general Vespasian – to Judea....

+++

\* The 'nascent–Christians' believed in Jesus as Messiah. 64 CE is before the development of key Christian themes of Trinity and Virgin birth–related. The level of development of Savior and Redeemer themes by this point is unknown, but this is probably early in their development *vis à vis* Jesus. Classic Christian anti–Semitism does not commence until the first Canon Gospel later in the decade.

\*\*\* Suetonius, *The Lives of Twelve Caesars,* Life of Nero, xlix [Da Vita Caesarum–Nero, c. 110 CE]

### The 'Jewish Problem' 65 CE (1 of 3)

To the Greek Paulines, there were pluses and minuses to having (the Jewish) Jesus as the centerpiece of the essentially new religion that was being crafted, fine-tuned and morphed for the Gentiles.

The plus side of the ledger included -

- The Jesus core story itself a story of sincere courage and martyrdom.
- Jesus was heir to Sinai and to the entire epic Jewish saga, including the reigns of Moses, Joshua, David, Solomon and the Maccabee.
- The Torah the Jewish Bible was a uniquely extraordinary document. Accepted as divine by major segments of the First Century world, the Torah had resonance, authenticity and gravitas.

### The 'Jewish Problem' 65 CE [continued]

(2 of 3)

The *negative side* of this Jewish ledger included, among other components –

- Halachah the voluminous body of Jewish law, which the Gentile population was simply not buying into.
- The disinterest of the Jewish leadership in converts uninterested in undertaking Jewish law *en toto*.
- The Jewish leadership's potential capacity to *delegitimize* the new religion as inauthentic.
- The Jewish population's potential capacity to look down upon the new religion.
- (Latent) perceptions of the Jews as *elitist*
- The potential of the Jewish intellectual elite to unleash their potent intellectual 'firepower' upon any usurping religious movement, exposing any weaknesses or fault lines or inauthenticity.
- Potential converts (or Christian adherents) might be so sold on Jesus-related, that they might end-up wanting the "original article" (i.e. Judaism, and not Christianity).

## The 'Jewish Problem' 65 CE

[continued] (3 of 3)

- Potential converts (or Christian adherents) might be so intrigued by the Judaism of Jesus, that they might not want an "intermediary" (i.e. Jesus), and would consequently reject Christianity.
- Potential converts (or Christian adherents) might be so intrigued by Jesus-related and the Judaism of Jesus, that they might want both (Orthodox) Judaism AND Jesus (as the messiah) – but not Christianity.

The challenge for the Greek Pauline operatives, determined to follow-thru on Paul's determination to synthesize a new religion for the Gentiles, but determined to embrace a far greater audience, would be to incorporate the *pluses*, while neutralizing the *negatives* – one way or another.

*The rest,* as we say, *is history.* But the result would be nineteen centuries of obloquy and persecution for the Jews. The Greek Paulines had, indeed, developed a stratagem for *neutralizing the negatives.* 

\*\*\*

### The Greek Paulines

Early Christianity 62–100 CE (1 of 10)

Greek Pauline missionaries (centered in what is now the Greece– Turkey–Syria region) are the heart of Paul's group.

Ultimately, they will effect a complete overhaul and mutation of the historical saga and theological superstructure surrounding Jesus.

Subsequent to the murder of James the Just (c. 62 CE in Jerusalem) and the beheading of Paul (c. 62 CE in Rome) the Greek Paulines effectively *de facto* seize the reigns of power of the Pauline movement. They no longer need to seek any *imprimatur* from the Orthodox Jewish nazirites of James the Just. For, with James recently conveniently murdered, the ascetic and reclusive Nazirines will not have enough *firepower* to delegitimize the nimble Paulines if the Paulines can morph the legacy of Jesus.

Thus, in c. January 60 CE there were several key 'obstacles' to the Greek Pauline's vision of Kingdom on Heaven and Earth: James the Just and Paul of Tarsus, himself. By c. December 62 CE, there were none – except the Pharisee Jewish elite.

### The Greek Paulines Early Christianity

62-100 CE [continued] (2 of 10)

By 67 CE the Jews, intellectual elite included, are *at the barricades* fighting the Romans. At this point, the Greek Paulines *make their move*. The group's ideology morphs to a strident anti–Semitism. The Paulines will move to delegitimize the character and integrity of the Jews, elite included, before the Jewish elite can delegitimize the adventurous theological gambit of the Paulines.

The gospels will incorporate a myriad of ploys to delegitimize the Jews. The gambits will achieve their objectives.

\*

One will note, of course, that the contemporary Greek Orthodox Church, part of the Eastern Orthodox Church, direct heir to the legacy of the Greek–Turkish–Syrian Greek Paulines, is not, shall we say, *overly pro–Jewish*.

#### The Greek Paulines Early Christianity 62–100 CE [continued] (3 of 10)

The hypothesized Greek Q Document, which may very well have been the source for the first three of the four Canon Gospels, would have come from this group. This Greek group 'appropriates' Paul's legacy, and morphs it further to embrace additional resonant themes.

Paul and his successors layer-on several key historical and theological overlays onto the actual saga of Jesus. The original saga of the neo-Orthodox Jewish teacher executed by Rome is overlaid with mystical iconography, Gnostic themes, pagan symbology, "mystery religion" motifs, and components of Greek mythological lore.

Part of the 'mix' will be to edit history to suit the political needs of the Church. This revisionist 'history of the Jesus-era,' inserted into the Canon Gospels/New Testament by Paul's Greek-orient-ed successors – to undermine the Jews, and exculpate Rome – often directly contradicts all known evidence and historical documentation.

#### The Greek Paulines Early Christianity 62–100 CE

[continued] (4 of 10)

The Greek Paulines are astutely attuned to the *energy buttons* of different religious cultures spanning Europe and the Levant. They were well–suited for the *paradigm–shift* undertaking.

Christianity will ultimately incorporate, amongst other themes, the Immaculate Conception and Virgin Birth, the Trinity including the Holy Ghost, and the Resurrection of the Savior/Redeemer Jesus. This is a multi–faceted theological/mystical overlay/synthesis. It is a multi–cultural *makeover*, drawing intense themes from several formidable disparate cultural belief–systems.

The Greek Paulines craft a new religion – for the Gentiles. Thus, while they employ the Jewish Jesus for his *Jewish Martyr* iconography front–and–center, the Greek Paulines then totally marginalize the *Observant Jew* aspect of Jesus. That which was central to the actual Jesus, namely Orthodox Judaism and Jewish theology, is dispensed with totally.

### The Greek Paulines Early Christianity 62–100 CE [continued]

(5 of 10)

The Greek Paulines initiate what is today *Christianity*. Paul's Christianity had been a sort of *Christianit-Lite*. It was missing the "loaded" highly-charged 'mix' of often mystical and pagan themes, iconography and emotional intensity superimposed post-mortem over his theology by his former allies the Greek Paulines. In any event, one way or another, the new religion initiated by Paul, and then morphed by the Greek Paulines, will ultimately sweep the Roman Empire.

But the Greek Pauline overlay / creation / construct has a (deliberate) quite-dark side...a heavily manipulated dualism. This dualism first classically juxtaposes the Forces of Light v. the Forces of Darkness – but in the case of the New Testament it does so with intense polarization, and at the severe expense of the Jews.

In the Greek Pauline setup, Christianity is positioned as the all-pure Force of Light (complete with virgins and angels) juxtaposed against unadulterated Evil. The Early Church Fathers (meaning the successors of the Greek Paulines) cast and transfigure the Jews as the demonic representatives of the Forces of Darkness.

### The Greek Paulines Early Christianity

62–100 CE [continued] (6 of 10)

A minimum of nine major episodes relating to the Jews alone, receive the *Jew-blackening* and *history-altering* 'New Testamenttreatment.' [see exhibit later – **Foundation Work**].

Both the Greek Paulines (62 –100CE) and their successors, the Church Fathers,100–740 CE re–work history to play to the dualism/ Gnostic/neo–pagan *hot–buttons* in the psyches of their target audience. Paul and his successors *read the market* accurately. But, even when their constructs terrorize millions (of Jews), and even after Christianity is well–established, the Roman Catholic Church will not halt the demonizations.

To the Greek Paulines, the stakes are high – first, political viability; eventually, the *glory of Christ* and the *glory of the Church*.

The Jews, however, were *expendable*. The historical record would be doctored to fit the demonizations. Church power and control pre-rogatives trumped the facade of Church morality.

# The Greek Paulines

Early Christianity 62–100 CE [continued] (7 of 10)

To make the construct 'fit,' the Greek Paulines *via* the edited Canon Gospels often totally 'rework' the actual history of the First Century. Key historical episodes are either inverted or invented to demonize the Jews.

Roman interests are factored-in for political and proselytizing reasons. The Jews are juxtaposed with the Forces of Darkness for *mass psychology* reasons.

Rome must be *kept at bay*, and the masses must be *kept in line*. First *undermining*, and then *demonizing* the Jews, will advance both important Early Christian objectives.

Since rewriting some segments of history requires the rewriting of all linked and historically–certified segments of history, the gambit ultimately fails under careful scholarly scrutiny. The pieces simply do not fit. But scholarly scrutiny does not truly come into play until the Enlightenment about 17–18 centuries later. In the meanwhile, Christianity gets rolling and emerges as a juggernaut world religion. In the meanwhile it 'transcends' key historical First Century 'factual' issues.

### The Greek Paulines Early Christianity 62–100 CE [continued] (8 of 10)

For example, the Pharisees, (the humanistic Jews of Galilee and Judea) allies-of Jesus, and of kindred political and religious philosophy as Jesus, are inverted by the New Testament as the arch-enemies of Jesus (who was himself a loyal and valued neo-Pharisee Jew).

Pontius Pilate, the vicious and all–powerful Roman Procurator, who crucified many thousands both before and after Jesus, and who cavalierly sentences and executes Jesus, is reworked by the Gospels, as a weak and timid functionary. To demonize the Jews, the Gospels must rework the Pilate–reality, and cast Pilate as an almost impotent reluctant accessory to the *death sentencing* of Jesus – whereas, Pilate was, in reality, essentially the all–powerful sole judge, jury and *de facto* executioner of Jesus.

Several key New Testament vignettes are entirely fabricated. Examples would include the bizarrely-alleged Passover night 2–3 A.M. Formal Sanhedrin Trial of Jesus, and an alleged 5–6 A.M. post–Seder Jewish mob scene early Passover morning. Neither ever happened on this planet.

#### The Greek Paulines Early Christianity

62–100 CE [continued] (9 of 10)

These inventions – fabricated by the New Testament – do not pass rudimentary tests of veracity. They would, however, be incorporated into the Christian Canon, and, as we know, be venerated and disseminated as part of asserted *gospel-truth*. This *holy gospel* packaging would protect the demonizations from too much scrutiny or challenge. Cumulatively, the demonizations would prove *genocidal*.

To the engineers of Christianity, the parallel meticulous fabrication of a virulent anti–Semitic virus was not a casual undertaking. The diabolicalization of the Jews was, in the political calculation of the Early Church, a necessary theological and psychological polarity. This fabricated polarity was to be juxtaposed against the asserted Forces of Light in the newly–constructed theology. Anti–Semitism would be a necessary psychological symmetric piece of the Christian theological construct – fabricated and later turbo–charged – to gain additional important psychological leverage over the *hearts and minds* of the masses to be converted.

### The Greek Paulines Early Christianity

62–100 CE [continued] (10 of 10)

Undermining the Jews will simultaneously ease the hearts and minds of Christianity's constituency that the Jews – who brought us those iconic Ten Commandments in the first place – might just be a peg higher on the status ladder than we are. *Not to worry. That would be taken care of.* 

The fostering of a virulent anti–Semitism will be calculated as a necessary, albeit not sufficient, arrow in the *power quiver* of the Catholic Church to first convert – and then hold – the masses of Christianity. *All for the Glory of Christ.* 

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# 'Triplet' paradigms

in First Century Gnosticism (1 of 3)

Both *Father–Mother–Son* and *Father–Son–Holy Ghost* paradigms exist in First Century Gnosticism.

Christianity will later incorporate the *Trinity (the Father-the Son-the Holy Ghost)* as an 'orthodoxy' (core doctrine) at the First Council of Nicae in 325 CE. (Nicae was in Bithynia, present day Iznik in Turkey.)

But, Christianity will also de facto incorporate the Father–Mother– Son paradigm via central Christian "God the Father–Mary the Mother–Jesus the Son" lore and tradition....

As regards the Trinity, many will challenge that it violates the First Commandment of the Ten Commandments, and that the iconography and other representations of the now-deified Jesus, then transgress the Second Commandment. Christianity disputes both assertions of any transgression.

### THE CRUCIFIXION

**'Triplet' paradigms** in First Century Gnosticism

> [continued] (2 of 3)

Here are the first two of the Ten Commandments:

ז ייאַנכי ה אַל דָיךּ אַשֵׁר הוּצַאתַיף I מאַרץ מצְרָיִם מבִית עַכְדַים יילָא־יִה לְהָ אַלהַים אַחַרָים עַל־פָּנֵי:

II ילא תַעַשָּׁה־לְךָ פָּסֶל וְכָל־תְמוּנָה אֲשֶׁר בּשְׁמִים ממֹעַל וָאֲשֶׁר בָּאָרֵץ מתַחַת וָאֲשֶׁר בַּמֵּים מתַחַת לְאַרֵץ: ילְא־ תשְׁתַּחְוָה לְהֵם וְלָא תָעָבְרֵם כִּי אַנֹכִי ה אַל דֶיךָ אַל קָנָא...

תורה שמות כ יתרו

- <sup>2</sup> I the LORD am your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, the house of bondage:
   <sup>3</sup> You shall have no other gods besides Me.
- II <sup>4</sup> You shall not make for yourself a sculptured image, or any likeness of what is in the heavens above, or on the earth below, or in the waters under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I the LORD your God am an impassioned God,...

-TORAH EXODUS 20: 2-5 YITRO

### 'Triplet' paradigms

in First Century Gnosticism [continued] (3 of 3)

In any event, the roots of both 'triplets' are Gnostic.

There is one reference only to a 'trinity' in the Four Canon Gospels, one sentence in Matthew (28:19) 'Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.' However, given the history of the Canon Gospels, one simply does not know if the lone sentence in four tracts was simply inserted later in the Third–Fourth Century CE to anchor the theme retroactively.

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## Gnosticism

Font of Christianity (1 of 6)

Gnosticism was and is heavily *dualistic*: The Forces of Good combat the Forces of Evil.

In Gnosticism (including at the time of the Early Christians) there was a Savior (in Greek, "Soter") who was one of a Trinity of divine beings. This savior was also called "the Son of God" – from the World of Light. He redeemed mankind by his suffering and then ascended to Heaven to sit by his Father in Everlasting Glory.

Gnostics sometimes (but far from always) incorporate the Jewish God, Jehovah, in their tradition, and sometimes as a kind of dark entity Devil, the Creator (Demiurge) of this evil *fallen world* – from which the Savior comes to redeem us.

Christianity, a composite tributary of Gnosticism, will incorporate major and key Gnostic motifs. Christianity will compete 'theologically with Judaism, and attack 'personally,' and quite viciously.

#### Gnosticism Font of Christianity [continued]

(2 of 6)

Gnosticism is pejorative to the extent that, as noted, the Jewish God/god is sometimes portrayed as evil. In successor Christian theology, the Jewish God is good, but, as noted, the contemporaneous First Century Jewish people – and the Jew *per se* – are portrayed as diabolical and as evil (incarnate).

Gnostic theological anti–Jewish thrusts overlap with Greek cultural anti–Jewish submotifs. The Greeks, highly-educated and intellectually versatile, are key players across the Mediterranean in sundry fields in the First Century. The Greek–Turkish–Syrian community (Greece–Turkey–Syria) and the Gnostic community overlap significantly.

Greek–Jewish rivalry plays–out on multiple levels. Both cultures asserted a superior, *top–of–the–pyramid* cultural *super–system* (literature, culture, heritage, philosophy, theology etc.). Both cultures had rich cultural traditions and formidable histories.

The elites of both cultures competed for key posts in the Roman Empire, throughout which Greek functionaries were quite heavily entrenched. The Greeks and Jews competed across the Mediterranean in finance, trade, and business and ultimately for status and power.

# Gnosticism

Font of Christianity [continued] (3 of 6)

They also apparently competed in religion. Some First Century strains of Judaism were actively involved in proselytizing, thus going *head-to-head* with Gnostic (often Greek–Turkish–Syrian) missionaries, in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Both rivalries converge in key trading centers like Antioch (northeastern Mediterranean, currently Turkey) and Alexandria (southeastern Mediterranean, Egypt). Gnostic writings flourished in both centers along with Gnostic–Jewish rivalry and Greek–Jewish rivalry. Anti–Jewish disturbances and riots will flare in both centers spanning the First through the Sixth Centuries.

Following the sacking of the Jewish Temple in 70 CE, (the Roman) Titus posted the ("war trophy") *cherubim* (the angel–sculpture part of the Holy Ark) from the Temple (*Beit ha–Mikdash*) above the city gates of (heavily Greek) Antioch. A gift to his Greek–Turkish–Syrian allies. Antioch was a key cradle of Christianity. The denouncement of the cherubim is unknown.

# Gnosticism

Font of Christianity [continued] (4 of 6)

As noted, the four Canon Gospels (the New Testament) are written in Greece–Turkey–Syria, with heavily anti–Jewish history rewrites laced throughout. The Gospels are written in the approximately 40– 50 years subsequent to the Roman vanquishment of Judea. They are written outside of Judea. As noted, the Gospels contain at their core, centerpiece Gnostic themes of Dualism – the Forces of Good v. the Forces of Evil. The Trinity paradigm will be introduced embryonically only later – in the Second Century by the Church Fathers.

As noted, the crafters of Christianity absorbed some of the most emotionally and politically appealing components of various religious belief systems into their new theological superstructure. The diabolical twist is that Christianity then *turned–on* many of those same 'originator belief systems.'

As Christianity later ascended in power first across Europe, it attacked other major 'contributor belief systems,' not just Judaism. In the First through the Sixth centuries, Christianity attacked the organized Gnostics – politically and even militarily.

# Gnosticism

Font of Christianity [continued] (5 of 6)

The Albigensian Crusade a.k.a. the Cathar Crusade (1209–1229 CE) was a 20–year military campaign initiated by the Roman Catholic Church to eliminate the "Cathar heresy," a Christian religious sect which had emerged with *too heavy* a Gnostic/Dualistic orientation and insufficient political capital with the Church.

The Greek Paulines and their successors, the Church Fathers, will incorporate into Christianity, among other motifs –

- > the **Trinity** concept from Gnosticism
- a transplanting of the **Torah** from Jewish history–1250 BCE as the so–called Old Testament, to add *gravitas* and authenticity to the Canon Gospels, the 'New Testament'
- the Jewish martyr Jesus from Jewish history 33 CE, albeit with an inverted/distorted Jewish context
- a transplanted *dualism*, albeit a highly toxic and venom–loaded version thereof, from Dualism/Gnosticism
- > Mystery Cult Savior as well as Redeemer themes
- > Neo-pagan Immaculate Conception and Virgin Birth themes

# Gnosticism

Font of Christianity [continued] (6 of 6)

Tapping-into a latent receptivity to a potentially compelling multifaceted religious paradigm, across the First-Fourth Century CE Roman Empire, Church doctrine will achieve traction. The framers of the Canon Gospels in concert with the Early Church Fathers *connect with their target audience.* 

Co-opting and/or morphing *compelling-to-the-populace* Gnostic, Dualistic, Mystery Cult, Jewish and other themes, whether by synthesis, inversion or outright transplanting, Early Christianity *takes root.* With a vengeance.

Christianity is by no means an extension of Judaism. From the *get-go*, Christianity was radically more an extension of Gnosticism/Dualism than of Judaism. The 'book cover' was Jewish and the key martyr is Jewish. But the *book text* is not.

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### **Mystery Cults**

(1 of 2)

"...The whole idea of a god-man who sacrifices himself in order to atone for the sins of mankind is alien to the Jewish tradition. It is part of the sadomasochistic romanticism of the Hellenistic mysterycults, with their irresistible appeal to those who found the burden of guilt unbearably heavy and who longed for it to be taken away from them by some charismatic divine figure...."

"...As the civilization of Greece took over other cultures, its own mystery–cults began to imbibe and become infected by the mystery– cults of other nations.... These cults had a long history behind them and were derived ultimately from pre–historic vegetation–religions designed to promote the fertility of the earth. In their original form they were cults of human sacrifice in which a chosen victim was killed in order to replenish the vigor of nature. The victim came back to life as a god and was worshipped...."

#### **Mystery Cults**

[continued] (2 of 2)

"...The [annual] enactment of the death and rebirth of the Phrygian god Attis, one of the most popular of these deities, corresponded to Easter-time; and the period between the death and rebirth of the god was frequently three days, (this being probably a remnant of moon-worship, since this is the time between the death of the old moon and the birth of the new)\*...."

\* See J. Leipoldt, *Sterbende und auferstende G…tter*, Leipzig 1923, pp. 77–78; and Von den Musterien zur Kirche, Hamburg 1962, p. 201

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 Hyam Maccoby Revolution of Judaea pp. 87–88, 103

### THE CRUCIFIXION

#### **Dualism**

(1 of 3)

Dualism denotes a state of polar–opposites. For instance, *positive* vs. *negative*.

Some metaphysical, philosophical and religious systems incorporate *dualism* in their systems.

Good v. Evil Dark v. Light Love v. Hate

Mainstream Jewish philosophy does not give *dualism* significant attention. Remember that *front and center*, Judaism is projecting Monotheism: One God. Thus, any dualism in the cosmos would need to be a subordinate and lower tier dynamic.

However, the Garden of Eden saga, front and center in the Torah, has a significant undercurrent of Good v. Evil, as do other Torah sagas. Meaning, the Torah itself has key dualistic themes, although mainstream Jewish philosophy is overwhelmingly not so.

Kabbalah, the mystical philosophical offshoot of Judaism, does give significant play to *dualism*. [My own work, *Summa Metaphysica*, pegs–off of some Lurianic Kabbalistic motifs in this area, and incorporates some dualistic themes.]

#### Dualism

[continued] (2 of 3)

Mainstream Gnosticism is very heavily dualistic.

Christianity rewrites the historical record *vis à vis* the Jews, so it is in a position to undermine the Jews via a dualistic paradigm. Christianity then employs a highly-charged dualism as a cudgel to beat down the Jews.

Jesus is positioned as a combination all–pure / God / cosmic Sacrifice (Christian) who is set–up / murdered–by the all–Evil / Diabolical / betrayers (Jews)

The message imparted throughout the Gospels is implicitly; if not explicitly: Love (the heavenly) Jesus v. Hate the (diabolical) Jew.

#### Dualism

[continued] (3 of 3)

The Canon Gospels, along with their theological offspring, the passion sagas, allege or imply –

- > Pure Christianity v. Impure Judaism
- > Love-filled Christianity v. Hate-filled Judaism
- > Saintly Christians v. Diabolical Jews
- > The Martyr Jesus v. Killer Blood-thirsty Jews

In combination, these projections would achieve *critical mass*, and ultimately prove genocidal. Over the course of nineteen centuries of the Catholic Church's projecting and manipulating its own highly-toxic dualism-spin (just-noted above), a *critical mass of hatred* would be generated in Europe towards the Jews.

Many millions of Jews would be real victims – to ultimately be terrorized and murdered. In its time—honored fashion, the Vatican then piously and sanctimoniously wrung its hands. *How terrible were those Nazis.....What could we possibly have done?* 

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## Baptism

#### Sethian Gnosticism roots -

A baptismal rite is prevalent in First Century Sethianism, a First Century Gnostic sect. The Serthians call baptism the "Five Seals." Baptism was originally distinctively Sethian.

"It is clear that some form of baptismal ritual is peculiar to the Sethians."

http://jdt.unl.edu/lithist.html – SETHIAN GNOSTICISM: A LITERARY HISTORY by John D. Turner, 2001, University of Nebraska

#### Jewish roots -

Mikvah – a ritual both in flowing water (separately) for both women and men, has deep roots in the Torah and in Jewish cultural practice.

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#### THE CRUCIFIXION

#### Where are the Romans?

(1 of 3)

Where are the Romans in the Canon Gospels?

Rome was the governing entity in Judea since 6 CE, when Jesus was around nine or ten years old. Rome was the Occupying Power. Rome appointed and controlled the High Priest. The Jewish religious community was in continual protest from that point on, in one form or another, against Rome for the 27 years leading up to the crucifixion of their fellow (neo-Orthodox) Jew, Jesus.

The Gospels center around the arrest and crucifixion of Jesus. But, since Rome was *calling all the shots*, would it not be relevant –

to relate Rome's tyrannical power-grip on Judea?

- to relate Rome's co-opting the High Priest Caiaphas?
- to relate Rome's multi-decade dark alliance with the High Priesthood?
- to relate that Rome and only Rome had the power to execute Jesus?
- to relate that Rome and only Rome was in the crucifixion business?

to relate that miscellaneous individual Jews did Rome's bidding, and not *vice versa*?

#### Where are the Romans?

[continued] (2 of 3)

to relate Rome's rapacious cruelty across Judea? to relate the ongoing multi-decade Jewish communal resistance against Rome – a resistance which Jesus was *part and parcel* of?

In the span of the four Canon Gospels, the word "Romans" appears only **once** (in John xi. 48) [i.e. the Romans shall come...]. Why do the Gospels remove Rome from the landscape?

Of course, the answer is transparent: The all-powerful Romans must be made to practically disappear from the scene, the power of the Jews must be magnified 100-fold from reality, the background Jewish communal resistance to Rome must be edited-out, and Jesus' historical resistance against Rome must be re-spun and fabricated as resistance against the Jews.

If Rome is to be courted by the Church, and Rome's citizens proselytized, best for the Gospels to lo-key Rome's culpability in the arrest, conviction and execution of Jesus. In fact, best for the Gospels to make Rome disappear almost-completely from the pages of the Gospels...

#### THE CRUCIFIXION

#### Where are the Romans?

[continued] (3 of 3)

And if Rome must make an appearance, best to portray it as nearly impotent, perhaps as a gently benign entity. Maybe no one will notice that Rome has magically been diminished to almost invisibility. The ultimate 'makeover.'

Maybe no one will notice that the power of the Roman Empire has been made to shrivel. Maybe no one will notice that in the Gospels, Rome has been made to practically evaporate from the governing scene of Judea.

Maybe no one will notice that a ruthless and overbearing empire is suddenly a docile entity. Maybe no one will notice that the *subject people*, the Jews, incredibly suddenly seem to be dictating to the Roman Empire, and not *vice versa*.

Maybe no one will remember that crucifixion was the *signature* Roman execution-terror mode. And finally, maybe no one will remember that Rome – and only Rome – and its despotic plenipotentiary Pontius Pilate – had crucified many, many hundreds, if not thousands, of Judeans – before and after Jesus of Nazareth....

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## Historian Jules Isaac on Where are the Romans?

"In 1960 Father Leon–Dufour put it more frankly: "In the main, the Jews were more and more *accused*, the Romans more and more *excused*...probably because the Christian apostolate was turning toward the pagans.: The impartial historian Marcel Simon is even more explicit: "The authors [of the Gospels], anxious to humor Rome, visibly took pains to present the passion in such a way that the Roman government, represented by Pilate, comes out of the affair practically spotless, while the Jews are weighed down with a guilt which they openly admit."

What conclusions may be drawn from this preliminary examination? That the historian has a right and a duty, an absolute duty, to see the Gospel accounts of the Passion as testimony weighted against the Jews."

Jules Isaac (b. November 18, 1877; d. 1963, Aix-en-Provence) was a Jewish French historian.

source: Jules Isaac, The Teaching of Contempt, Canada: Holt, Rinehart and Winston,  $\circledast$  1962, p. 132

#### Roots I "Love Thy Neighbor"

#### c. 1250 BCE – Torah (Sinai)

Based on the *Torah* Pentateuch [c. 1250 BCE] precept: "If thou meet thine enemy's ox or his ass going astray, thou shalt surely bring it back to him again." (Exodus xxiii). Also "Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear a grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the Lord." (*Torah* [Pentateuch] Leviticus 19:18).

#### c. 10 BCE – Hillel

#### (in Judea)

A man went to [the legendary Jewish sage] Rabbi Hillel and asked him "teach me the whole Torah on one leg." Hillel looked at him curiously, and then thought for a long time. Eventually he took a piece of paper and wrote on it "love your fellow like yourself." He gave this note to the man and said "This is the whole Torah on one leg." (Babylonian Talmud, *Shabbat* 31a)

#### c. 30 CE – Jesus (in Judea)

Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you... (Matthew 5:43–44)

#### c. 30 CE – Jesus (in Judea)

For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' (Galatians 5:14)

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# Roots II comparison

(1 of 3)

The Dead Sea Scrolls (150 BCE – 70 CE)

and

The Canon Gospels (70 CE – 110 CE)

One of the iconic Dead Sea Scrolls is "The War Scroll," referred to in academic circles as "IQM." The War Scroll's focus is Armageddon – *the war to end all wars.* 

Intriguing parallels exist between the **Jewish** Essene sect text "The War Scroll" (written in **Hebrew** c. 100 BCE and crafted in the Dead Sea area, Judea) and the later **Christian** [Canon Gospel] 'Luke' (written in **Greek** c. 85 CE and crafted in the Turkey–Syria area).

See side-by-side comparison chart on the following two pages.

Image: Continued line         (2 of 3)					
c. 100 BCE Jewish Essence		c. 85 CE Christian			
IQM 14:4–15		Luke, Chapter 1			
(4–5)	Blessed be the God of Israel Who preserves mercy for His covenant and the appointed (predes- tined) times of salva- tion for the people of His redemption.	(68) (70) (68)	Blessed be the God of Israel as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of oldfor he has redeemed his people		
(5)	He has gathered an assembly of nations for total destruction that will not even leave a remnant.	(51) (70)	he has scattered the proudthat we should be saved from our enemies		
(6–8)	He gives strength to those with feeble knees to stand firmNone of their mighty men will be able to stand	(52)	he has put down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of low degree.		
(8–9)	O God of mercies, Who preserves the covenant made to our fathers: Throughout all our generations. You have made won- derful Your mercies	(17– 73a)	to perform the mercy promised to out fathers, and to remember his holy covenant, the oath which he swore to our father Abraham		

Roots II [continued] (3 of 3)					
c. 100 BCE Jewish Essence		c. 85 CE Christian			
IQM 14:4–15		Luke, Chapter 1			
(11)	But You have raised up the fallen by Your strength. You will cut down the high of stat- ure and will humble the haughty.	(52)	he has put down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of low degree.		
(11– 12)	Their mighty men will not have anyone to save them and their swift ones will have no place to flee. You will bring contempt upon their noble ones	(51)	he has shown strength with his arm, he has scattered the proud in the imagina- tion of their hearts.		
(12– 13)	But we the people of Your holiness will praise Your name because of the works of Your truth. We will exalt Your mighty acts, forever	(74–5)	to grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve Him without fear, in holiness and righ- teousness before him all our days.		

source: David Flusser, *Judaism and the Origins of Christianity,* Jerusalem: The Magnes Press, The Hebrew University © 1988, pp. 138–9

#### **Barabbas the Convenient**

(1 of 3)

According to closely parallel vignettes in the gospels of Mathew and Mark, the 'crowd' (which has magically morphed from a small anonymous crowd to a "howling Jewish mob" over the course of the gospels) [in the early morning post–*Last Supper*] chose the criminal Barabbas to be released from Roman *death row*, and Jesus to be crucified.

According to this rendering of events, Roman Procurator Pontius Pilate was ambivalent about crucifying Jesus and threw the decision of which of the two prisoners to be killed, up to the crowd. For, according to Peter (the non-canonical Gospel of Peter), there was a Passover custom for the *praefectus* (governor) of Judea to commute the death sentence of *one* prisoner.

However, scholars aggressively challenge this entire saga on several inter-related grounds.

First, there are no contemporaneous historical accounts – in either Jewish or non–Jewish texts – of this supposed *Passover pardon* practice. (The asserted "Passover privilege" is 'fictional' – Maccoby, *Revolution in Judaea* – p. 19)

Second, the astute political survivor Pilate was unlikely to leave his political fortunes at the hands of a [Jewish] crowd.

#### **Barabbas the Convenient**

[continued] (2 of 3)

Third, this was all occurring at Passover itself, with Jerusalem at peak annual tension due to the tens of thousands of pilgrims converging upon it, when Rome was acutely aware that its authority was most vulnerable. Why free any potential troublegenerators at this point-in-time?

Fourth, it is highly dubious that Pilate would choose that tender *moment in time* to free possibly the single most dangerous entity in Judea in decades – Jesus of Nazareth – to electrify and ignite the populace – against Rome.

But, fifth, the *fatal flaw* in the (alleged) Barabbas vignette is that there is an insurmountable contradiction: For the same Jewish crowd which had, according to the Gospels, adoringly welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem on Sunday, is now portrayed 4–5 days later, Friday at daybreak, as howling for his death. Notwithstanding that Jesus had acted with consistent honor and valor in the interim.

Why would a Jewish crowd that adoringly acclaimed Jesus as a hero on Sunday, hatefully mobilize approximately 5 A.M. just four days later on a Holiday morning to howl for his blood?

#### THE CRUCIFIXION

#### **Barabbas the Convenient**

[continued] (3 of 3)

Thus, while the saga has the *convenient for the Early Christians* effect of cleansing Pilate/Rome of culpability, and demonizing the Jews, the facts themselves respectfully *do not wash*. And, of course toxicity has consequences. And severe toxicity in the guise of religious history can have mega–consequences, as we have unfortunately come to learn.

A passage found only in the Gospel of Matthew (27:25) has the [Jewish] crowd saying, "Let his blood be upon us and upon our children."

By manipulating the "hatred button" of young Christian minds via assorted hate-charged fabricated vignettes, the Church will insidiously first poison an entire continent, and eventually the worldat-large.

But,

Who is the true *diabolical entity* in this picture? Who is the true *hate-filled entity* in this picture? Should not the gospel writers, perhaps, gaze into the mirror?

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#### Historian John Gager on The Grego–Roman View of the Jews pre–Christian Era

(1 of 2)

The Greek and Roman Encounter with Judaism

THE HELLENISTIC ERA (to 50 BCE)

"In the Greco–Roman world, the earliest and most abiding view of the Jews was as a nation of philosophers. Theophrastus (c. 300 BCE), Megasthenes (c. 300 BCE), Clearchus of Soli (c. 300 BCE), Hermippus of Smyrna (c. 200 BCE), and Ocellus Lucanus (second century BCE) all associate Judaism with the traditions of ancient philosophy.<sup>1</sup> A similar image appears among Hellenistic ethnographers. Hecataeus of Abdera (c. 300 BCE) as well as numerous authors cited by Josephus in his Against Apion indicate a strong and appreciative interest in Jewish history and culture throughout the Hellenistic period. In short, there is considerable evidence to substantiate Martin Hengel's observation that 'down to Posidonius [c. 50 BCE]...the earliest Greek witnesses, for all their variety, present a relatively uniform picture: they portray the Jews as a people of philosophers.<sup>112</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For a discussion of these authors see Stern, Authors, vol. I, pp. 8–17 (Theophrastus); pp. 45–52 (Megathenes, Clearchus); pp. 93–96 (Hermippus), and pp. 131–133 (Ocellus).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> M. Hengel, Hellenism and Judaism (Philadelphia, 1974). p. 255.

#### Historian John Gager on The Grego–Roman View of the Jews pre–Christian Era

[continued]

(2 of 2)

...We may now speak of a new consensus on the nature of relations between Jews and Gentiles during most of the Hellenistic period. As Hengel comments, not even the bitterness arising from the Maccabean revolt failed to dampen the sense of 'amazement at the founder of the Jewish religion and the original teaching of Moses.'<sup>3</sup> When contrasted with the years 30 BCE to 135 CE, the Hellenistic period is striking not just for the absence of anti–Semitic actions and the low level of anti–Semitic beliefs but for the indications of active interest in Jewish history and religion. Those who would assess this period differently must do so on shaky grounds. The cultural exchange between Jews and Greeks from the Hellenistic side was, by and large, open and appreciative."

John Gager is Professor of Religion at Princeton University.

<sup>3</sup> Hengel, Hellenism and Judaism, vol. I, p. 258.

source: John Gager, *The Origins of anti–Semitism*, New York: Oxford University Press, Inc. © 1983, pp. 39 and 43.

#### **The Question**

"Why then had the Roman world in the time of Constantine become so much more hostile to Jews and Judaism than it had been in the time of Jesus, three centuries earlier? Was there a seam of malevolence...?"

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source: Martin Goodman, Rome and Jerusalem, New York: Vintage Books, © 2007, p. 551

#### The Creation of anti–Semitism

c. 66–100 CE The '*demonic-amalgam*' implant (1 of 10)

Christianity, would over the 32 year span following the Roman assault on Judea (67 BCE), become a virulently anti–Jewish enterprise.

Garden variety Greek and Gnostic competitive anti–Jewishness will be sculpted by the Greek Paulines, and later refined by their successors, the Church Fathers, into a uniquely destructive diabolical theological *lethal virus*.

Garbed in theology, inverted history and toxic imagery, this toxin would be a quantum level more virulent than anything ever employed by previous competitors of the Jews. The Greek Paulines create *anti–Semitism* as we know it post–68 CE. It is their other *signature creation*.

This *created virus* will be "*Holy Writ*"–grounded. It will be a *smear campaign* of virulent intensity. The virus will burn to the core of the psyche of those infected by it.

This European Church–crafted virus will brand the Jew as a diabolical entity embodying the inter–related and overlapping toxic attributes of –

evil the Forces of Darkness the demonic / satanic the sinister a betraying entity a Christ killing entity a blood lusting entity a criminal entity

#### The Creation of anti–Semitism

c. 66–100 CE The '*demonic-amalgam*' implant [continued] (2 of 10)

The Gospels/Passion Sagas will be a "double–credit" 'introductory course' provided by the Church to Christian children for twenty centuries.

Introduction to Judaism 101 and Introduction to Hatred 101

*Slander and smear:* This entire multi–century, multi–tentacled campaign will be *written, directed and produced* by a group whose centerpiece theme is none other than "Brotherly Love."

Via manipulated imagery, fabricated vignettes and twisted history, the Church will *conjure–up* its genocidal amalgam. It will be an amalgam from the depths of hell. This venom-laced demonic construct will be the Church's notorious and ongoing parallel 'contribution' to Western Civilization.

Post–Holocaust; anti–Semitism has been muted by the Church. But the thick roots of the poison vine in the Church Canon and theological lore most certainly remain.

Metaphorically, some branches have been cut down. However, the trunk and the roots remain. A hundred years after the Holocaust, (by 2045) memories of the photographs of the piled corpses will fade; but the (incendiary) Christian Canon will remain.

#### The Creation of anti–Semitism

c. 66–100 CE The '*demonic-amalgam*' implant [continued] (3 of 10)

The virulent Church–incubated toxin would infect Europe for almost 1900 years. And the virus would achieve its desired goal. Victim after Jewish victim. Death after death. Over and over. Same theme; different modalities. Century after century. As Christianity spread across the world, anti–Semitism *followed the Cross.* Period.

Christianity would theologically brand the Jews as representing the Forces of Darkness. Demonic and subhuman imagery would be superimposed on the Jews.

With toxic imagery interspersed throughout the Gospels and their offspring – the passion sagas – a young Christian mind would be implanted from childhood, if not from Baptism, with multiple imagery demonizing the Jew. The '*demonic amalgam*' implant. Invisible embedded hatred primed to be activated.

#### The Creation of anti–Semitism

c. 66–100 CE The '*demonic-amalgam*' implant [continued] (4 of 10)

The toxic themes would resonate through the young psyche. In due course, the psyche would *connect the dots*. A diabolical '*virulent amalgam*' implant. Subconsciously and/or consciously a unique animosity would fill the psyche of the Church–harpooned prey. The 'implant' would be 'successful.'

The Greek Paulines successfully created a practically invisible virulent genocidal modality. They could still posture as the religious enterprise bestowing LOVE and SALVATION upon Mankind. Presumably all is fair in *love, war and religion–creation*. In any event, the Greek Paulines could rationalize that the Jews were juxtaposed against the *quintessential Force of Light, the sacred sacrifice, the Son of God*.

In the process, the European Church would thoroughly betray this very same Jesus and his people, but that is another matter. All is for the *Glory of Christ* – if it furthers the power and manipulationpre-rogatives of the Church power elite.

Ongoing denigration, degradation, terror, horror, and mass murder. All included.

#### The Creation of anti–Semitism

c. 66–100 CE The '*demonic-amalgam*' implant [continued] (5 of 10)

While simultaneously posturing 'LOVE' as its centerpiece theological and philosophical theme, the Church would stir this toxic brew for centuries. It would disseminate its poison on a daily basis via various modes, its bible included.

The police power of the Roman Empire enforced the Church's neo–genocidal campaign. An ongoing hate–fest was unleashed. Isolated, unarmed and outnumbered 100:1, the Jews were good *target practice* for the Church.

Enveloped by "surround–sound" vilification and hate, the Jews *played for survival*. Simultaneously the Church would *blame the Jews* for bringing opprobrium *upon themselves*. With intermittent absolute power, the Church was intermittently absolutely corrupt.

The Cathedral spires would go up; the Jews would be cut down. A cosmic symmetry, for sure.

"Children – Watch the Jewish boys and girls being trashed, hounded, raped, degraded, murdered, burnt, and starved. That's what happens when you don't believe in Christ the King."

#### The Creation of anti–Semitism

c. 66–100 CE The '*demonic-amalgam*' implant [continued] (6 of 10)

The Catholic Church protects its hate-mongering behind a holy shield of alleged historicity – itself an inversion/perversion of the historical record.

At the apex of European society for centuries, and the religion of hundreds of millions, the Church would not be held to account, would it?

The Church would actually never need to officially and visibly stir its entire constituency to action in order to visit massive ongoing trauma and devastation on the Jews. Outnumbering the Jews often by over 100:1, the Church had *room to maneuver*.

If the Church's toxicity dissemination incited to various levels of toxic action only the basest 5 percent of its constituency, say the 5 percent who were abused one way or another by society or by the Church itself, it would still have five rabid *on the prowl* hate-filled and twisted human torpedoes, for every isolated Jew. *That should do the trick.* 

#### The Creation of anti–Semitism

c. 66–100 CE The '*demonic-amalgam*' implant [continued] (7 of 10)

The other 95 of 100 Christians would not necessarily be *kissing cousins* of the Jews either. At a minimum, there would be a 'distance.'

Humans are not born with *animus.* 99.9 percent of "God's children" are born without malice. Indeed, they probably have built–in psychological defenses against permanent malice.

However,

if one subjects these children to an ongoing "toxic wash" of demonization of a particular group,

if one implants in them fraudulent diabolical imagery masquerading as historical truth,

if one can package these defamations as theology

if one subtly enlists even their parents into this *de facto* brainwashing endeavor,

if one can subtly indoctrinate animosity into these kids

if one can impress upon them that it is *de facto* God's will that the Jews are undermined every which way

if one intertwines "religious imperatives" with anti-Semitism

#### The Creation of anti–Semitism

c. 66–100 CE The '*demonic-amalgam*' implant [continued] (8 of 10)

then,

- > one can potentially bypass the defenses.
- one can potentially manipulate decent kids into becoming lifetime carriers of an infectious virus,
- one can potentially implant a diabolical amalgam
   for a lifetime.
  - and then, with a little luck,
- one has a lifetime warrior for Christ and a soldier in God's war.

No one ever said it was easy to engage in *mass manipulation* on a global scale – and get away with it.

The unquestionably overwhelmingly decent Christian kids would be subjected, often through their entire childhood, to the above-noted manipulative toxic wash – in Church and in Church schools – if not as well in *family and friend* milieus. It's *the Gospel Truth*, is it not?

An insidious, *programmed hatred* waiting to be activated,had been implanted in the impressionable young. Invisible – and indeed, unbeknownst – to child and parent alike.

A diabolical subliminal mind programming.

#### The Creation of anti–Semitism

c. 66–100 CE The '*demonic-amalgam*' implant [continued] (9 of 10)

The religious belief system of Paul of Tarsus, itself a radical departure from the Orthodox Judaism of Jesus, is radically morphed, overlaid and re-invented further by the Greek Pauline 'successors' to Paul. The Greeks were masters of imagery and of the human psyche. This manipulative group – and their theological successors– would send millions of innocents to their doom.

The clever Greek group, which synthesized anti–Semitism, would in due course build a virtual empire – and simultaneously send millions to their doom to prop up this temporal empire, positioned as a *Church of God*.

"We have prevailed - so we must have been right all along."

"We have the majestic cathedrals and the gold-and-white pennants and the pomp and pageantry. We have swept the Roman Empire. It must be God's will."

"Anti-Semisitsm? Nothing to do with us. It must be an ancient curse... We posture LOVE, do we not?"

#### The Creation of anti–Semitism

c. 66–100 CE The '*demonic-amalgam*' implant [continued] (10 of 10)

Once history has been inverted, once multi-faceted hate imagery is widely disseminated, once demonization is systematically implanted – all under the rubric of theology – among many hundreds of millions of impressionable young minds – ongoing for hundreds of years – it is virtually impossible to calibrate the depth and breadth of the "toxic ocean" creation.

Hatred–generation wreaks destruction both upon the children of the 'attacker group' and upon the children of the 'target group,' for starters.

Hatred has wings. And fangs. Spanning centuries.

Ann Frank in the 1945 was subject to years of ongoing Nazi hounding, fear and terror before ultimately being 'arrested' at age 15, and dying horrifically of typhus in the midst of degradation and mass dying in the Bergen Belsen Concentration Camp. She lived to witness the typhus death throes of her sister several days prior.

"Love thy neighbor."

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#### Historian Jules Isaac on Core Christian Theological anti–Semitism

(1 of 4)

"Consciously or subconsciously, anti–Semitism is profoundly rooted in Christianity....

It will be objected that anti-Semitism has always existed; but this argument has no solid historical foundation....

On the historical level there is nothing to justify the assertion that anti–Semitism was present from the beginning of Israel's history. That a pagan anti–Semitism existed in antiquity is incontestable, but it turns out to have been much more localized in time and space than is generally believed.

The argument of "universal anti–Semitism" has no more historical foundation than that of "eternal anti–Semitism." The Jews who were deported to Chaldea [Persian Gulf] in the sixth century BCE lived there quietly and prosperously for several centuries; Babylonia [geographic center of the Jewish Babylonian exile] became one of the principal [historic scholarly] centers of Judaism. The Jews who emigrated to China encountered no hostility....

#### Historian Jules Isaac on Core Christian Theological anti–Semitism

[continued]

(2 of 4)

At any rate, it is an error to state that the Jews have always been subjected to intolerance, and persecuted by the pagans. The reverse is true: the persecutions were spasmodic, and more often than not the Jews enjoyed the good will of the government. The Ptolemies of Egypt esteemed them and employed them as soldiers, customs inspectors, colonists, and revenue officers; it appears that Jews served as commanding officers of the Egyptian army. In the Roman Empire, the religion of the Jews was the only foreign creed to be *licita*, or officially tolerated; it had a powerful attraction for a great many people, and every synagogue had its sympathizing, or "God-fearing," pagans. None of this agrees with the [alleged] "scorn" and [alleged] "universal antipathy" which so many [alleged] historians cite without offering sufficient evidence.

Christian anti–Semitism, which is essentially theological, has been infinitely more pernicious and persistent, since it has continued up to our own time.

#### Historian Jules Isaac on Core Christian Theological anti–Semitism

[continued] (3 of 4)

From this essential fact derives another of vital importance. For the Christian apostolate in pagan lands, there was nothing more irritating or more galling than the passionate resistance of the Jews which they encountered everywhere, their refusal to recognize Jesus as Christ (or Messiah) and as Son of God in the fullest sense of the word—that is, as his "only Son." In the eyes of the pagan world this obstinate refusal was a stunning contradiction of Christian teachings....

How could the Christians succeed? Only by destroying the prestige of their adversary [the Jews], by a campaign to discredit him. Indeed, this was a constant aim of Christian apologetics, and was already noticeable in many passages of the four canonical Gospels. It became even more obvious in the apocryphal Gospels, and reached its height with the Church Fathers of the fourth century. From then on, the victorious Church was allied with the Empire, and caution was no longer necessary [in demonizing the Jews].

#### Historian Jules Isaac on Core Christian Theological anti–Semitism

[continued] (4 of 4)

...The impartial Marcel Simon writes: "Unlike pagan anti–Semitism [anti–Jewishness], which is more apt to consist of a spontaneous reaction, [Christian anti–Semitism] is exceptionally well directed and organized toward a precise end: to render the Jews hateful."\*

It [Christian theological anti–Semitism] has, moreover, "an official, systematic and unified quality which has always been lacking in the former [pagan anti–Jewishness]. It [Christian anti–Semitism] is at the service of theology and is fed by her; it borrows her arguments...in a special kind of [politicized] exegesis of biblical interpretation...for what amounts to a long indictment of the chosen people."

\* Marcel Simon, Verus Isarël (Paris, 1948), p. 268

source: Jules Isaac, *The Teaching of Contempt*, Toronto: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, © 1962, pp. 23, 26, 27, 28, 31–36.

#### Rosemary Ruether on The Creation of anti–Semitism

"In sum we might say that pagan anti–Semitism provided a certain seed bed of cultural antipathy to the Jews in Greco–Roman society, which Christianity inherited in inheriting that world. But this antipathy had been kept in check and balanced by Roman practicality and Hellenistic Jewish cultural apologetics. It was only when Christianity, with its distinctively religious type of anti–Semitism, based on profound theological cleavage within the fraternity of biblical religion, entered the picture that we begin to have that special translation of religious hatred into social hatred that is to become characteristic of Christendom.... In my judgment, the special virulence of Christian anti–Semitism can be understood only from its source in a religious fraternity in exclusive faith turned rivalrous. Pagan anti–Semitism, at most, provides a fertile soil for Christian polemics and legislation against the Jews."

source: Rosemary Ruether, *Faith and Fratricide*, Oregon: WS Publishers, © 1995, Chapter 1, pp. 30–31.

#### Britannica on the Origins of Christian anti–Semitism

The origins of Christian anti–Semitism Britannica online Aug 23, 2009:

"Enmity toward the Jews was expressed most acutely in the church's teaching of contempt. From St. Augustine in the fourth century to Martin Luther in the 16th, some of the most eloquent and persuasive Christian theologians excoriated the Jews as rebels against God and murderers of the Lord. They were described as companions of the Devil and a race of vipers. Church liturgy, particularly the scriptural readings for the Good Friday commemoration of the Crucifixion, contributed to this enmity."

source: *Britannica Online*, http://www.britannica.com/holocaust/article–215020, retrieved August 23, 2009

#### The Theological Roots of Anti–Semitism

(1 of 3)

"The injustices and pogroms inflicted over the centuries on the Jews by Christian nations, often in the name of Christian principles, did not stir the conscience of theologians until fairly recently. It was the advent of Hitler's anti-Semitism that produced uneasiness in some Church circles and made theologians take a new look at their Christian past. Was the refutation of Judaism that was implicit in the Christian religion and in the Christian polemics against the unbelieving Jews in any way connected with the anti-Semitism prevalent in Western history and its culmination in the racial anti-Semitism of the Nazis? Some Christian thinkers began to speak out in favor of the Jews on theological grounds. They abhorred anti-Semitism: they came to recognize that the Church's anti-Jewish polemics have created anti-Jewish feelings in the past, but they trusted that the Church's central message, namely the love of God and neighbor, would be able to overcome the prejudices and antipathies generated by the ancient polemics. The Catholic names that come to mind in this connection are Jacques Maritain, Charles Journet, Henri de Lubac. These and some other authors sought a Christian manner of speaking of Judaism that would not produce contempt for the Jews; they searched for scriptural promises that applied to Christians and Jews alike; and they tried to acknowledge an abiding vocation for the Jewish people.\*A

#### The Theological Roots of Anti–Semitism

[continued] (2 of 3)

These authors were convinced that the anti–Jewish trends were peripheral to the Church's teaching, that they were in fact deformations of the gospel introduced at a later point in history, and that it would consequently be comparatively easy to purify the Church's life and message from anti–Jewish prejudices and the expressions of contempt. Little did these authors realize, despite their generosity, how deeply the anti–Jewish trends were woven into the significant documents of the Christian religion and how closely these trends were connected with the Church's expression of its faith."

> Gregory Baum Jesuit Centre, Toronto Introduction to Faith and Fratricide by Rosemary Ruether

\*<sup>A</sup> see Alan Davies's valuable study, *Antisemitism and the Christian Mind* (New York: Seabury, 1969), for a careful analysis of the Christian theological literature dealing with the Jewish people after Hitler's persecution and genocide.

source: Rosemary Ruether, *Faith and Fratricide*, Oregon: WS Publishers, © 1995, pp. 1–2.

#### The Theological Roots of Anti–Semitism

[continued] (3 of 3)

Gregory Baum, OC (born 1923) is a Canadian Roman Catholic theologian.

Born in Berlin, Germany, he came to Canada from England in 1940. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics and physics in 1946 from McMaster University, a Master of Arts degree in mathematics in 1947 from Ohio State University, and a Th.D. in 1956 from the University of Fribourg.

He was the Professor of theology and sociology at University of Saint Michael's College in the University of Toronto and subsequently professor of theological ethics at McGill University's Faculty of Religious Studies.

He is currently associated with the Jesuit Centre Justice et Foi in Montreal.

During the church council Vatican II he was a peritus, or theological advisor, at the Ecumenical Secretariat, the commission responsible for three conciliar documents, On Religious Liberty, On Ecumenism, and On the Church's Relation to Non–Christian Religions.

# Explicit Anti–Semitism in the New Testament (compiled by Shmuel Golding)

(1 of 6)

"These anti–Semitic statements were and still are the principal cause of all persecutions, oppressions and pogroms in which Jews have suffered. These anti–Semitic accounts in the New Testament have taught mankind to hate the Jew. As long as the New Testament continues in print (at least in its present form) the Jew will be hated. Here are but a few verses from where Christianity borrowed its anti–Semitic sentiments.

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets and stonest them that are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold your house is left unto you desolate." (Matthew 23.37, 38). Then answered all the people (Jews) and said, "His blood be on us and on our children" (Matthew 27:25). "But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you to councils, and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten" (Mark 13.9)

"Ye are of your father the devil and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar and the father of it. And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not. Which of you convinceth me of sin? And I say the truth, why do you not believe me? He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God" (John 8.43–47)

# **Explicit Anti–Semitism in the New Testament**

[continued] (2 of 6)

"Stiff–necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so you do. Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which showed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers" (Acts 7.51–53)

"Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is an antichrist, that denieth the father and the son. Whoever denieth the son, the same hath not the father" (I John 2.22, 23)

"I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan ..." (Revelation 2.9, 10)

"Behold I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews and are not but do lie; behold I will make them to come and worship before thy feet..." (Revelation 3.9)

These vicious and treacherous New Testament verses, have given the impression that the Jews in the time of Jesus were degenerate and cruel and that they are a deicide race. They have been spread by the church for the last two millennia, and have not been rooted out of Christian thinking to the present day...

## **Explicit Anti–Semitism in the New Testament**

[continued] (3 of 6)

**Moses Bazes** [born and died: unknown], author of "*Jesus the Jew, the Historical Jesus,*" after examining the anti–Semitic statements in the New Testament writes:

"I believe that because of the anti-Jewish narratives of the New Testament, the Jews were hounded from one country to another, denied to live as human beings, denied to work as other people worked, denied to play as others played, were in no country at peace, in no era at peace and finally persecuted and massacred. This was all because of the Christian bigotry and hatred in the name of Jesus. Obviously it cannot be possible to regard Jesus as none other than the scourge of God for the Jews. The tragic existence of the Jews during 1900 years in the Diaspora, the hatred they experienced, the pogroms, persecutions, murders and the destructions they suffered, must be mainly attributed to anti- Jewish statements in the New Testament. Christianity introduced contempt for the Jew and is thus responsible for what happened in the Second World War at the Dachau Concentration camp in Germany and at the Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland. What was started at the Church Council at Nicea in 325 CE was duly completed in the concentration camps and crematories of Christian Germany where six million Jews perished."

## **Explicit Anti–Semitism in the New Testament**

[continued] (4 of 6)

We will now examine the words of some Christian "saints" and leaders and notice how their anti–Jewish expressions are based on New Testament verses listed earlier in this article.

**Origen:** "Their rejection of Jesus has resulted in their present calamity and exile. We say with confidence that they will never be restored to their former condition. For they have committed a crime of the most unhallowed kind, in conspiring against the savior."

**St. Gregory:** "Jews are slayers of the Lord, murderers of the prophets, enemies of God, haters of God, adversaries of grace, enemies of their fathers' faith, advocates of the devil, brood of vipers, slanderers, scoffers, men of darkened minds, leaven of the Pharisees, congregation of demons, sinners, wicked men, stoners and haters of goodness."

**St. Jerome:** "....serpents, haters of all men, their image is Judas ... their psalms and prayers are the braying of donkeys..."

# **Explicit Anti–Semitism in the New Testament**

[continued] (5 of 6)

**St. John Chrysostom:** "I know that many people hold a high regard for the Jews and consider their way of life worthy of respect at the present time... This is why I am hurrying to pull up this fatal notion by the roots ... A place where a whore stands on display is a whorehouse. What is more, the synagogue is not only a whorehouse and a theater; it is also a den of thieves and a haunt of wild animals ... not the cave of a wild animal merely, but of an unclean wild animal ... When animals are unfit for work, they are marked for slaughter, and this is the very thing which the Jews have experienced. By making themselves unfit for work, they have become ready for slaughter. This is why Christ said: "ask for my enemies, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them and slay them before me' (Luke 19.27)."

**St. Augustine:** "Judaism is a corruption. Indeed Judas is the image of the Jewish people. Their understanding of the Scriptures is carnal. They bear the guilt for the death of the savior, for through their fathers they have killed the Christ."

**St. Thomas Aquinas:** "It would be licit [legal] to hold Jews, because of the crimes, in perpetual servitude, and therefore the princes may regard the possessions of Jews as belonging to the State."

# Explicit Anti–Semitism in the New Testament

[continued] (6 of 6)

These anti-semitic words uttered by popes, priests, pastors and laymen, were put into action by unruly Christian mobs and later by Hitler's followers.

Adolf Hitler: "I believe that I am today acting according to the purposes of the Almighty Creator. In resisting the Jew, I am fighting the Lord's battle."

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Composed by Shmuel Golding [b. unknown; d. 2010], was the founder of The Jerusalem Institute of Biblical Polemics (JIBP) – founded 1981.

source: http://www.christianity-revealed.com/cr/files/antisemitisminthenewtestament\_1.html

# Historian Young on Jewish Protectiveness of Jesus & Disciples

"[Roman] soldiers were unable to arrest him during the day on the Temple Mount because large crowds of [Jewish] people supported Jesus. In fact, after the crucifixion when the [Roman lackey] Sadducees seek to arrest the apostles [Disciples], the soldiers are commanded not to use force because the people [the Pharisees/Jews] will stone them (Acts 5:26). This New Testament text from Acts is seldom mentioned, most probably because it describes the Jewish population of Jerusalem as protecting the apostles [Disciples] from Roman persecution through [by] the Sadducean aristocracy.

After the [Roman lackey] Sadducees apprehended the apostles [Disciples], the leader of the Pharisees [the Jews] Rabban Gamaliel persuaded the [Sadducee] council to release them."

+++

source: R. Steven Notley, Marc Turnage and Brian Becker, *Jesus' Last Week*. The Netherlands: Koninklijke Brill, 2006, p. 203.

# Rosemary Ruether\* on Theological Critique of The Christian Anti–Judaic Myth

"We have seen that the anti-Judaic myth is neither a superficial nor a secondary element in Christian thought. The foundations of anti-Judaic thought were laid in the New Testament. They were developed in the classical age of Christian theology in a way that laid the basis for attitudes and practices that continually produced terrible results. Most Christians today may seem more than willing to prune back the cruder expressions of these attitudes and practices. But to get at the roots from which these grew is a much more profound problem. The wheat and the tares have grown together from the beginning, and so it may seem impossible to pull up the weed without uprooting the seed of Christian faith as well. Yet as long as Christology and anti-Judaism intertwine, one cannot be safe from a repetition of this history in new form. The end of Christendom may seem to have brought an end to the possibility of legislating theological anti-Judaism as social policy. But we witnessed in Nazism the ability of this virus to appear in even worse form in secular dress. Yet I believe that this is actually a critical moment when a deep encounter with the structures of anti-Judaism is not only necessary to atone for this history, but may be essential to revitalizing the original Christian vision itself. "

source: Rosemary Ruether, *Faith and Fratricide*, Oregon: WS Publishers, 1995, Chapter 5, p. 226.

# **Foundation Fabrication Work**

(1 of 3)

There are at least three salient defamatory New Testament vignettes frontally employed.

The subsequent 'passion sagas' over the centuries then amplify these defamations/degradations of the Jews.

All three vignettes have been turbo–charged with toxicity by Church lore over the centuries to construct a *demonic amalgam* of the Jew. This *demonic amalgam* then sets the stage for genocide.

The three fabricated core neo–genocidal vignettes are – the alleged Sanhedrin Trial saga the invented Barabbas saga the Judas Iscariot literary gambit

The three are by now recognized by a substantial number of noted independent scholars as either *gross distortions* or as *total fabrications*...

## **Foundation Fabrication Work**

[continued] (2 of 3)

Regarding the third vignette, Judas Iscariot, even if one Disciple did unilaterally betray Jesus, which is highly unlikely, Catholic lore seized on the alleged action of one of 12 Jewish disciples. The Church would seize on the one with a name symbolizing the Jews as a whole – which might achieve 'traction.' The Church then quite dishonestly portrays him as the salient Jewish disciple, totally demonizes his character, and then twists even his physical portrayal into that of a grotesque entity.

Finally, as noted, diabolical blood themes are introduced. The sculptor of hatred, whoever he/she was, produced a timeless *signature piece of hatred*.

Impressionable psyches of young Christians would be primed with hate and contempt, even if just below the surface, for life. At a very young age, in Church, at school and at bedtime, Christian youngsters would have diabolical imagery concocted by the Church subtly and cynically embedded in their psyches.

## **Foundation Fabrication Work**

[continued] (3 of 3)

No Machiavellian gambit could possibly trump the *hatred priming* fostered under the auspices of the Church – ongoing for centuries. The *Manchurian Candidate* handlers, would be proud.

Details of each of these 13 convolutions (the three fabrication/ distortions plus the 10 inversions) are each incorporated in separate exhibits in this work.

Cumulatively, these 13 contortions of the historical record, of course conveniently vector towards a multi-faceted demonization of the Jews. These corruptions of history lay a nefarious foundation for a virulent anti-Semitism, which has now spanned twenty centuries. Respectfully, this virulent *foundation work*, in turn, directly laid the groundwork for the Nazi genocidal nightmare.

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# Inversions: White is Black

(1 of 4)

There are ten 180 degree inversions in the Canon Gospels.

The result of each and every one of the inversions is to cast significant negativity onto the Jews.

### Inversion #1

### Gospel inversion – presentation:

Jesus was juxtaposed *against* the Pharisees (the mainstream Jewish community)

#### **Historical reality:**

Jesus was a Pharisee and was aligned with the Pharisees.

### Inversion #2

**Gospel inversion – presentation:** The High Priest Caiaphas represented *the Jews*.

#### **Historical reality:**

The High Priest Caiaphas represented Rome.

## Inversions: White is Black

[continued] (2 of 4)

### Inversion #3

#### Gospel inversion – presentation:

Jesus was not Orthodox Jewish.

#### **Historical reality:**

Jesus was neo-Orthodox Jewish.

### Inversion #4

### Gospel inversion – presentation:

Pontius Pilate was politically weak.

#### **Historical reality:**

Pontius Pilate was politically **strong**, indeed locally omnipotent. Pilate was (sole) judge, (sole) jury and executioner of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

### Inversion #5

# Gospel inversion – presentation:

It is *contrary* to Jewish law to heal the sick on the (Jewish) Sabbath.

#### **Historical reality:**

It is mandatory Jewish law to heal the sick on Sabbath.

# Inversions: White is Black

[continued] (3 of 4)

### Inversion #6

#### Gospel inversion – presentation:

Jesus challenged the Rabbis.

#### **Historical reality:**

Jesus challenged Rome.

### Inversion #7

### Gospel inversion – presentation:

The Jews wanted Jesus crucified.

#### Historical reality:

The Jews *were opposed* to the crucifixion of Jesus – or to the crucifixion of any fellow or neo-Pharisee opponent of Rome.

### Inversion #8

**Gospel inversion – presentation:** Rome is mentioned *only once* in the entire Canon Gospels.

#### **Historical reality:**

Rome was the reigning power in Judea.

# Inversions: White is Black

[continued] (4 of 4)

### Inversion #9

### Gospel inversion - presentation:

The Pharisees were aligned with the High Priest.

### Historical reality:

The Pharisees were bitter enemies of the High Priest.

### Inversion #10

**Gospel inversion – presentation:** Pontius Pilate was a *benign* individual.

#### **Historical reality:**

Pontius Pilate was a notoriously cruel and vicious individual.

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## **Misrepresentation and Manipulation**

at the core (1 of 4)

A sampling of material misrepresentations – related to the Jews – at the core of Christianity would include the following inter–related manipulations.

[In each instance, I have noted the *reality*, as opposed to the *misrepresentation*.]

- 1) REALITY: The authorship of the gospels was not only not eyewitness, and not only not contemporaneous, the authorship was not even from within Judea
- REALITY: The Greek–Turkish–Syrian, non–Jewish shadow craftsmen of the New Testament had their own political agenda vis à vis the Jews. The New Testament narrative simply does not conform to historical reality.
- 3) REALITY: The Greek–Turkish–Syrian authors of the anti–Jewish vignettes are *authorship unknown*. No one has a clue who they were individually. They were most definitely not Jewish, and most definitely not any of the (Jewish) disciples of Jesus.
- 4) REALITY: Mainstream Judaism was not necessarily opposed to Jesus. Mainstream Judaism's core philosophy, core theology and practice are not antithetical with that of Jesus. Philosophical divergence was in the *subjective* realm of *messianism*.

### Misrepresentation and Manipulation

at the core [continued] (2 of 4)

- 5) REALITY: The Canon Gospels, as regards the Jewish vignettes, are not a *testament* at all: Most, if not all, are heavily spun to undermine the Jews.
- 6) REALITY: The Canon Gospel authors are, as well, simultaneously, the very founders of virulent anti–Semitism.
- 7) REALITY: The Torah, the Old Testament, is in direct theological opposition to the New Testament, The two are not synchronous. The packaging of the Torah with the Canon Gospels is a severe manipulation. The New Testament frontally undermines the Torah and nefariously undermines its people.
- REALITY: The Catholic Church hierarchy has institutionally and knowingly subtly manipulated – for more than nineteen consecutive centuries – its own constituency into a programmed toxic animus towards the Jews.

## **Misrepresentation and Manipulation**

at the core [continued] (3 of 4)

9) REALITY: Christianity as we know it today was crafted/ sculpted/created by the Greek Paulines and then by the Church Fathers subsequent to the death of Paul; not by Jesus (executed by Rome c. 33 CE), not by James the Just (killed c. 62 CE) and not by Paul himself (killed c. 65 CE). The agenda of the Greek Paulines was radically different from that of Jesus or of James the Just.

While some of the above points are clearly inter-related, we now count 3 *fabrications* (see prior Exhibit) PLUS 10 *inversions* (see prior Exhibit) PLUS 9 *misrepresentations* (see above)

 for a total of 22 manipulations – all vectoring towards undermining the Jews.

# **Misrepresentation and Manipulation**

at the core [continued] (4 of 4)

Beware of sanctimonious holders of power and prestige, who might betray the authentic legacy of Jesus of bona fide universal love, and betray your respectful and pure trust in the clerical hierarchy by subtly priming you for a lifetime of focused ill will

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## **Demonization as Theology**

(1 of 2)

Pagan mythology carries with it strong motif-currents of penultimate good v. penultimate evil; celestial saints v. demonic creatures. The Canon Gospels, penned later (c. the latter portion of the First Century) would set up saintly Christian icons v. allegedly neo-demonic Jewish icons, including Church-manufactured-surrogates for the Jews (e.g. Judas).

This saintly v. demonic duality-motif, would *strengthen the hand* of the Church on multiple-levels, as it both "energized its base" and *aided and abetted* further recruiting of the non-Jewish Mediterranean populace. Finally, but ultimately, most deadly, it also sets up a "straw man" for the new Christians to rail against (i.e. the allegedly demonic) Jew.

"Join us, Mr. Neo-Pagan, as we are *fighting the good fight* against those terrible Jews." Newly–cast as Christ–killers, mob–howlers and Judas–betrayers, with blood and money demonizations thrown–in for good measure, the Jews are set–up by the Church as an allpurpose demonic entity.

In later centuries, when economies were weak or plague was onthe-march, the now-demonized, and to a great extent, de-humanized (by-the-Church) Jews, would be a convenient (isolated and defenseless) scapegoat for the Church and any local demagogues – for any and all maladies and tragedies – and for malcontents of all shapes, sizes and ages.

Once the demonization-gambit was introduced and 'fine-tuned,' the Church had to make sure that no one "*called its card*." The demonization gambits generally centered on historical fabrications or distortions, all magically vectoring towards demonizing the Jews.

## **Demonization as Theology**

[continued] (2 of 2)

The Church "defense" to potentially being exposed, was to layer-on yet more demonizations – to keep any articulate Jew from getting too much traction, if he survived at all....

Thus, *demonization* of the Jews, increasingly layered–on decadeby-decade, century-after-century, had multiple practical political– psychological–theological benefits to both the embryonic church, and then to the all powerful Church, post–Constantine. *Demonization* of the Jews would turbo–charge recruiting and energize the subsequent base; it would set–up a "common enemy" and sate the constituency looking for an all–purpose scapegoat.

Thus, specifically *demonizing* (the Jews), would provide multiple and ongoing political benefits to the new Christian hierarchy and local pastors. Demonizing the Jews - then and now – would prove beneficial to expand, and then secure and hold "market share," as crass as that sounds.

Whether across Greater Europe or Greater Russia or Latin America, where hatred went hand-in-hand with Jesus-on-the-Cross, "market share" increased. Crass-sounding, perhaps, but effective. Many millions of (generally European) Jews would suffer and die as a consequence. But then again, they were demonic and subhuman, were they not?

Only the revolting images and body-counts of the Nazi handiwork, 19–20 centuries later, would give the Catholic Church serious pause (albeit possibly temporary) as to the ramifications of hate-mongering, subtle and not so subtle. After 19-20 centuries of assiduously making Jew-hatred 'politically correct,' suddenly it was not so correct. At least for the moment....

# The Diabolical Judas-Gambit

(1 of 2)

One of the most incendiary demonizations in Christian lore is the "Judas demonization." Jesus had 12 disciples, all of them, like Jesus, neo-Orthodox or Orthodox Jewish, as was Jesus himself. One of these was *loudas* (Judas).

Christian lore postures him, however, as the *sole* **Jewish** Disciple, with others being cast as some sort of (non-Jewish) universal figures, in-line with the (misleading universalistic / Christian) portrayal of Jesus.

Judas Iscariot is then portrayed in Christian lore as a sinister, betraying, money-grubbing, diabolical entity from the depths of hell. Sometimes depicted with horns and/or tail. The Church Fathers' intent is to have the diabolical *loudas*/Judas be emblematic of the Jews, as a whole.

The inter-related diabolical intense 'negative branding' gambits by the Church of the Jews will, indeed, stick. And millions of innocents will die as a consequence – while the Church *beats its breast*, proclaims "Brotherly Love," and canonizes the Church Fathers who concocted the genocidal demonizations in the first place.

There is no historical basis that the particular character Judas ever even truly existed. If he existed, he was one of 12 *Jewish* Disciples.

In Christian lore, the evil Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss. According to the Church Fathers, posturing loyalty, the diabolical Judas betrays the Lord – for silver. Interesting, that the Church Fathers themselves posture absolute and unflinching devotional loyalty

### The Diabolical Judas-Gambit

[continued] (2 of 2)

to (the one) God and the Ten Commandments, but then seem to completely betray those very core concepts – for their own purposes:

"You are of your father the devil [i.e. you, the Jews are children of the devil], and the lusts of your [devil] father ye will do. He [your father, the God of Israel, the devil] was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because then there is no truth in him [your Jewish heritage, your father, the God of Israel, the devil] (John 8:44) - King James Version, Canon Gospels, The New Testament"

Judas is tagged by the Church as having betrayed the *locale* of Jesus to the authorities. But, the locale of Jesus was broadcast by Jesus himself to all-concerned. That was his point. To attempt to electrify the crowd. He arrived into Jerusalem in full-flourish riding a white donkey to the (stated) adoration of the (Jewish) crowd. Rome had troops overlooking the arrival of Jesus through the "Golden" gate into the walled and gated city. The headquarters of the Roman garrison literally overlooked his subsequent protest at the Temple (protesting the Roman-Sadducee collusion). The entire Old City of Jerusalem is not all that large to begin with; it could fit into Manhattan's Central Park, with space left over. The locale of the charismatic Jesus of Nazareth in Jerusalem, was the most widely known address in Jerusalem that week.

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# Did the Judas saga occur at all?

"Our conclusion must be therefore that no tradition of the betrayal and the defection of Jesus existed before 60 CE" ... The whole story of betrayal was invented not less than 30 years after Jesus' death (Maccoby, *Judas Iscariot and the Myth of Jewish Evil*, p. 25)

There is general scholarly consensus that Paul wrote 1 Corinthians, with this attributable authorship to a major Christian figure juxtaposed against the four Canon Gospels, whose true authorship is unknown. Paul, founder of Christianity, writes in 1 Corinthians 15:5 that Jesus, immediately after his crucifixion was seen by "the Twelve." Meaning, all twelve Disciples were *present and accounted for*. Judas Iscariot included.

So, Paul, the very founder of Christendom, in a key document written (in the 50s CE) prior to the writing of the first Cannon Gospel by writers unknown (in the 70s CE), does not seem to include any Judas betrayal vignette.

Why might that be?

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## Gospel Truth? deicide Accusation

Back at the (clumsily fabricated alleged) 3 A.M. deicide Trial – construct, did Jesus answer the charges of the (phantom) Sanhedrin?

### CANON GOSPELS answer #1

#### "NONE": Jesus did not answer any of the charges

And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing. Then said Pilate unto him, Hearest thous not how many things they witness against thee? And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marveled greatly. (Matthew 27:12–14)

Then he questioned with him in many words; but he answered him nothing. (Luke 23:9)

#### CANON GOSPELS answer #2

#### "SOME": Jesus answered some of the charges

But he held his peace, and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him, and said unto him, Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven. (Mark 14:61–62)

## Gospel Truth? deicide Accusation

[continued]

#### CANON GOSPELS answer #3

#### "ALL": Jesus answered all of the charges

Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, Art thou the King of the Jews? Jesus answered him, Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me? Pilate answered, Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done? Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence. Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice. (John 18:33–37)

"All we need do is to accept the obvious, that we do not have detailed knowledge of what happened when the high priest and possibly others questioned Jesus. We cannot know even that 'the Sanhedrin' met. Further, I doubt that the earliest followers of Jesus knew...."

E.P. Sanders\*
 Professor of Religion
 Duke University

\* E.P. Sanders, *Jesus and Judaism.* Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1985, Chapter 10, p. 299.

### New World Encyclopedia on "Rejection"

(1 of 3)

"Many of Jesus' [supposed] parables, such as the 'wedding feast' (Matthew 22:1–14), present the Jewish people and leaders as failing and being rejected by God. There is a strong supersessionist [i.e. the replacement of one group by another] theology in parables like the 'tenants in the vineyard' (Matthew 21:33–46) where the Jews are [allegedly] replaced in God's providence.

The Gospel of John particularly portrays 'the Jews' in general as rejecting Jesus, and even quotes Jesus as speaking of 'the Jews' as a group to which he does not seem to belong (John 18, 19) [even though Jesus himself is Jewish]. Finally anyone who did not follow Jesus was effectively sidelined [by the Gospels] as John's Gospel said, 'I am the way the truth and the life: no one comes to the Father but by me.' (John 14:6)

[According to the intermittently vitriolic Gospel of John] Jesus goes even further in this [alleged] polemic against his [fabricated] opponents 'the Jews':

"You are of your father the devil [i.e. you, the Jews are children of the devil], and the lusts of your [devil] father ye will do. He [your father, the God of Israel, the devil] was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because then there is no truth in him [your Jewish heritage, your father, the God of Israel, the devil] (John 8:44) - King James Version, Canon Gospels, The New Testament"

## New World Encyclopedia on "Rejection"

[continued] (2 of 3)

Author's note – Interesting, So all the Jews, according to the New Testament are the 'children of the devil, liars and part of a big lying heritage. Interesting. So, John – whoever he really was – seems to have "discovered" a pretty hateful and rabid Jesus? But we thought that the martyred Jesus was a fine, loving neo-Orthodox Jewish (Pharisee) rabbi and teacher? Hmm..... Is this the same iconic New Testament figure who stresses Love Thy Neighbor as a core tenet? Seems just a bit non–loving does it not? A little Fourth Century Church editing here, perhaps?

How many Jewish innocents over the ages were sentenced to early and tortured deaths by that one holy and loving New Testament sentence alone? A hundred thousand? A few million here and there? A little *burning\_at\_the\_stake action* here, a little *mass murder* there... before you know it, there are real numbers....real coffins.... Or were there coffins at Auschwitz?

Of course, it is Gospel Truth, so it must be quite holy. Must it not be?

### New World Encyclopedia on "Rejection"

[continued] (3 of 3)

The Jews are 'a murderer from the beginning'? Hmm... But are these not the same Jews who are central to the so-called Old Testament, who were the recipients of the Torah at Sinai, the same Old Testament which is simultaneously the first part of all those millions upon millions of Christian bibles distributed to this day? In all those hotel and motel rooms, as well?

If this literature were distributed by the Klu Klux Klan in 2010, would they not be forcefully prosecuted under Hate Crime statutes? I think so. Indeed.

Is this Gospel of John 8:44 sentence all that different from the most virulent 1930s hate–mongering propaganda? Seems pretty similar to me. Oh, but this is the Holy Church, and it so Holy, is it not?

But, wait a second, was Jesus not Jewish himself?

So, Moses was a "murderer and liar" aside from being "the Devil"?

Ditto for King Solomon? for the Prophet Isaiah? for the Prophet Jeremiah? for the Prophet Ezekial?

Is this vitriol actually in a religious book – a bible?

source: New World Encyclopedia Online, http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/ Anti–Semitism, (accessed March 3, 2010)

# **The Ninth Commandment**

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

— [Exodus 20:16]

Just for the record.

### **Historian David Flusser\***

on The Sanhedrin \*\*\* (1 of 2)

"...according to all that is reported about the Pharisees, they could not have acquiesced in the surrender of Jesus to the Romans....

... Was it an official assembly of the Sanhedrin [or a rogue group of Sadducee priests] that condemned Jesus to death? John knew nothing about it, and in the whole of Luke – not just in his description of the Passion – a verdict of the supreme court is not even mentioned.<sup>3</sup>...

...To be blunt, the night session in the high priest's house is a product of Mark's [manipulative and toxic] literary creativity, as is his notion of Jesus' condemnation to death by the Jewish Supreme Court.<sup>5</sup> By contrast, Luke is free from the assertion that Jesus was formally condemned to death by the Jewish authorities. ...

\*\*\* see also our discussion in exhibit: The Alleged Sanhedrin Trial of Jesus, 33 CE.

### **Historian David Flusser\***

on The Sanhedrin \*\*\* [continued] (2 of 2)

...One final additional piece of evidence allows us to deduce that is was not the Sanhedrin who condemned Jesus to death. This is indicated by the fact that he was buried in neither of the two graves reserved for those executed by order of the supreme council.<sup>6</sup> ..."

\* David Flusser (b. 1917; d. 2000) was Professor Emeritus at the Hebrew University where he taught Judaism in the Second Temple Period and Early Christianity. He was a member of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities. In 1980 he was awarded the Israel Prize in literature.

<sup>6</sup> *M. Sanhedrin* 6:5. See Billerbeck, I, p. 1049.

source: David Flusser, Jesus. Jerusalem: The Hebrew University Magnes Press © 2001

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> see P. Winter, On the Trial of Jesus (Berlin, 1961), p. 28

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> I hope that I have succeeded in proving the unreality of these inventions by my literary analysis of the Gospels in my article in the supplementary studies, "Who is it that Struck You?"

### **Concurrent and Integral**

c. 66–100 CE (1 of 3)

Less than a decade after the deaths of Paul and James the Just, and simultaneous with the Roman assault on Judea, the Greek Paulines layer–on a virulent anti–Semitism into the corpus of their religion. Anti–Semitism and Christianity will be *connected at the hip* from 66 CE until Nostre Aetate in the 1960s, almost 1900 years later to the day.

The Greek Paulines have their own agenda. They will dramatically morph the vision of Paul into their own. Step by step, they will significantly overlay Greek, Pagan, Gnostic, Mystery Cult and other resonant motifs onto the theological legacy of Paul, which was itself a major morphing of the legacy of the neo-Orthodox Jewish Jesus.

However, the Greek Paulines know that they will have to bear the brunt of a potentially fatal Pharisee intellectual, philosophical, and theological counter–attack. This potential Jewish intellectual counter–attack was – and is – the *Achilles heel* of (Pauline) Christianity.

Additionally, the Christians did not want to bear the brunt of any despotic Roman Emperor's scapegoating. Better that the Jews play that role.

Like all groups, the Greek Paulines will play first to *survive* – and then to *prevail*. The Greek Pauline 'solution' to the Jewish intellectual threat, would be to *raise the stakes and shift the battle field*. The Greek Pauline counter–measure would be to delegitimize and blacken the Jews as a people. *Delegitimize, Defame and Destroy*.

## **Concurrent and Integral**

c. 66–100 CE [continued] (2 of 3)

Psychological or theological gambits which might 'further that cause,' would be incorporated into its very theological core and lore. Layers of character assassination of the Jews would be embedded into its core texts and Canon. Who could argue with a bible? Who could doubt Holy Writ?

Historical veracity – or the facts in general – would not be allowed to interfere with the gambits. After all, was this not all for the greater glory of God and Christ? *They killed the Christ, after all, did they not*?

The Greek Pauline group which created both anti–Semitism and the New Testament was acutely attuned to the contours and vulnerabilities of the human psyche. The members of the group's power hierarchy were masters of the psychic buttons of both love – and hatred. The group possessed not inconsiderable expertise in the power of *imagery*, as well.

As noted over the span of multiple exhibits in this work, a virulent anti–Semitism 'construct' is intertwined with the historical, theological and psychological constructs of Christianity. The founders of the Church crafted all three components to 'fit' together – and to dovetail with the anti–Jewish construct.

### Concurrent and Integral

c. 66–100 CE [continued] (3 of 3)

Intense emotion – *loving the Christ* twinned with *hating the Jew* – will be one of the 'glues' which holds the intertwined fabricated constructs together.

The interdependence of all the above-noted constructs is presumably one of the reasons that the Church over the centuries has so vigilantly protected the horrific anti-Semitism at its core. The Church hierarchy has never been quite sure what would happen to the Church, if it cut out this toxic vine enmeshed through its sinews.

Of course, now the Church has a countervailing problem: In the courtroom of public opinion, in a hypothetical trial scenario, a disinterested random jury might just *convict* 'God's representative,' the Church, of Accessory to Mass Murder, as regards the Holocaust in particular.

Being branded an Accessory to Murder, might not 'play well' in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Best to lo-key any anti-Jewishness. Let the post-Holocaust Vatican reprieve for the Jews play out.

And, as for increased scrutiny in the *internet age*, we are a Holy Church, are we not? A preeminent world religion, are we not? We have two billion adherents under our greater umbrella, do we not? Who would dare challenge our core?

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## Three–Front War 70 CE (1 of 2)

Classically, entities are averse to even a 2-front war. However, in 70 CE, the Jews found themselves in a lethal and diabolical 3-front war.

The first front – the military front – was the crushing Roman military assault.

The next front was the High Priest/Hellenistic axis – which was aligned with Rome.

The third front was the Church–front. While packaged as an extension of Jesus' Judaism, the Church was in fact directly undermining/demonizing the character of the Jew and the integrity of Judaism.

The Church assault was all but invisible to the preoccupied Jews, while the Roman assault, conquest and exile/enslavements were quite frontal. This Church–assault on Judaism would have a decimating and sustained effect, far outlasting the consequences of the military onslaught by Rome.

This Church–assault was sustained, and intensified periodically over the centuries – after the Jews were crushed militarily by Rome, and after Rome itself was co–opted by Christianity. As noted, with the adoption of Christianity by the Roman Empire, the Church accrued unbridled power to project its demonizations.

## Three–Front War 70 CE [continued] (2 of 2)

+

In an uncanny historical symmetry, c. 1900 years after 70 CE, the Jews would again fight 3–front wars to regain the precise same territory – and stature: the 1948 War of Independence, and then again, the sweeping 1967 Six Day War victory.

Thus, in the twentieth century, the fronts would be the Egyptian, Syrian and Jordanian military fronts. All three, of course, were frontal enemies which were *clearly seen on the radar*.

In the second half of the twentieth century, the '*Church–front*' was quiescent post–Auschwitz. The Holocaust photograph made anti–Semitism *politically incorrect.* 

Phoenix Israel was arising from the ashes of hatred. Post–Holocaust, as Israel struggled to establish its independence, Western Christian political backing would prove pivotal. It would actually tip the political balance in Israel's favor.

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# **The High Priest**

(1 of 8)

The High Priest – by Torah statute – was a high level religious 'functionary' with no *freedom of action*. The High Priest's duties were strictly delineated and demarcated. He had no political or theological power. No executive, legislative or judicial power.

A random synagogue rabbi today has more political leeway than did the High Priest of Israel by Torah law. The High Priest had *zero leeway*. His duties and even his thoughts were carefully bracketed.

The High Priest never occupied the preeminent position it held in other belief systems. For instance, Aaron the first High Priest was radically subordinate to Moses, the Lawgiver.

The position of the High Priest, the *Kohen Gadol*, commenced with Aaron, brother of Moses.

By Torah prescription, succession to the High Priesthood was mandated to be via the male descendants of Aaron. The priesthood was thus a subset of the Tribe of Levi.

Classically, the role of the High Priest was to carefully – technically and spiritually – administer the rituals of the Temple. When two sons of the High Priest, the sons of Aaron, Nadab and Avihu, *stepped out of line* apparently subtly, they were, according to the Torah, *consumed by fire*.

## **The High Priest**

[continued] (2 of 8)

According to Torah law, the High Priest was never to be the lawgiver or chief judge or supreme authority. Judaism stipulated a strict separation of Church and State (i.e. Temple and State).

Over the course of Jewish history, particularly during the Hasmonean (Maccabee) Dynasty, (c. 140–37 BCE) the High Priest position was compromised. Under the Hasmoneans, more than once the High Priest position was co–opted politically and/or compromised *halachically* (meaning compromised as per Jewish law). And once co–opted or compromised, the High Priest's credibility within Israel was, of course, undermined. The legitimacy of the regime as a whole was brought into question. (This co–opting of the High Priest position, was the pernicious precedent lead–in to the Occupying Romans' co–opting the same High Priesthood in 6 CE, 43 years after the Hasmonean Dynasty imploded.)

The Ramban (Nachmanides), one of Judaism's preeminent historical rabbinic authorities, posits (see his commentary on '*lo yasur shevet mi'yehuda'* – "The scepter shall not pass from Judah" – Genesis 49:10, citing Talmud Bavli: Bava Basra 3b) that the reason the Maccabees ultimately lost power totally, was their subversion of the divinely stipulated *separation* between the "priesthood" and the "rulership."

# The High Priest

[continued] (3 of 8)

When Rome ratcheted-up ever-increasing control over Judea c. 6 CE, it entered into an alignment with the minority Sadducee group, opposed by the Pharisee Mainstream Jewish group. The Sadducee group controlled the priesthood.

The Sadducees/Priesthood was opposed with varying degrees of intensity by various Jewish Pharisee factions. When the Roman procurator chose to flex his political muscle and appoint the High Priest, the position's credibility and purity were fatally polluted in the eyes of mainstream Judaism.

Commencing 6 CE, the Sadducee Jewish High Priest was not only appointed by the Roman procurator, it was also vested with a small degree of political and localized Temple police power by the Roman procurator.

The High Priest at that point essentially became *an enemy of the Jews.* That was the context in which Jesus, synchronous with the Pharisees at large, challenged the High Priest and the High Priest's personal *direct sphere of influence,* the Temple.

Subsequent to the death of Jesus and through the implosion of the Sadducees ending with the destruction of Temple II, the High Priest remained an *agent of Rome*, dedicated to stamping out *sedition*. To that end, the High Priest co–opted the legitimate authority of the former Sanhedrin, and employed confederates packaged as a neo–Sanhedrin in various gambits, some politically fatal to the targets of the quisling High Priest.

#### The High Priest

[continued] (4 of 8)

As noted, when the Roman procurator chose to flex his political muscle and appoint the High Priest, the position's credibility and purity were fatally polluted in the eyes of mainstream Judaism. With the implosion of the legitimacy of the Priesthood, the Temple gradually and increasingly became supplanted by (the Pharisee–promoted institution), the *synagogue* as the preeminent religious venue of Judaism.

The very institution of the (Jewish) *synagogue* was the Jewish response to the Roman undermining of the Priesthood.

As noted in the text, the Sicarii were violent cloaked–dagger wielding right–wing Jewish militants, who were informally aligned with the Jewish Pharisee Zealots. The Sicarii intermittently assassinated collaborators with Rome, with the mass Passover pilgrimage often providing 'cover.'

The High Priest Caiaphas can be presumed to have been high on the Sicarii Assassination 'To Do' List. Caiaphas, the quintessential survivor, can be presumed not to have been oblivious of the hatred of the Jews towards him. (Later, in the very early 60s CE, the High Priest Jonathan is indeed, assassinated in the Temple by cloaked dagger–wielding assassins in circumstances that are unclear.)

# **The High Priest**

[continued] (5 of 8)

The above was the general context back in 33 CE when Jesus, synchronous with the Pharisees at large, challenged the High Priest on the Temple grounds.

Not necessarily able to get too in-close to the High Priest, Jesus is storied to have overturned tables at the periphery of the Temple. Perhaps. But political protest against the High Priests' collaboration with Rome and desecration of the Temple, is not *theological protest* against normative Judaism (which was a political and theological foe of the High Priest).

Judea on the eve of Passover 33 CE is a tinderbox, potentially quite explosive. Jesus is leading a salient political protest. against the *power player* at the Temple, Caiaphas. Rome's lackey.

The Temple, in turn, is 'ground zero' of the Roman pollution of Judea. It is the epicenter of the scar in the Jewish psyche.

Jesus challenges at the Temple periphery, perhaps in the Courtyard itself. He is a symbolic salient of the greater ongoing and emergent Jewish resistance to Rome. Jesus attempts to *light the fire*, but the fire of rebellion will not be lit until 34 years later in 67 CE. Jesus is picked–off by the Romans and their henchmen. He is crucified for *sedition*, and as an example to other would–be Jewish insurgents or challengers.

#### **The High Priest**

[continued] (6 of 8)

\*

One could argue that with the Priesthood compromised, the Pharisees should have boycotted the Temple totally. That line of approach would have been emotionally, philosophically and politically wrenching, for sure. Clearly, in hindsight it might have been *the play.* 

The most notorious of the 'quisling' High Priests was Caiaphas, who occupied the position under Roman sponsorship – from 18–37 CE (four years after the crucifixion of Jesus). From every conceivable angle, Caiaphas was a *curse upon the Jews*. In a pejorative play on his name, the *Mishnah* (Talmud Bavli: Mishnah Parah 3:5) refers to Caiaphas as *ha–Koph – 'the monkey.'* 

Jesus, a neo-Orthodox Mainstream Jewish Pharisee activist, among his several aspects, railed against the Sadducee High Priest. As noted, this was *parallel to* - and *part of* - the overall Pharisee opposition and disparagement of that contemporary Sadducee priesthood.

## THE CRUCIFIXION

#### The High Priest

[continued] (7 of 8)

The High Priesthood of Israel position ceased with the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE. From every direction, for the two last centuries of its approximately thirteen century span, the High Priest was a plague on Israel.

Solomon's Temple was established in an environment (c. 1000– 900 BCE) of peak Judean military strength and political autonomy. However, a thousand years later, c. 6 CE, in an environment of undermined autonomy, the Temple – and the attendant High Priesthood – become toys and tools to be used-and-abused in the hands of the Occupying Empire.

#### The High Priest

[continued] (8 of 8)

In an Occupation scenario, the Temple becomes a flash-point, especially for the Orthodox and the Nationalistic, and, certainly for the Orthodox Nationalistic. With the power of the formal leadership of the Jews eviscerated, the High Priest position – officiating over Jewish religious ritual at the Temple – by tradition and law, a strictly functionary position, suddenly assumes disproportionate visibility and importance. If the title-holder of the position can be co-opted by the Occupying Authority, Judea is then wedged further under the thumb of the local Enforcer. And the populace is then truly subservient to the Occupier.

In 50 percent of the Canon Gospels – the last two, Matthew and John – the (collaborator) High Priest is positioned in connection with an alleged trial of Jesus. But in 99.9 percent of passion sagas for more than 19 centuries, a very, very Jewish and a very, very diabolical High Priest is positioned *front and center* behind the alleged arrest and actual crucifixion of Jesus.

In ancient Rome, the Roman high priest was known as *Pontiflex Maximus* (Great Bridge–Builder). The office was usually filled by a leading politician or statesman, not by a classic priest per se. *Pontiflex Maximus* continues to be one of the titles of the Pope.

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### Historian Jules Isaac\* on the High Priest

"they do not even know his name?"

(1 of 2)

"The name of the high priest in office is unknown, or incorrectly known, to the Evangelists [i.e. Gospel Writers]. What? The high priest, to whom they assign the leading role and the gravest responsibilities, they do not even know his name? Their uncertainty is especially strange in that the high priest then in office—who according to Josephus was Caiphas—held his position for eighteen years (18–36), a tenure that is quite extraordinary and implies great submissiveness toward the Roman Procurator (who from the year 26 up until 36 was Pontius Pilate: of this name not one of the Evangelists has any doubt: Paul Winter's On the Trial of Jesus.\*<sup>A</sup>

No name is given to the high priest in the Gospel of Mark, acknowledged to be the oldest of the four. No name is given to the high priest in the account by Luke of the passion. Later, as anti–Jewish prejudice grew in Christian circles, it became necessary to fill an awkward gap, and to name the high priest involved; this, each of the writers did in his own way. Only Matthew, better informed on Jewish affairs than the others, belatedly gave the name of Caiphas. If we examine closely the Gospels according to Luke and John, we find the name inaccurately given as Annas. For the sake of consistency the name of Caiphas was later added to that of Annas in Luke 3:2 and in Acts 4:6. In the Gospel of John, the name Caiphas has been interpolated as being that of the son–in–law of Annas, but it is obvious that in John 18:19–33 Annas is the officiating high priest who interrogates Jesus; everything relating to Caiphas has been rather ineptly added.

## Historian Jules Isaac\* on the High Priest

"they do not even know his name?"

[continued] (2 of 2)

On the basis of this ignorance and uncertainty, Paul Winter is then perfectly justified in deducing that "the hierarch's [high priest's] part in the proceedings against Jesus was far from being as prominent as the Evangelists suggest."\*<sup>B</sup> This simple observation also indicated the extent to which the Gospel tradition in regard to the Passion was, at the outset, divorced from certain fundamental realities."

\*Jules Isaac (b. November 18, 1877; d. 1963, Aix-en-Provence) was a Jewish French historian.

\*A See the author's analysis of this book in *Revue Historique*, 1961, no. 3, pp. 127–137.

\*B Paul Winter, On the Trial of Jesus (Berlin, 1961), p. 39

source: Jules Isaac, The Teaching of Contempt, Canada: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1962, pp. 133–134

THE CRUCIFIXION

## New Testament Contradiction vis à vis the Jewish Patriarch Abraham

#### Abraham was "justified by works"

Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? (James 2:21)

#### Abraham was "not justified by works"

For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. (Romans 4:2)

note: New Living Translation (© 2007)

If his good deeds had made him acceptable to God, he would have had something to boast about. But that was not God's way. (Romans 4:2)

## New World Encyclopedia on the Demonization of the Jews

DEMONIC: Jews were portrayed as possessing the attributes of the Devil, the personification of evil. They were depicted with horns, tails, the beard of a goat...... "Christian anti–Semitism stemmed largely from the conception of the Jew as the demonic agent of Satan."<sup>A</sup> Despite {according to the New Testament] witnessing Jesus and his miracles and seen the prophecies fulfilled they rejected him. They [the Jews] were accused of knowing the truth of Christianity, because they knew the Old Testament prophecies, but still rejecting it. Thus they appeared to be scarcely human.

<sup>A</sup> Dan Cohn–Sherbok. *Anti–Semiticism: A History.* (Stroud: Sutton, 2002), 81. ISBN 0750924926

*New World Encyclopedia Online*, http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/ Anti–Semitism, (accessed March 3, 2010)

# New Testament "Confusion" about the phantasmagoric Judas

(1 of 2)

#### AND, WHO BOUGHT THE FAMOUS (BLOOD) FIELD?

#### NEW TESTAMENT answer #1: The chief priests bought the field.

And the chief priests took the silver pieces, and said, It is not lawful for to put them into the treasury, because it is the price of blood. And they took counsel, and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. (Matthew 27:6–7)

#### NEW TESTAMENT answer # 2: Judas bought the field.

Now this man [Judas] purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; (Acts 1:18)

#### AND, WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FAMOUS COINS?

NEW TESTAMENT answer #1: Judas threw down the money and left.

And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed,... (Matthew 27:5)

## New Testament "Confusion" about the phantasmagoric Judas

[continued] (2 of 2)

#### NEW TESTAMENT answer # 2: Judas used the coins to buy the field.

Now this man [Judas] purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; (Acts 1:18)

#### AND, HOW DID THE NOTORIOUS JUDAS DIE?

#### NEW TESTAMENT answer #1: Judas hanged himself.

...and [Judas] went and hanged himself. (Matthew 27:5)

# **NEW TESTAMENT** answer # 2: Judas fell headlong and burst his bowels open.

...and falling headling, he [Judas] burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out. (Acts 1:18)

# **Contradictory & Confused**

(1 of 2)

The Canon Gospels are internally contradictory, and collectively confused. There is a consistent pattern of historical 'fix.' As noted, the Gospels contradict each other on key events, such as the crucial date relative to the First Night of Passover, that Jesus is actually executed by Rome. Was it the day leading into Passover, the First day of Passover, or a later day in Passover? As noted, the four gospels give three different versions. Thus, even on the core and crucial date of the very public execution of Jesus, around which the entire Gospels, and indeed Christendom, pivot, and to which presumably there was indeed clear contemporaneous witness, there is cumulative gospel contradiction and confusion.

Notwithstanding the amorphous and disembodied portrayal of key events and sequences in the Canon Gospels, notwithstanding the fact that the gospel narrators were not contemporaneous with the events they write of, notwithstanding that to this day we do not know who these anonymous Gospel authors actually were, notwithstanding a myriad of problems with the historical veracity of any of the gospels, notwithstanding all of the above, the Church Fathers, operating under the rubric of Love Thy Neighbor, felt no compulsion in stitching-together and fostering the dissemination over 19 centuries of the virulently anti–Jewish 'normative Passion Saga' which has a very direct and central message: Hate The Jews.

## **Contradictory & Confused**

[continued] (2 of 2)

The Passion Sagas, extant and thriving to this day, are a Death Warrant to the Jews. First they murder the reputation of the Jews, collectively and individually, and second, they lead to the actual mass killings of the Jews.

Thus, the founders and promulgators of a religion professing *humanism* as its key tenet – and their papal successors spanning the millennia – seem to generally *lose the way* pretty quickly when it comes to the convenient goal of inspiring hatred towards the "designated scapegoat."

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# **Expropriating the Martyr**

(1 of 4)

With the First Century Greek Pauline Apostles intent on expropriating the Jesus *martyr* saga for their new religion, these Apostles had to 'immunize' potential recruits and new adherents from going after *the original*, meaning from converting to Judaism. The Church stratagem would consequently be to simultaneously *idolize* Jesus and his Disciples, while *trashing* the Jewish people and the Jewish character.

This *dual focus* stratagem is the fount of all that ensued, from the 'New Testament' thru the Crusades thru the Inquisition thru the Russian pogroms and leading into the twentieth century.

The ongoing multi–century Church 'cover–up' then assumes 'center stage.' The tactics of the cover–up include both the demonization and the decimation of the Jews.

The Church Fathers, and in particular, the Doctors of the Church, turbo–charged the vitriol of the Greek Paulines even further.

#### **Expropriating the Martyr**

[continued] (2 of 4)

The 'eyewitness' – meaning the Jews – needed to be sidelined, delegitimized, smeared, and optimally annihilated altogether. The *credible witness* had to be neutered – or removed as a threat – one way or another.

But the Church had to maintain its patina of *brotherly love*. The Church had to protect this sublime centerpiece metaphysical concept and its projection as a loving and wholesome entity– even while effecting the ongoing assassination of both the character of the Jews, and while enabling and abetting the murders of many, many tens of thousands. The Church had to appear *innocent* even as the Jews were hacked to pieces emotionally, economically and often physically. The closer to a Catholic Church steeple a Jew lived, the more this individual was likely to be a victim of Church–inspired venom.

The Church had to carefully posture as *innocent* and *benign* – as the Christian nation *per se* was not diabolical and not murderous and not evil. The Christian laity presumably just wanted a genuine, decent and uplifting religious structure for their families. The Christian nation believed in the Church hierarchy and trusted–in the genuine–ness of its 'gospel truth' teachings. The Church understood this devotion, trust and belief acutely. And cynically manipulated and abused it.

## THE CRUCIFIXION

#### Expropriating the Martyr

[continued] (3 of 4)

A finely calibrated *balancing act* was required of the Church leadership, for sure. It wasn't easy being a pope or a bishop or a cardinal. But there was no great rush to officially call for the decimation of the Jews. As long as the Jews were fully trashed and delegitimized on an ongoing basis, as long as the masses of the youngsters of Europe were diligently programmed from early childhood with a torrent of anti–Semitism, then *matters would take their natural course*.

*Pogroms via surrogates* would proceed intermittently at their own pace. The local bishops would posture regret and empathy. And the Sunday morning parish inculcations of *contempt* would, of course, proceed unabated. The *bible was the bible, after all.* 

Either way, via trashing ongoing or via murder *intermittently*, the Jews were being decimated – and undermined. The Church had effectively branded them as corrupt and contemptible *Christ killers*, and the Christian youngsters would carry that lethal toxin embedded within them for the rest of their lives.

## **Expropriating the Martyr**

[continued] (4 of 4)

The Jews were outnumbered 100:1, trapped, neutered – and doomed, one way or another. They had no 'voice' and they had no power. Their credibility and reputations had been decimated hundreds of years prior and ongoing by prior Church luminaries.

The Church could literally get away with murder. Century after century.

A diabolical and murderous – but *time tested* – stratagem. In any event, no one would believe the dimensions of the con. And no one would believe the Jews, who, in any event, had no power or voice. How would any Jewish protest be communicated, in any event... from some isolated and remote synagogue pulpit in some impoverished *shtetl* (Jewish village)?

"The Jews had it coming to them, anyway."

\*\*\*

THE CRUCIFIXION

## Programming Blame

Employ-

Thought Control, Mind Manipulation, Subliminal Suggestion Image Implantation, Resonance, and quasi–Post–Hypnotic Suggestion

- to plant the seeds of hatred in young, fertile minds

and indoctrinate these youngsters with: fear, distrust, animus, hatred

- effecting, an invisible programming of these young *minds-in-for-mation* 

all vectoring towards one embedded thought:

The Jews are available for you - for blame and scapegoating

# Employing Positives – to foster Hatred

(1 of 2)

#### Love the Deity

Hate the Devil, and any entity we can associate with the Devil + the need to cast targeted groups as *in-league* with the devil, diabolical, and sinister.

#### **Purify Society / the Church**

Hatred of the different 'other'; encourage the conversion or liquidation of the 'other'; as for the vulnerable and diminished remnants of the 'other,' artificially magnify and concoct alleged nefarious powers of the 'other' – and then – *layer–on* and *bear down* on the 'other' with *further fury*.

#### Protect Society / the Church

Defend against those *different and threatening* + the need to demarcate or fabricate vile differences – and manufacture the alleged sinister threat of 'the other.'

### Employing Positives – to foster Hatred

[continued] (2 of 2)

#### Love those who love my deity / the Church

Hate those who reject our deity

- even if THEY [the Jews] want no part of the argument;

 even if WE [the Church] were the ones who rejected their concept of deity in the first place.

#### Love your Protector / the Church

Hate those nefariously challenging your Protector + the need to fabricate an insidious, sinister, diabolical and potentially powerful 'threat' to your Protector.

# Past, Present & Future

Framed, Blamed, Branded & Convicted

by the Holy Church & hangers-on:

#### for the Past

for the crucifixion of Jesus

#### for the Present

for any of society's ills

#### for the Future

for any future economic woes, epidemics, plagues.... and even for mysterious disappearances or random deaths THE CRUCIFIXION

# "Division of Labor"

## The 'Stages of Life' Assembly Line 300 CE – 1300 CE

player: The Church
psychological gambit: plant the seed of hatred/distrust/fear/animus
target audience ages: Christian children ages ~4 – 12

player: The Church
psychological gambit: nurture the seedling/plant of hatred
target audience ages: Christians ~5 – 25

player: demagogues, rulers outside the formal Church hierarchy atrocity gambit: call to action / harvest the hatred target audience ages: Christians ~15 – 55

## The Morphing

(1 of 3)

The theology of Jesus of Nazareth would be morphed by the Church over a 600 year period – from the *heavily humanistic neo-Orthodox Judaism* of *Pharisee Rabbi Jesus* targeting the Jews of Galilee – imbued *over the generations* with their culturally–wired tradition of monotheistic Judaism *cum* Jewish Observance.

into

a subliminally appealing humanistic neo–Mythological amalgam theology – incorporating a synthesized universal–humanist Jesus – and targeting a far vaster and much broader–based Mediterranean/Roman Empire Gentile populace – imbued over the generations with their culturally–wired neo–Gnostic, neo–Dualistic, neo–Mystery Cult headset.

## THE CRUCIFIXION

## **The Morphing**

[continued] (2 of 3)

Ongoing through this multi–century Church–morphing endeavor, the Jewish aspect of Jesus would need to be neutered, sublimated and ultimately delegitimized and discredited by the Church.

In turn, the *surviving witness* – the Jews themselves – would need to be totally dehumanized, totally undermined character–wise, and totally trashed morally – collectively and individually, and if potential Jewish opinion-molders happened to get murdered in the process...

A key Church objective would be to preemptively *absolutely*, *neuter – one way or another –* any potential *delegitimization thrust* emanating from that (Jewish) front.

## The Morphing

[continued] (3 of 3)

They – the Jews – heirs to Sinai and the actual religious fount of Jesus himself – would, by Church imperative, need to have their credibility *irreparably crippled*.

They – the Jews – and their elite – would need to be rendered *de facto irrevocably unable to bear witness* – to the theological and historical manipulations of the multi–century and ongoing Church–gambit.

And, if a few million of those Jews should happen to be brutalized and/or murdered in the process, *so be it.....* 

\*

it must most surely be .....the will of God.

\*\*\*

# The Church Legacy and modus operandi

(1 of 2)

"Anti–Jewish traditions run deep in church teachings in large part because they rest on particular readings of Christianity's core canon.... Throughout the long centuries that stand between the earliest followers of Jesus and ourselves, these readings have come to have the force and weight of historical description...."

from the back cover (and Introduction)
 of Jesus, Judaism & Christian Anti–Judaism
 by Fredriksen and Reinhartz

**Paula Fredriksen** is the William Goodwin Aurelio Professor of the Appreciation of Scripture at Boston University.

Adele Reinhartz is the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, and Professor in the Department of Religion and Culture, at Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario.

#### The Church Legacy and modus operandi

[continued] (2 of 2)

"...[Why] by the fourth century, did [Roman] imperial patronage not soften their [the official Church] tone? After all, by then this church had won. Its Christian competition was on the run; its communities were subsidized by government largesse; its bishops had powers that their secular counterparts (whose tenure in office was at most a few years; bishops, by contrast, held life appointments) could only envy. What was true in the second century was still true... the Jews had no temple and no territory. Why then, at this point, does the *contra Judaeos* [anti–Semitic Church rhetoric] tradition only become worse—more strident, more comprehensive, more furious? It metastasizes through all known genres of surviving Christian literature, including systematic theologies, biblical commentaries, martyr stories, church histories, antiheretical tracts, preaching handbooks, sermons. Why?"

source: Paula Fredriksen and Adele Reinhartz, *Jesus, Judaism & Christian Anti–Judaism.* Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, © 2002, p. 29.

## The Core Canon Multi–Pronged Intense Polarity/Duality\*

(1 of 2)

#### Worship/Love/Deify/Adore/Revere/Venerate/Adore/Trust/Idealize/ Glorify/Sanctify/Hallow

the baby Jesus the Loving Jesus the Son of God Jesus the Martyred Jesus the Triune Jesus the Virgin Mary the Immaculate / Conception the Disciples of Jesus the Apostles / Church Fathers the Martyrs / Saints the Church / Christianity the Cherubs / Angels

#### Despise/Hate/Criminalize/Fear/Loathe/Despise/Revile/Disdain/ Demonize/Trash/Dehumanize/Diabolicalize

the Jews

'Surround Sound' Middle Ages style

#### The Core Canon Multi–Pronged Intense Polarity/Duality\*

[continued] (2 of 2)

Pervasive toxicity towards the Jews thus not only effectively winds its way through all the niches and crannies of Christian theology and lore, it also winds its way through all the nooks and crannies of the psyche.

As well, toxicity towards the Jews becomes a built–in *de facto* complementary theology itself, inextricably connected to the spinal column of Christianity: *Hatred of the Jews* emerges as pervasively integral to the theology.

\* of the 300 CE - 1300 CE Church

# Manipulating the Faithful

(1 of 3)

The mind savants at the apex of the First Century Greek Pauline hierarchy implanted an ancient mind–manipulation technique:

By juxtaposing multi–pronged and intense HATE v. multi–pronged and intense LOVE, the group leadership would not only be able to potentially turbo–charge both polarities, but could potentially 'charge–up' the psyche in–between and *as–a–whole*.

#### Meaning,

(a) the intense juxtaposition first revs-up both polarities -

Love vs. Hate - (as the two intense polarities will 'ping' off each other)

(b) the greater the emotional distance between the polarity of intense love at the one extreme, and the polarity of intense hatred at the other extreme, the higher the probability that the psyche in-between would be 'charged-up.'

When individuals are operating in 'intense duality,' it feels good (charges the ego) to experience intense separation. ("I am not them." "They are bad." "I hate them." "They need to be destroyed.")

The oldest part of our brains – the limbic system of the brain – which is near the brain stem – is fine-tuned with regards issues of anger, revenge, fear, love and sex. The limbic portion of the brain potentially gets a 'charge' from intense stimulation of these core components of the psyche. Intense dualities only increase the charge.

### **Manipulating the Faithful**

[continued] (2 of 3)

Thus, the most primitive parts of our brain – the most emotionally primitive and potentially intense – will be the part of the brain most directly impacted by intense 'demonization,' and 'intense dualities.' All of the core components of the limbic system will be present front and center in a 300 CE – 1300 CE Church service, with some severely and intensely juxtaposed against one another. Burning incense and magisterial Church music will provide additional stimulation.

A subtle "high" would might thus be generated in the psyche of any individual primed with focused intensities at both of the polarities. This "high" would be "valuable" to the Church.

Thus, by revving–up both 'focused polarities' – hatred and love – the Church would raise individuals to a subtle "high" from which they would – at least subconsciously – be reluctant to withdraw. After all, "withdrawal" is at least subtly painful and at least subtly depression– filled. The target practitioners (the Christian faithful) would be filled with a sense of a subtly higher level psychic charge.

Focused hatred towards a target minority was thus not optional in the eyes of the Church hierarchy; it was a crucial manipulation tool. Ever-endeavoring to advance and consolidate its power, the Church hierarchy would callously demonize and terrorize the Jews - even if they happened-to-be the very *fount of Jesus*.

## THE CRUCIFIXION

## **Manipulating the Faithful**

[continued] (3 of 3)

To keep the faithful and devoted both off-balance and gently intoxicated with this subtle 'high,' the Church would thus need to focus and stir consistent hatred towards the designated target – ongoing. Always maintaining however, that the Church hierarchy itself was *pure* and *love-filled*.

And of course, the Church hierarchy would posture that it could not *control* the excesses of the masses if the masses vented their ('obviously thoroughly understandable') rage towards the ('obviously evil and forsaken' – and 100:1 outnumbered) Jews.

The Church would *ceremoniously wash its hands* of any guilt as regards the persecution and/or murder of members of the minority target group falling within the fabricated evil polarity, even if the toll of victims stretched into the millions. Because the Church calculation would be that the intense polarities would need to be maintained to keep the faithful on board and optimally motivated.

This little grain of nefarious wisdom – manipulating intense polarities of the psyche – would then be passed–down 'Pope to Pope' *to this very day.* The Vatican would as a consequence of this motive, among other inter–related *mass psychology* ploys, tenaciously hold onto its insidious and pervasive *demonization gambit* – to seal the allegiance of its constituency. And protect, consolidate and expand its power.

\*\*\*

## Historian Young on The Cross, Jesus, and the Jewish People

(1 of 4)

"Jesus was a Jew. He was crucified by the order of the Roman prefect Pontius Pilate....

After a fresh examination of the compelling evidence, it is evident that Jesus was a religious Jew, loyal to Torah and to his people. Historically the cross should be considered a symbol of the intense persecution of faithful Jews by the Roman authorities of the first century.... It is surprising to many modern Christians and Jews that Jewish sources mention executions by crucifixion prior to the rise of Christianity....

Perhaps the most gruesome sight of mass crucifixions, which must have left a lasting impression on the Jewish inhabitants of the small country of Israel, occurred at about the time of Jesus' birth in the wake of Herod's death. According to Josephus, Quintilius Varus [Augustinian–appointed Roman General Publius Quinetilius Varus (b. 46 BCE; d. 9 CE)] had two thousand Jewish people crucified.... The account of Josephus suggests that although crucifixion was all too familiar, the acts of Varus would not soon have been forgotten....

#### Historian Young on The Cross, Jesus, and the Jewish People

[continued] (2 of 4)

It should not be surprising that Israel's sages also show an awareness of how crucifixion could symbolize the sufferings of the Jewish people in a hostile world.... In the *Mekhilta de–Rabbi Ishmael*, the Tanna Rabbi Nathan displays a keen awareness that observance of the commandments can lead to persecution and martyrdom. On Exodus 20:6 he comments:

'Of them that love Me and keep My commandments,' refers to those who dwell in the Land of Israel and risk their lives for the sake of the commandments. 'Why are you being led out to be decapitated?' 'Because I circumcised my son to be an Israelite.' 'Why are being led out to be burned?' 'Because I read the Torah.; 'Why are you being led out to be crucified?' 'Because I ate the unleavened bread.'<sup>A</sup>

...During the Second Temple period, Jews were crucified for being loyal to Torah and observing their faith traditions. Moreover, Jewish writers who witnessed these acts of persecution wrote about faithful Jews who suffered a martyr's death upon a cross....

A very different image of the cross emerges, however, when it is viewed in its historical context. It then appears as a symbol of the readiness of Jews to suffer martyrdom for their faith....

## 667 FOCUS: THE FIRST CENTURY

#### Historian Young on The Cross, Jesus, and the Jewish People

[continued] (3 of 4)

....It is a tragic paradox that Jesus' suffering on the cross, which we have seen to be representative of Jewish suffering of the period, was so readily employed by leaders of the church for the absurd claim that the Jewish people must bear the collective responsibility for the death of Jesus. Jesus was one of the many Jews who willingly suffered for their faith and their people under the yoke of Rome, yet his passion has been made into the theological basis and justification for Christian persecution of the Jews, paving the way for their own long and torturous Via Dolorosa. It became a spring from which haters of Israel have constantly drunk, as they perpetrated acts of violence against the people of Jesus—his own family and nation that he loved and for whom he suffered....

The Romans had crucified thousands of Jews even before Jesus. They ardently maintained a policy of suppressing popular Jewish messianic hopes. Jesus and his followers presented them with a familiar threat. He was another problematic Jew who had to be dealt with quickly and severely. The cross thus demonstrates Jesus' solidarity with his people, the Jews, and their national suffering in history."

\*\*\*

#### Historian Young on The Cross, Jesus, and the Jewish People

[continued] (4 of 4)

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<sup>A</sup> *Mekilta DeRabbi Ishmael* on Exodus 20:6. Compare also the Testament of Moses cited in note 4 above.

source: R. Steven Notley, Marc Turnage and Brian Becker, *Jesus' Last Week*. The Netherlands: Koninklijke Brill © 2006, pp. 191, 193, 198–199, 207–208.

## 669 FOCUS: THE FIRST CENTURY

## Parsing AUTHENTICITY

(1 of 4)

A seeker of a religious approach to life will inevitably be drawn to the religious system projecting the highest-level "authenticity/legitimacy." Almost by definition.

Christianity is compelled to hinge its own declared authenticity on the source-authenticity of Sinai (c. 1250 BCE), i.e. the giving of the Torah at Sinai. But Christianity, of course, simultaneously did not/ does not want the potential-for-conversion masses or its existing adherents leapfrogging over Christianity directly towards the "originalsource," Judaism.

Thus, the Church Father stratagem has been to grant "authenticity" to "Sinai" while simultaneously *taking-the-edge-off* of the legitimacy of Judaism *per se*.

Thus, the Church "parses" the authenticity/legitimacy of Sinai/Judaism: Sinai—YES; but Judaism—NOT QUITE. or Sinai—YES; but Judaism—MAYBE THEN. NOT NOW.

Now, the Church remains with a great deal of difficulty in dealing with the Torah – The Five Books of Moses. Because Church doctrine contradicts Torah doctrine. Essentially, the Church acrobatic-act stratagem would be to simultaneously pontificate that the Torah is both legitimate – and illegitimate. This stratagem is hard to finesse.

### Parsing AUTHENTICITY

[continued] (2 of 4)

When it suits the Church's purposes to "ground' Christianity at Sinai, the Church gives the Torah *legitimacy*. And, indeed, as noted, the Church packages the Torah in "the Bible."

But, when it suits the Church's purpose to de-humanize the Jews and/or to undermine the theological validity of Judaism, the Church *disses* both Moses and the Torah. Both icons – the Torah and Moses – are too central to Church core doctrine to eviscerate their authenticity *per se*; So the Church stratagem will be to subtly undermine their respective humanism, and, ergo their "contemporary legitimacy."

This is a dicey dance, because, of necessity, according to core Church doctrine, the Torah is of necessity, God-given. So, by undermining the Torah, even if not frontally, the Church is *de facto* undermining the alleged Source of the Church....

Christianity endeavored – from its earliest origins mid-First Century – to fully de-legitimize "contemporary Judaism" and to undermine, to various extents, pre-Jesus Judaism. This twin deadly gambit continued ongoing for 19+ centuries.

As noted, Christianity proceeded to destructively and intensely delegitimize not only the theological validity of post-Jesus Judaism, but to de-legitimize, as well, the Jewish people – collectively as well as individually. The de-legitimization morphs to de-humanization and demonization.

## 671 FOCUS: THE FIRST CENTURY

#### Parsing AUTHENTICITY

[continued] (3 of 4)

As noted, once de-humanization and demonization of the Jews is institutionalized in the Church Canon itself (starting with each of the Canon Gospels), and is *de facto* Church policy ongoing for centuries, the *stage is set* for death. Jewish death. First, pogroms of various flavors and magnitudes. Then, genocide.

With the resonant triumph of the Maccabees over the Seleucids, c. 160 BCE, the Jews – with their center-of-gravity in ethereal and iconic Jerusalem – stood at the apex of authenticity/legitimacy in the Eastern Mediterranean pre-Christianity. Commencing with the introduction of Pauline Greek Christianity via the Canon Gospels, however, roughly two centuries later c. 66-68 CE, the Jews are maneuvered, century-by-century downward ultimately to the nadir of legitimacy. And, indeed, into the death-valley of "illegitimacy."

By 1942 CE in Europe, after 19 centuries of ascendant Christian influence, pervasive Church demonization of the Jews, including the simultaneous inculcation of Christian children cradle-thru-adolescence with a demonic amalgam of these same Jews, a *critical mass* of hatred will be attained. One million+ Jewish children alone will vainly grasp for breath and life in the tenth-level sub-dungeon-of-Hell in the torture/death chambers of Europe – aided, abetted, and of course, executed by sundry lethal sociopathic demagogues. The Church will blame a neo-pagan Hitler. But, of course, Adolf Hitler was just the demonic-sociopath-genius student.... harvesting the 19+ centuries of virulent hatred, inculcated by "the master."

## Parsing AUTHENTICITY

[continued] (4 of 4)

Courtesy of Christian theology overlaid over Europe,

"parsing authenticity" had morphed to "de-legitimization" -

which then morphs to "demonization" -

which then – aided and abetted by politically astute sundry demagogues – morphs to "genocide-*lite*" (my term ) –

institutionalized contempt\*, dis-enfranchisement, persecution and pogroms –

which in-turn ultimately morphs to full-blown genocide

 the self-righteous "crocodile tear" breast-beating on the part of sundry popes – medieval and modern – notwithstanding.

\*\*\*

\* a teaching of *contempt for the Jews,* institutionalized by the Church

## Playing "Cat and Mouse"?

Ever since historic *Notre Aetate* (October 28, 1965) the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church has been exquisitely careful in all public documents, to steer clear of the historical 'third rail' which conveniently (for the Church) diabolically shifted culpability for the crucifixion of Jesus from Rome onto the Jews.

As fate would have it, I was invited by the [Roman Catholic] Legionaries of Christ Order in Thornwood, NY to view their Passion presentation the weekend of March 31 / April 1, 2012. I elected to attend the pre-movie choir and slide-show presentation.

However, one of the key slides (out of about 8) had as its bold-faced heading; dominating the slide: *The Jews Crucified Jesus*. With no qualification to the incendiary canard.

#### LOVE

(1 of 4)

Wearing a picture-perfect

Mask of Humanism,

playing the eternal victim of Crucifixion,

posturing as the exclusive Instrument of God,

and as the ultimate fount of Love & Kindness,

the Church –

week after week,

month after month;

year after year;

century after century -

would subtly inject

a very carefully calibrated venom -

re-packaged as alleged-history and theology.

Injecting this almost-invisible sugar-coated but lethal poison-capsule

into its trusting flock

on a weekly basis in Church.

## 675 FOCUS: THE FIRST CENTURY

#### LOVE

[continued] (2 of 4)

The bishops would smile beatifically,

the choirs would sing angelically;

the sun-drenched stained-glass windows

would portray the angelic cherubs resonantly,

the majestic cathedral architecture would convey celestial import -

both externally and internally

while the message of the Sunday morning service and sermon

inevitably contained an embedded capsule of hatred -

 a quasi-theological message implying a Holy imperative of a very finely focused toxin –

carefully included within the ostensible Love homily -

"Hate those diabolical sub-human Jews."

The poison would inevitably be injected subtly

and with a beatific smile - altar candles and incense included,

celestial church-organ "surround-sound" resonating.

### LOVE

[continued] (3 of 4)

And the (apparently Holy) venom would thus

morally co-opt the trusting and faithful,

with yet another booster-shot of toxin,

while sentencing the outnumbered scattered pockets of Jewry to

yet another round of ongoing "*surround sound*" of contempt, obloquy, and hate.

"They – the Jews – had it *coming to them,* did they not?"

They still had not overthrown, for starters, the straightforward monotheism of Jesus himself and of the Ten Commandments

Intermittently, post-massacre and post-pogrom and post-Holocaust,

\*

as now,

the "software" of the Church would temporarily be recalibrated

to position the Church on the side of the angels;

"We, the Church, are the fount of Love, are we not?"

## 677 FOCUS: THE FIRST CENTURY

## LOVE

[continued] (4 of 4)

\*

But the "hardware of hatred"

then and now,

would inevitably always, always remain in place;

- unto this very day.

\*\*\*

"This was Holy Writ, was it not?"

"Gospel Truth, for sure, was it not?"

\*\*\*

The Church's self-righteous hands - then and now - "would be clean,"

Would they not?

"We – the emissaries of Christ the Lord – have the political clout to protect this venomous chicanery,

do we not?"

\*\*\*

## 679 FOCUS: THE FIRST CENTURY

\*

end

80+

Inter-related

Exhibits

\*

## Two 13th-Century Documents

#### reference: THE CHURCH ATTACK ON THE TALMUD

## POPE GREGORY IX Letter to the Archbishops of France, 1239 CE

"In these letters, he [Gregory] delineates the new allegations. The Jewish dependence upon the Talmud, according to Gregory, is in itself an affront to the sanctity of the Bible. In addition, the specific contents of the Talmud are problematic. This lengthy work is filled with "matter so abusive and so unspeakable that it arouses shame in those who mention it and horror in those who hear it." The pope calls for action on a number of fronts. He orders the archbishops of western Christendom to have the books of the Jews seized, invoking if necessary the aid of the temporal authorities. He also addresses the kings of western Christendom with the same request, and orders them, like the archbishops, to turn the sequestered volumes over to the Dominicans and Franciscans. Finally, the Dominicans and Franciscans of Paris are charged with responsibility for investigating the volumes which have been turned over to them and for carrying out the necessary punishment—burning.'

#### Papal Letter

#### TO THE ARCHBISHOPS of France:

If what is said about the Jews of France and of the other lands is true, no punishment would be sufficiently great or sufficiently worthy of their crime. For they, so we have heard, are not content with the old law which God set forth in writing through Moses; they even ignore it completely and affirm that God set forth another law which is called 'Talmud,' that is 'Teaching,' handed down to Moses orally. Falsely they allege that it was implanted within their minds and, unwritten, was there preserved until certain men came, whom they call 'Sages' and 'Scribes.' Fearing that this law might be lost from the minds of men through forgetfulness, they reduced it to writing, and the volume of this by far exceeds the text of the Bible. In this is contained matter so abusive and so unspeakable that it arouses shame in those who mention it and horror in those who hear it.

Wherefore, since this is said to be the chief cause that holds the Jews obstinate in their, we have had you warned and urged and herewith order you by apostolic letters that on the first Saturday of the Lent to come, in the morning, while the Jews are gathered in the synagogues, you shall, by our authority, have all the books of the Jews who live in your districts seized and carefully guarded in the possession of the Dominican and Franciscan friars. For this purpose you may invoke, if need be, the help of the secular arm. You may also promulgate the sentence of excommunication against all those subject to your jurisdiction, whether clergy or laity, who refuse to give–up Hebrew books which they have in their possession, despite your warning given generally in the churches and individually.

- Given at the Lateran, on the ninth of June, in the thirteenth year [1239]."

\*

source: Robert Chazan, Church, State and Jew in the Middle Ages. Springfield, NJ: Behrman House, Inc., © 1980, pp. 221–223.

#### reference: CHURCH PRESSURE / Jewish "badge"

## POPE ALEXANDER IV Letter to the Duke of Burgundy, 1257

"'During the first half of the thirteenth century, a series of new ecclesiastical demands concerning the Jews appeared in western Christendom. In the accompanying letter, Pope Alexander IV urges the duke of Burgundy to enforce these new regulations in his domains. Jews are not to hold public office; they are to wear special [inferior] clothing by means of which they may be readily identified [as well, they must wear a "badge" to 'distinguish themselves' from Christians.]; the Talmud, which by this time was condemned, should be confiscated. Once more we see the ruling class under pressure to execute the programs of the Church.'

#### Papal Letter

#### TO THE NOBLE DUKE of Burgundy:

In the sacred general assembly, through careful deliberations, it was decreed that the Jews be distinguished from Christians by the quality of their garb, lest those of the former might be damnably confused with those of the latter. In the same council it was also decreed that Jews not be preferred for public office, since under such pretext they are often dangerous to Christians. However, as we understand, the Jews of your land do not observe this edict, as a result of which an excess of damnable confusion can be presumed under the guise of error. Also the same Jews are preferred for offices contrary to that edict. Since it is fitting that you provide properly for these matters, we request and exhort your nobility, through apostolic writs addressed to you, ordering that, since power has been transmitted to you by God, you compel the aforesaid Jews to wear a badge by means of which they can be distinguished from Christians by the quality of their garb and that they not be preferred for the aforesaid offices. Moreover, you must cause those books which are popularly called Talmud, in which are contained errors against the Catholic faith and horrible and intolerable blasphemies against our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Virgin Mary, His mother, to be surrendered by all the Jews of the aforesaid land. Your sincerity should provide in these matters in such a way that the mercy of the eternal King manifest for you that which it bestows for pious acts and that we extend for this full appreciation to your devotions.

- Given at Viterbo, September 3, in the fourth year of our pontificate [1257]."

\*

source: Robert Chazan, Church, State and Jew in the Middle Ages. Springfield, NJ: Behrman House, Inc., © 1980, pp. 176–177.

# Fast–Forward: 1555 CE v. 1935 CE

#### *Cum nimis absurdum* a papal bull issued by Pope Paul IV July 14, 1555

Since it is completely senseless and inappropriate to be in a situation where Christian piety allows the Jews (whose guilt-all of their own doing-has condemned them to eternal slavery) access to our society and even to live among us; indeed, they are without gratitude to Christians, as, instead of thanks for gracious treatment, they return invective, and among themselves, instead of the slavery, which they deserve, they manage to claim superiority: we, who recently learned that these very Jews have insolently invaded Rome from a number of the Papal States, territories and domains, to the extent that not only have they mingled with Christians (even when close to their churches) and wearing no identifying garments, but to dwell in homes, indeed, even in the more noble [dwellings] of the states, territories and domains in which they lingered, conducting business from their houses and in the streets and dealing in real estate; they even have nurses and housemaids and other Christians as hired servants. And they would dare to perpetrate a wide variety of other dishonorable things, contemptuous of the [very] name Christian. Considering that the Church of Rome tolerates these very Jews (evidence of the true Christian faith) and to this end [we declare]: that they, won over by the piety and kindness of the See, should at long last recognize their erroneous ways, and should lose no time in seeing the true light of the catholic faith, and thus to agree that while they persist in their errors, realizing that they are slaves because of their deeds, whereas Christians have been freed through our Lord God Jesus Christ, and that it is unwarranted for it to appear that the sons of free women serve the sons of maids. [Therefore,]

#### Section 1

Desiring firstly, as much as we can with [the help of] God, to beneficially provide, by this [our decree] that will forever be in force, we ordain that for the rest of time, in the City as well as in other states, territories and domains of the Church of Rome itself, all Jews are to live in only one [quarter] to which there is only one entrance and from which there is but one exit, and if there is not that capacity [in one such quarter, then], in two or three or however many may be enough; [in any case] they should reside entirely side by side in designated streets and be thoroughly separate from the residences of Christians, [This is to be enforced] by our authority in the City and by that of our representatives in other states, lands and domains noted above.

#### The Nuremberg Laws denaturalization laws passed in Nazi Germany September 15, 1935

Entirely convinced that the purity of German blood is essential to the further existence of the German people, and inspired by the uncompromising determination to safeguard the future of the German nation.

#### Section 1

Marriages between Jews and citizens of German or kindred blood are forbidden. Marriages concluded in defiance of this law are void, even if, for the purpose of evading this law, they were concluded abroad. Proceedings for annulment may be initiated only by the Public Prosecutor.

#### Section 2

Extramarital sexual intercourse between Jews and subjects of the state of Germany or related blood is forbidden.

(Supplementary decrees set Nazi definitions of racial Germans, Jews, and half-breeds or Mischlinge — see the latter entry for details and citations. Jews could not vote or hold public office.)

#### Section 3

Jews will not be permitted to employ female citizens of German or kindred blood as domestic workers under the age of 45.

#### Section 4

Jews are forbidden to display the Reich and national flag or the national colours. On the other hand they are permitted to display the Jewish colours. The exercise of this right is protected by the State.

## *Cum nimis absurdum* a papal bull issued by Pope Paul IV July 14, 1555

[continued]

#### Section 2

Furthermore, in each and every state, territory and domain in which they are living, they will have only one synagogue, in its customary location, and they will construct no other new ones, nor can they own buildings. Furthermore, all of their synagogues, besides the one allowed, are to be destroyed and demolished. And the properties, which they currently own, they must sell to Christians within a period of time to be determined by the magistrates themselves.

#### Section 3

Moreover, concerning the matter that Jews should be recognizable everywhere: [to this end] men must wear a hat, women, indeed, some other evident sign, yellow in color, that must not be concealed or covered by any means, and must be tightly affixed [sewn]; and furthermore, they can not be absolved or excused from the obligation to wear the hat or other emblem of this type to any extent whatever and under any pretext whatsoever of their rank or prominence or of their ability to tolerate [this] adversity, either by a chamberlain of the Church, clerics of an Apostolic court, or their superiors, or by legates of the Holy See or their immediate subordinates.

#### Section 4

Also, they may not have nurses or maids or any other Christian domestic or service by Christian women in wet–nursing or feeding their children.

#### Section 5

They may not work or have work done on Sundays or on other public feast days declared by the Church.

#### Section 6

Nor may they incriminate Christians in any way, or promulgate false or forged agreements.

### The Nuremberg Laws denaturalization laws passed in Nazi Germany September 15, 1935

[continued]

And they may not presume in any way to play, eat or fraternize with Christians.

#### Section 5

A person who acts contrary to the prohibition of Section 1 will be punished with hard labour. A person who acts contrary to the prohibition of Section 2 will be punished with imprisonment or with hard labour. A person who acts contrary to the provisions of Sections 3 or 4 will be punished with imprisonment up to a year and with a fine, or with one of these penalties.

#### Section 6

The Reich Minister of the Interior in agreement with the Deputy Führer and the Reich Minister of Justice will issue the legal and administrative regulations required for the enforcement and supplementing of this law.

#### Section 7

The laws will become effective on the day after its promulgation; Section 3, however, not until January 1, 1936.

\* end of Nuremberg Laws \*

#### Nazi Discriminatory Decrees Against the Jews

- Jewish immigrants were denaturalized (1933 Reichsgesetzblatt, Part I, page 480, signed by Frick and Neurath).
- Jews were denied the right to hold public office or civil service positions (1933 Reichsgesetzblatt, Part I, page 277, signed by Frick).

## Cum nimis absurdum a papal bull issued by Pope Paul IV July 14, 1555

[continued]

#### Section 8

And they cannot use other than Latin or Italian words in short-term account books that they hold with Christians, and, if they should use them, such records would not be binding on Christians [in legal proceedings].

#### Section 9

Moreover, these Jews are to be limited to the trade of rag-picking, or "cencinariae" (as it is said in the vernacular), and they cannot trade in grain, barley or any other commodity essential to human welfare.

#### Section 10

And those among them who are physicians, even if summoned and inquired after, cannot attend or take part in the care of Christians.

#### Section 11

And they are not to be addressed as superiors [even] by poor Christians.

#### Section 12

And they are to close their [loan] accounts entirely every thirty days; should fewer than thirty days elapse, they shall not be counted as an entire month, but only as the actual number of days, and furthermore, they will terminate the reckoning as of this number of days and not for the term of an entire month. In addition, they are prohibited from selling [goods put up as] collateral, put up as temporary security for their money, unless [such goods were] put up a full eighteen months prior to the day on which such [collateral] would be forfeit; at the expiration of the aforementioned number of months, if Jews have sold a security deposit of this sort, they must sign over all money in excess of the principal of the loan to the owner of the collateral.

#### Section 13

And the statutes of states, territories and domains (in which they have lived for a period of time) concerning primacy of Christians, are to be adhered to and followed without exception.

#### The Nuremberg Laws denaturalization laws passed in Nazi Germany September 15, 1935

[continued]

- The Jews were denied employment by press and radio (1933 Reichsgesetzblatt, Part I, page 661).
- The Jews were excluded from farming (1933 Reichsgesetzblatt, Part I, page 685).
- The Jews were excluded from stock exchanges and stock brokerage 1934 Reichsgesetzblatt, Part I, page 661).
- Jews were forbidden to live in marriage or to have extramarital relations with persons of German blood (1935 Reichsgesetzblatt, Part I, page I146, signed by Frick and Hess).
- Native Jews were precluded from citizenship (1935 Reichsgesetzblatt, Part I, page 1146, signed by Frick).
- Jews were denied the right to vote (1936 Reichsgesetzblatt, Part I, page 133, signed by Frick).
- Jews were relegated to an inferior status by the denial of common privileges and freedoms. Thus, they were denied access to certain city areas, sidewalks, transportation, places of amusement, restaurants (1938 Reichsgesetzblatt, Part I, page 1676).
- Reinhard Heydrich recommended that the Jews be forced to wear badges following the Kristallnacht pogrom in November 1938.

## Cum nimis absurdum a papal bull issued by Pope Paul IV July 14, 1555

[continued]

#### Section 14

And, should they, in any manner whatsoever, be deficient in the foregoing, it would be treated as a crime: in Rome, by us or by our clergy, or by others authorized by us, and in the aforementioned states, territories and domains by their respective magistrates, just as if they were rebels and criminals by the jurisdiction in which the offense takes place, they would be accused by all Christian people, by us and by our clergy, and could be punished at the discretion of the proper authorities and judges.

#### Section 15

Declared at St. Mark's, Rome, in the one thousand five hundred fifty fifth year of the incarnation of our lord, one day prior to the Ides of July, in the first year of our Papacy.

\* end of Cum nimis absurdum \*

Chart juxtaposition by the author.

#### The Nuremberg Laws denaturalization laws passed in Nazi Germany September 15, 1935

[continued]

- The practice of law was denied to the Jews (1938 Reichsgesetzblatt, Part I, page 1403, signed by Frick and Hess).
- The practice of medicine was forbidden the Jews (1938 Reichsgesetzblatt, Part I, page 969, signed by Frick and Hess).
- In 1938 the Jews were excluded from business in general and from the economic life of Germany (1938 Reichsgesetzblatt, Part I, page 1580, signed by Goering).
- Progressively, move and more stringent measures were applied, even to the denial of private pursuits. The Jews were excluded from the practice of dentistry (1939 Reichsgesetzblatt, Part I, page 47, signed by Hess).

\* end of Nuremberg Laws and related \*

## CANONICAL AND NAZI ANTI-JEWISH MEASURES juxtaposed

Canonical Law	Nazi Measure
Prohibition of intermarriage and of sexual intercourse between Christian and Jews, Synod of Elvira, 306	Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honor, September 15, 1935
Jews and Christians not permitted to eat together, Synod of Elvira, 306	Jews barred from dining cars (Transport Minister to Interior Minister, December 30, 1939)
Jews not allowed to hold public office, Synod of Clermont, 535	Law for the Reestablishment of the Professional Civil Service, April 7, 1933
Jews not allowed to employ Christian servants or possess Christian slaves, 3d Synod of Orleans, 538 Jews not permitted to show themselves in the streets during Passion Week, 3d Synod of Orleans, 538	Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honor, September 15, 1935. Decree authorizing local authorities to bar Jews from the streets on certain days (i.e. Nazi holidays). December 3, 1938
Burning of the Talmud and other books, 12th Synod of Toledo, 681	Book burnings in Nazi Germany
Christians not permitted to patronize Jewish doctors, Trullan Synod, 692	Decree of July 25, 1938
Christians not permitted to live in Jewish homes, Synod of Narbonne, 1050	Directive by Göring providing for concentration of Jews in houses, December 28, 1938 (Bormann to Rosenberg, January 17, 1939)
Jews obliged to pay taxes for support of the Church to the same extent as Christians, Synod of Gerona, 1078	The "Sozialausgleichsabgabe" which provided that Jews pay a special income tax in lieu of donations for Party purposes imposed on Nazis, December 24, 1940
Jews not permitted to the plaintiffs, or witnesses against Christians in the Courts, 3d Lateran Council, 1179, Canon 26	Proposal by the Party Chancellery that Jews not be permitted to institute civil suits, September 9, 1942 (Bormann to Justice Ministry, September 9, 1942)
Jews not permitted to withhold inheritance from descendants who had accepted Christianity, 3d Lateran Council, 1179, Canon 26	Decree empowering the Justice Ministry to void wills offending the "sound judgment of the people," July 31, 1938

## CANONICAL AND NAZI ANTI-JEWISH MEASURES juxtaposed

[continued]

Canonical Law	Nazi Measure
The marking of Jewish clothes with a badge, 4 <sup>th</sup> Lateran Council, 1215, Canon 68 (Copied from the legislation by Caliph Omar II [634–644], who had decreed that Christians wear blue belts and Jews, yellow belts	Decree of September 1, 1941
Construction of new synagogues prohibited, Council of Oxford, 1222	Destruction of synagogues in entire Reich, November 10, 1938 (Heydrich to Göring, November 11, 1938)
Christians not permitted to attend Jewish ceremonies, Synod of Vienna, 1267	Friendly relations with Jews prohibited, October 24, 1941 (Gestapo directive)
Jews not permitted to dispute with simple Christian people about the tenets of the Catholic religion, Synod of Vienna, 1267	
Compulsory ghettos, Synod of Breslau, 1267	Order by Heydrich, September 21, 1939
Christians not permitted to sell or rent real estate to Jews, Synod of Ofen, 1279	Decree providing for compulsory sale of Jewish real estate, December 3, 1938
Adoption by a Christian of the Jewish religion or return by a baptized Jew to the Jewish religion defined as a heresy, Synod of Mainz, 1310	Adoption of the Jewish religion by a Christian places him in jeopardy of being treated as a Jew (Decision by Oberlandesgericht Königsberg, 4 <sup>th</sup> Zivilsenat, June 26, 1942)
Jews not permitted to act as agents in the conclusion of contracts, especially marriage contracts, between Christians, Council of Basel, 1434, Sessio XIX	Decree of July 6, 1938, providing for liquidation of Jewish real estate agencies, brokerage agencies, and marriage agencies catering to non–Jews
Jews not permitted to obtain academic degrees, Council of Basel, 1434, Sessio XIX	Law against Overcrowding of German Schools and Universities, April 25, 1933

## Abuse of Trust

In all the annals of recorded history, there is no parallel for the magnitude and diabolical nature of the *abuse of trust* by the Church hierarchy of its trusting faithful.

Motivated by a twisted conceit and a self-righteous arrogance that the entire Europe was at the service of its personal power prerogatives, the Church hierarchy callously manipulated an entire continent for centuries.

Appendix: from the work of Franklin Littell

#### Introduction: The Crucifixion of the Jews

"For centuries Christians have presumed to define the *old Israel*, *the Hebrews*, *the Jews*, *Judaism*, and so forth in ways generally patronizing, contemptuous, or demeaning. The habit began at the theological level among the gentile church fathers, was reinforced at law during the millennium and a half of "Christendom," and in the modern period has led directly to genocide. None of us who could have passed among the executioners during the Holocaust rather than being listed with the victims can escape the awful burden of blood guilt which that set of facts lays upon us. To the superficial mind, Anti–Semitism is simply another form of race prejudice, and only those are guilty who willfully indulge in it.

# Introduction: The Crucifixion of the Jews [continued]

Theologically speaking, however, the problem of sin and guilt is lodged much deeper than faulty intention or even corruption of the will. For a professing Christian, the red thread that ties a Justin Martyr or a Chrysostom to Auschwitz and Treblinka raises issues far more serious than can be dealt with by conscious avoidance of vulgar anti–Jewish slurs in speech or discrimination in practice. If we are, as we profess, linked in "the communion of saints" across the generations with those who have died in the faith, we are also linked in a solidarity of guilt with those who taught falsely and with those who drew the logical consequences of false teaching...."

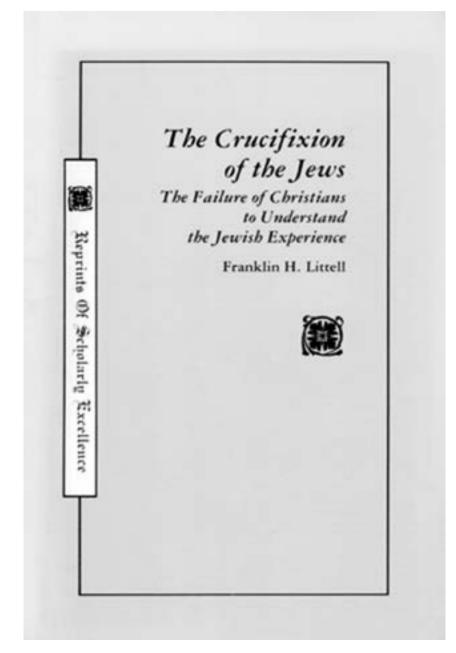
**Book Review** 

excerpt from Journal of Religion [1986]

"The Crucifixion of the Jews constitutes perhaps the most impassioned [Christian] plea to date [1986] that the Christian community begins to wrestle with its centuries–long tradition of anti–Semitism and the theological and moral challenges posed by the Holocaust and the restoration of Israel. Littell's outlook combines the elements of shame, outrage, and judgment, and yields a potent 'J'accuse!' culminating in the assertion that the traditional Christian symbols of crucifixion and resurrection have been fulfilled—not without irony, to be sure—only within the Jewish community.... Littell's book is the most recent—and sharpest—example of a growing concern on the part of some Christian thinkers, Catholic and Protestant, to underscore the relationship between theological anti–Semitism, as it developed within the church, and the emergence of its secular and racial counterpart in modern European thought."

Franklin H Littell (June 20, 1917 – May 23, 2009) was an American Protestant scholar. He is known for his writings rejecting supersessionism and, in light of the Holocaust, advocated educational programs to improve relations between Christians and Jews.

## 705 APPENDIX



source: book cover

# Epilogue

Power must be anchored in justice

Justice must be anchored in power

Justice is elusive

— The Lost Manual

Warsaw Ghetto Heroes Monument Warsaw, Poland X-147

#### 1943 CE: WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING

Spring: Nazi–imposed Jewish Ghetto, Warsaw, Poland. Final insurgency: First Day of Passover, Spring 1943. Duration: 27 days: April 19–May 16, 1943.

In the cataclysmic Jewish rebellion, uprising leader Mordecai Anielewicz, age 23, and 750 other organized Jewish fighters – as well as *thirteen thousand* Jews of Warsaw – are either killed in the Nazi fire bombings or murdered execution–style by the SS...

Warsaw was one of 100 recorded Jewish revolts against the Nazis.

# from the Author

This is a work

which

has been long in coming... indeed, 8–18+ centuries overdue

\*

May this volume somewhat redeem the honor of the hallowed victims...

\*

May their martyred spirits and legacies transcend time and space to the forward reaches of time and the cosmos

\*

Over the span of over 19 centuries a quite–grave injustice has been perpetrated – against millions young and old male and female

\*

Where there is a great crime, ultimately, inevitably there is a reckoning...

\*

— **Birnbaum** New York 2010

> דוד אריה כן אכרהם יעקכ הלוי

He will destroy death forever;

the Lord God will wipe away tears from every face,

and will remove from all the earth

all insult against his people;

for the Lord has spoken.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Isaiah 25:8.

# בּי ה' דְבֶר.

וְחֶרְפַּת עַמּוֹ יָסִיר מֵעַל בָּל הָאָרֶץ.

# וּמָחָה הֹ הַמְעָה מֵעַל כָּל פָּנִים;

# בּלַע הַמָּוֶת לְנְצַח,

Postscript



Female Jewish civilians being paraded through Budapest, Hungary prior to deportation to Nazi Death Camps.

# 719 POSTSCRIPT

## Postscript:

Contemporary Iconography Hijacking Gambit

The Contemporary Vatican Attempt to **Hijack the Jewish Martyrdom Iconography** of the Holocaust

cont'd



### Contemporary Attempted Papal Hijacking Gambits Ongoing

Two inter-related Papal gambits:

Attempting to hijack the "six million martyrs" iconography

Attempting to hijack the "Auschwitz Death Camp martyrdom" iconography



[The little girl on the left is Hanka Lamet, who was subsequently gassed-to-death at Majdanek Death Camp. Her mother, Matylda, was murdered separately.]

\* possible identity: Artur Dab Siemiatek; Levi Zelinwarger (next to his mother Chana Zelinwarger); Tsvi Nussbaum.

### June 7, 1979

Newly–elected Pope John Paul II (Wojtyla) delivers a formal papal address in front of the international media at the Auschwitz–Birkenau Death Camp ('ground zero' for the Nazi murder of six million Jews) Auschwitz, Poland:

> "Six million Poles lost their lives during the Second World War – a fifth of the Polish nation...."

> > NOTE:

not **Jews**, but **Poles** are the focus of the pope's 'historic' Auschwitz speech

The pope does not articulate 'two-thirds of the Jews of Europe,' but, rather, 'a fifth of the Polish nation.'



Captured Jewish female freedom fighters, Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

Malka Zdrojewicz

# 725 POSTSCRIPT

Note: Approximately 1,100,000 Jews were murdered at Auschwitz, the epicenter of the Holocaust. Approximately 130,000–150,000 non–Jewish Poles were murdered at Auschwitz.

May 29, 2006

John Paul IIs's successor, the current (2010) Pope Benedict XVI (Ratzinger) makes his own 'sacred visit' to the Auschwitz Death Camp, delivers his formal prepared Papal address in front of the international media, cites his predecessor and states in front of the cameras:

"Six million Poles lost their lives during the Second World War – a fifth of the Polish nation...."

Once again, the same gambit



"Selection" on the Judenrampe, [the Jewish Ramp] Auschwitz. photo: May/June 1944

[no higher resolution image available]

Three days later, June 2, 2006

After severe international (primarily Jewish) protest, and safely tucked back in Rome, Benedict 'corrects' his own prepared 'Auschwitz' remarks, and says that it was, indeed, after all, indeed, six million Jews who were murdered by the Nazis, as symbolized by the prime Nazi Death Camp, Auschwitz. The clarification naturally receives minimal attention in the press.



Liberated prisoners who had been starved by the Nazis in the Mauthausen Death Camp, Austria.

May 7, 1945

#### fast–forward to on–press date for **Crucifixion** March 18, 2010

Available (for the past several years) on Amazon: "Great Speeches Collection" DVD **Papal Auschwitz Death Camp Address:** "In This Place of Horror" by Pope Benedict XVI (Ratzinger) / May 29, 2006

see www.historyPlace.com/speeches/pope-benedict-auschwitz.htm\*

see middle of transcript: middle of paragraph three :

"Six million Poles lost their lives during the Second World War – a fifth of the Polish nation...."



Children prisoners in Auschwitz concentration camp liberated by the Red Army.

Approximately one million\* Jewish children were murdered by the Nazis, mainly in Death Camps such as Auschwitz.

\*out of the 6 million European Jews murdered by the Nazis overall.

#### 731 POSTSCRIPT

The Polish, Catholic and Polish–Catholic textbooks now have 'running room' to slant the historical narrative.

\*

And spanning from Latin America to Africa to Asia – away from Jewish scrutiny – the Catholic Church and Church–friendly publishing establishments – now have all the anchoring they need to "play" – as the Vatican Secretariat acutely understands.

\*



Children, primarily Jewish, being led to freedom as Auschwitz is liberated.

[no higher resolution image available]

### 733 POSTSCRIPT

The Catholic Church pattern is actually the same as in the First Century, twenty centuries ago.

Only the specific Jewish 'hijacking targets' change.

In the First Century, hijack the inter–related iconography of–

the Jewish martyrdom of the Orthodox Jewish patriot Jesus as well as the (shell of the) *Torah* (a.k.a. The Old Testament)

In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, advance the gambit of hijacking the inter–related key iconographic symbols of the Holocaust–

#### **'Auschwitz'** and the **'six million'** figure

\*

After all, didn't the first double–hijacking of twenty centuries ago, have a "*pretty good run*" – even if millions of innocents had been tortured and/or murdered as a consequence?



Jewish children exiting Birkenau (Auschwitz) barracks after being liberated.

## 735 POSTSCRIPT

But on still another, and if possible, yet even more diabolical, level –

- Demonize & Dehumanize them\*;
- Incite Europe & Lay the groundwork for their mass murder\*;

and then

 Rob them of even the symbols of their torture and martyrdom.

The Holy Church at work.

\* for nineteen consecutive centuries

#### Kiss, Betrayal and Lynching

So, where was the true *betraying kiss* on the landscape here?

Did a fictional demonic character Judas truly betray his teacher Jesus by planting a fictionalized *betraying kiss* on his cheek –

or

did the Church Fathers effect a grand *betraying kiss* by professing to embrace the Old Testament, capitalizing on its *gravitas* and holiness, which they then proceeded to eviscerate, undermine and neuter – over a thousand+ year span?

\*

# 737 POSTSCRIPT

# Kiss, Betrayal and Lynching

[continued]

So, where was the true *betrayal* on the landscape here?

Did a fictional demonic character Judas truly *betray* his teacher and fellow patriot Jesus –

or

did the Church Fathers *betray* the Monotheism of Jesus – and the fount of Jesus, the Jewish people?

\*

Where was the real *lynching* on the landscape here?

Did a fictionalized demonic, rabid, teeth–gnashing rogue Sanhedrin mob *lynch* a fictional Stephen –

or

did the Church Fathers *lynch* the reputation of the Jews?

# Some key contemporary Vatican dates

	Venue exact date	Subject	Роре
1965	Rome 10/28	Nostre Aetate	Pope Paul VI
1979	Auschwitz 06/07…	26' tall Cross erected	John Paul II
1979	Auschwitz 06/07	"Six Million Poles lost their lives during WWII – a fifth of the Polish nation"	John Paul II
2006	Auschwitz 05/29	"Six Million Poles lost their lives during WWII – a fifth of the Polish nation"	Benedict
2011	Amazon DVD today 03/13	"Six Million Poles lost their lives during WWII – a fifth of the Polish nation"	Benedict

\*

end

\*

THE CRUCIFIXION

# Acknowledgments

Sincere appreciation to the following authors and publishers:

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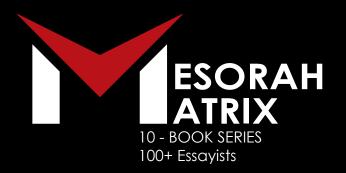
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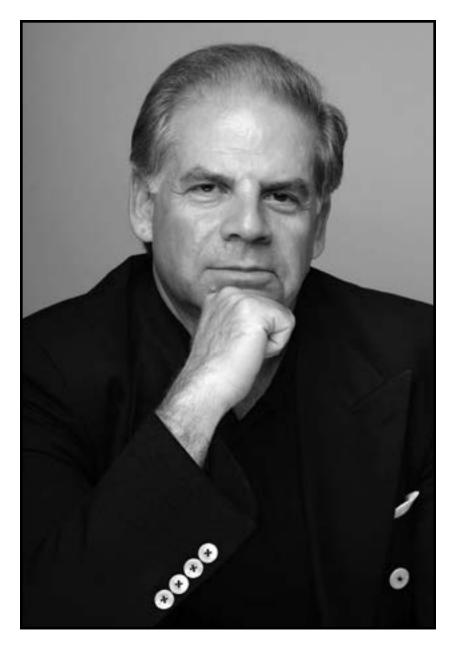
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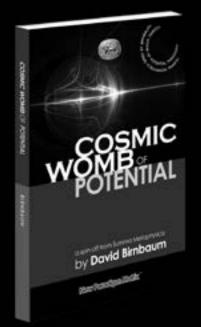
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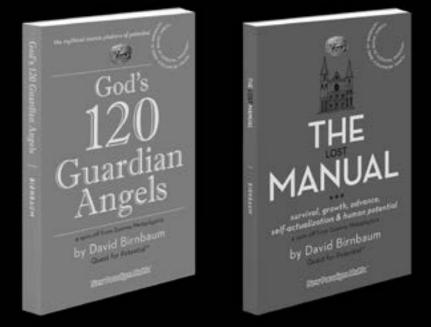
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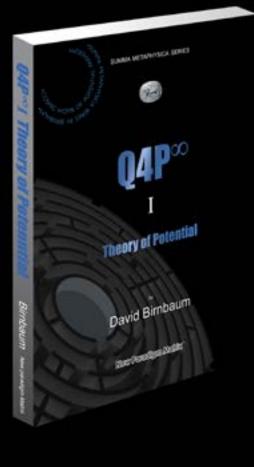


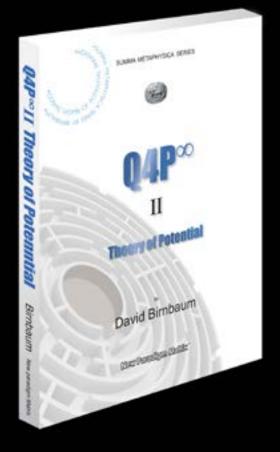
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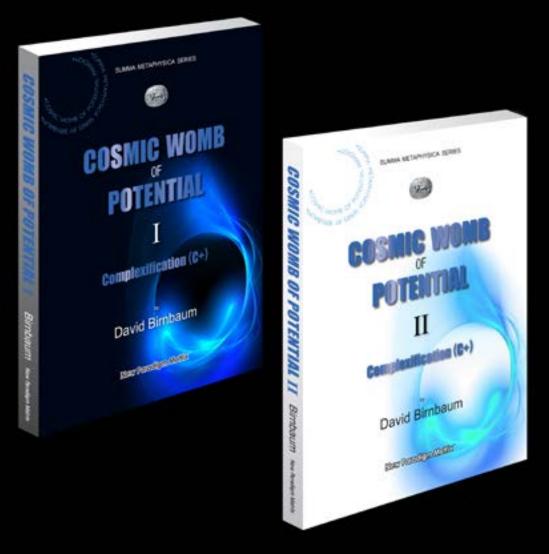




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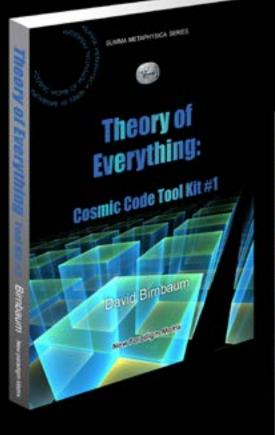
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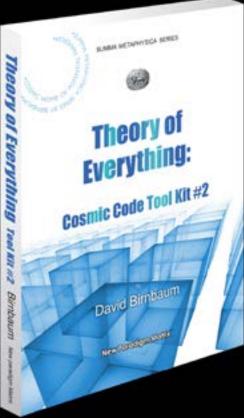
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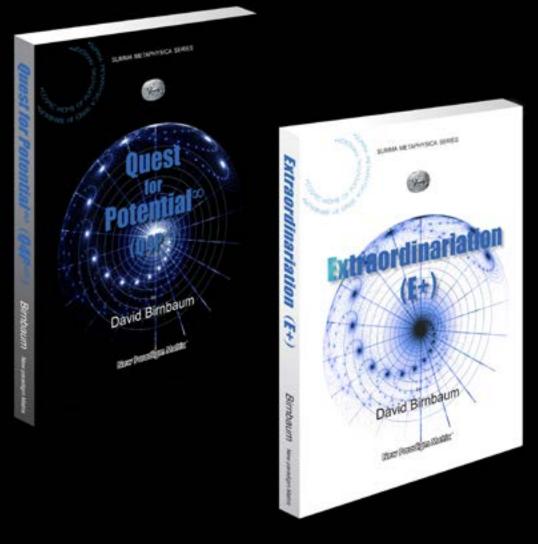




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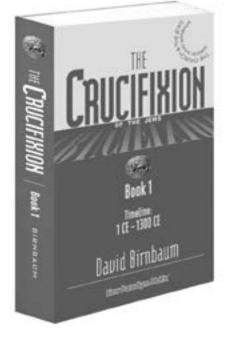
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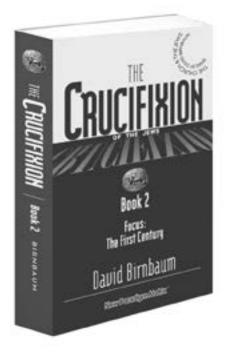
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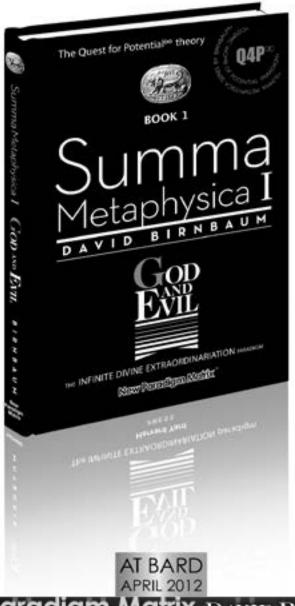




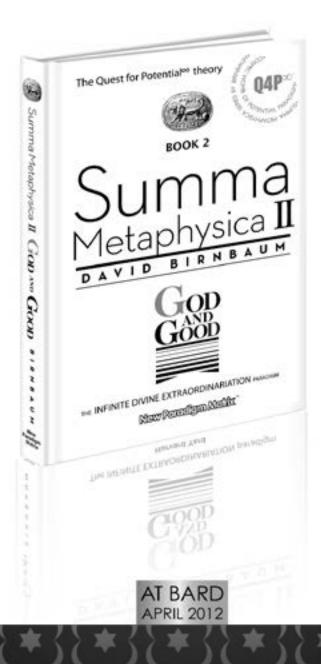
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# Science and Religion: A Role for Metaphysics?

Reflections flowing from David Birnbaum's Summa Metaphysica

Discussion of the relationship between science and religion has typically proceeded on the basis of a scientific analysis of religion or a religious evaluation of science. Predictably, the cognitive lens of assessment has determined that the result will be either predominantly scientific or predominantly religious.

Since the nineteenth century the study of Metaphysics has usually been pursued within the history of philosophy. Advances in several disciplines, scientific and literary, as well as historical and philosophical, appeared to preclude understanding Metaphysics as an analytic discipline.

Yet as the twentieth century progressed, science offered the uncertainty principle, literature discovered hermeneutics that explained how one horizon or discourse may merge into another, history changed its key from the study of atomistic data to the unfolding of meaning, and philosophy challenged empirical constructions of reality. Works by David Birnbaum,

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chiefly his two volumes entitled Summa Metaphysica (1989 and 2008), suggest that Metaphysics may emerge as a critical field once again.

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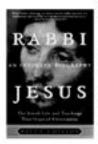


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Bruce Chilton is a scholar of early Christianity and Judaism, now Bernard Iddings Bell Professor of Religion at Bard College, and formerly Lillian Claus Professor of New Testament at Yale University. He holds a degree in New Testament from Cambridge University (St. John's College). He has previously held academic positions at the Universities of Cambridge, Sheffield, and Münster.

He wrote the first critical commentary on the Aramaic version of Isaiah (The Isaiah Targurn, 1987), as well as academic studies that analyze Jesus in his Judaic context (A Galilean Rabbi and His Bible, 1984; The Temple of Jesus, 1992; Pure Kingdom, 1996), and explain the Bible critically (Redeeming Time: The Wisdom of Ancient Jewish and Christian Festal Calendars, 2002; The Cambridge Companion to the Bible, 2007).

He founded two academic periodicals, Journal for the Study of the New Testament and The Bulletin for Biblical Research. He has also been active in the ministry of the Anglican Church, and is Rector of the Church of St. John the Evangelist in Barrytown, New York.



AT BARD APRIL 2012 His popular books have been widely reviewed. Rabbi Jesus: An Intimate Biography showed Jesus' development through the environments hat proved formative influences on him. Those environments, illuminated by archaeology and by historical sources, include: (1) rural Jewish Galilee, (2) the movement of John the Baptist, (3) the towns Jesus encountered as a rabbi, (4) the political strategy of Herod Antipas, and (5) deep controversy concerning the Temple in Jerusalem.





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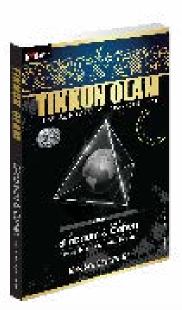


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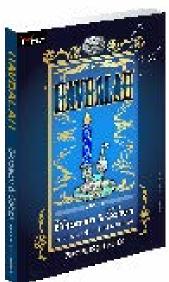




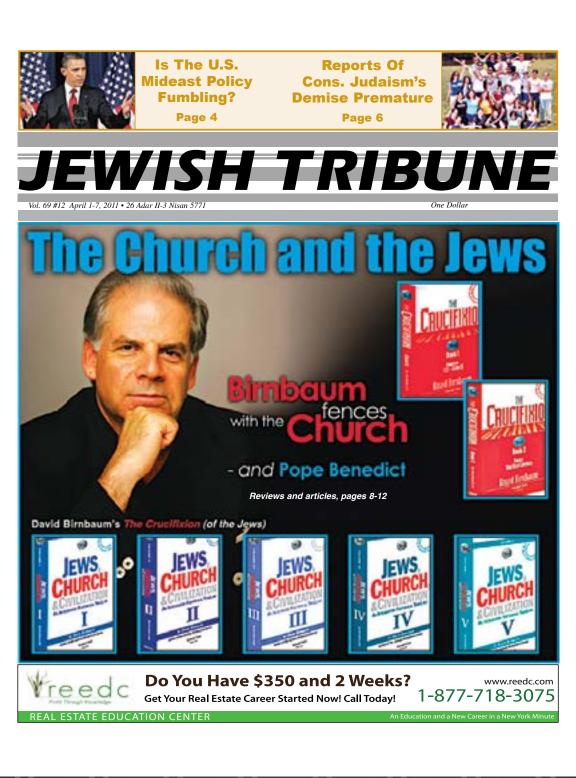
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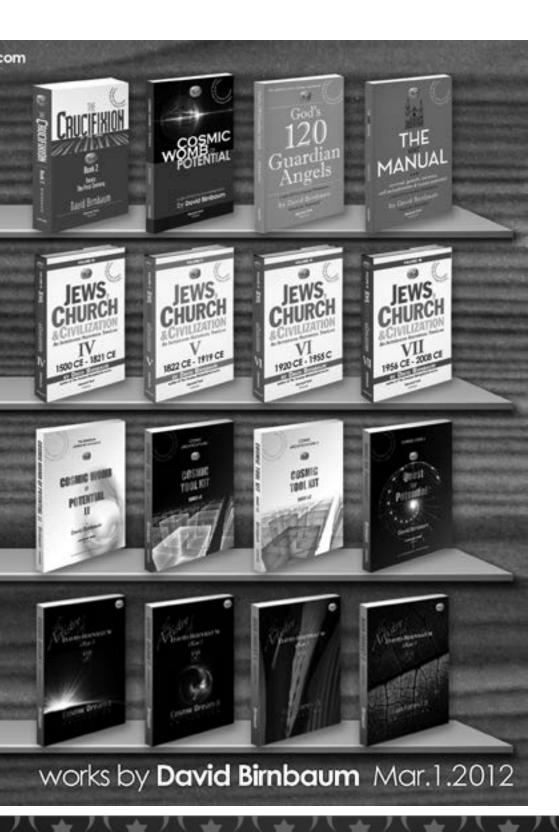








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As well, the platform has other contemporary offerings including Birnbaum's Manhattan Observer column [see www.Observer1000.com] New Paradigm Matrix endeavors to publish works, which are vibrant and cutting-edge, if not paradigm changers.

David Birnbaum, a graduate of Harvard University, is editor-in-chief of New Paradigm Matrix – as well as the author of several of the works. In addition he is co-editor of the works in the Masorah Matrix division series.

Birnbaum's iconic work God and Evil – which introduced his new paradigm Quest for Potential<sup>∞</sup> hypothesis, was originally published by KTAV (Jersey City, NJ) in 1988. Four subsequent printings followed in the 1989-2000 period. KTAV still offers the work in its catalogue.

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