

When Christ Killers Roamed the Earth

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My absence from writing this blog was due to finalizing the publishing of my first book. See <http://www.markleegoldenwriter.com/page11.shtml>

Okay, on to Christ Killers. I must admit there was a time in which I too was a Christ Killer—though I didn't know it. To clarify even more—I was born one. I came from a long line of such. A Jew, any Jew, equaled a conspirator in the murder of the crucified Christ. Though neither I, nor my parents, had joined the mob or cried out for Jesus' death 2,000 years ago, that didn't matter. Many spoke out that we Jews were a poisoned race, unnecessary to humanity, believing our continued existence an illness.

Imagine this: two groups—one saw the other as perpetually genetically guilty, and the other saw them as perpetually misguided. The first group needed little to pump up their generational hatred. The second group had little to protect themselves against those not interested in the truth of God's bigger picture.

To backtrack: As the First Century story goes, much of the Jewish leadership opposed Jesus' actions and teachings. They wanted him dead. Due to political complications, the occupying Roman military did the execution. Gentiles, non-Hebrews, beat, whipped and hammered nails through Jesus' tortured flesh. Powerful, corrupt men caused the death of this popular Jew who became a martyr. They had no idea that the story of his life and death would never go away.

Now a mini-theological lesson. The Gospel writers explained that God's big picture meant that Jesus' voluntary ministry would culminate in his death, followed shortly thereafter by undoing death. Because of a deep, intertwining divine strategy, these extreme oddities would allow sinners of all races, worldwide, and for all time, freedom from God's judgment. In that heaven-meets-earth plot twist, the anti-Jesus mob secured the implementing of God's unthinkable will. Was He disappointed with their bitter motivation? Yes. Did He manipulate the death penalty decree? No. Who was to benefit? Anyone and everyone up to and including today. The cost of his suffering paid the price.

"Jews don't believe in Jesus!" is a common statement, and 99% true. Like an extension of our ancestors crying "Crucify him!" through the centuries, Jews, identified as Christ killers, roamed everywhere. And there, persecution of Jews continued sprouting from a 2,000 year-old weed. A contradictory theology against Jews arose around 200 years after the Resurrection due to Jews refusing to repent of this "sin" and then belatedly becoming Jesus' disciples. They could have admitted wrongdoing and joined the Church living a second-or-third class existence. But, no. Verdict? Guilty.

The words "They killed our Savior!" implies a gap in understanding salvation's equation. No death—no saving. To esteem and worship Jesus' life, but preferring no death, equated to TROUBLE for all humans. It was not God's plan to have Jesus die of old age. Devoted persecutors imagined that the Jews ruined Plan A, and God activated an undesirable, back-up Plan B, the killing of His Son.

Certain adherents of various religions exist as God's worst enemies. The bad attitudes, verbal and physical attacks, and much, much worse toward Jews, were a mix of faulty doctrine and a foothold for endless anti-Semitism. The Christian Church in general has been the worst offender; proud and exuberant to do God's punishing of a Chosen People who failed Him. They pointed fingers, they pointed swords, and then pointed guns at descendants of those who opposed God's ancient plan. Their harsh vindictive assaults caused a generational sinful delusion: themselves in violent opposition to a God in which they hoped to find shelter and reward. Not only did they point weapons, they pointed and forcibly escorted countless Jews to borders of villages and cities, to borders of countries and regions and vast uninviting sea shores. For centuries, Jews lived as targets. Christians wrecked, but could not eradicate, Judaism.

The ugly roots of the Roman Catholic Church started when Messianic (Christian) Jews were no longer wanted. Then Emperor Constantine, 272–337 AD, used his political power to push hardship, exile, guilt, and hell on earth for anyone born a Jew in the Roman Empire. Early in the next millennium, the Vatican blessed the 200 years of Crusaders' random looting, rape, torture and murder of Christ Killers from Europe to Jerusalem and back. Convert or die. Beginning in 1250 AD, six centuries of Inquisitions' horror executed Jews (and heretics)—burning them live at the stake. The stomping foot of hate landed hard and without mercy, leaving death's footprints everywhere. The Roman Catholic Church history, year after year, overflowed with ethnic and religious crimes. Finally, firmly, in the mid-1960s in the Second Vatican Council, the leadership announced to all Catholics to “knock it off!” As to the antiquated concept of collective Jewish guilt, the Council reasoned, “Jews didn't kill Jesus; the Romans did.”

Jews: “What? Who? Well...we'll take it! That works for us.”

Now to the famed and beloved rebel and reformer of the Roman Catholic Church: the priest, Martin Luther. In his early years he admirably taught concern and genuine care toward Jews. The little known hostile bigotry of Martin Luther occurred in his later years, and flourished beyond his death as an anti-Semitic robbing and killing machine. In 1543, almost 500 years ago, he wrote a book the size of a small paperback, 65,000 words, titled, *The Jews and Their Lies*. Here is an excerpt: “Jewish synagogues and schools should be set on fire, their prayer books destroyed, rabbis forbidden to teach, homes burned, and property and money confiscated. Jews should be shown no mercy or kindness and given no legal protection. These poisonous snakes should be drafted into forced labor or expelled for all time. They are full of the devil's feces in which they wallow like swine. The synagogue is an incorrigible whore and an evil slut. They are no people of God. We are at fault for not killing them all.”

From his printed and preached tirades, Martin Luther's disciples across Europe implemented his evil. Fifteen centuries after the Cross, Christ Killers deserved this? Apparently so!

Much of the Lutheran church in modern years resided as a fountain for anti-Semites to drink and be invigorated by. In the 1900s, before Hitler, the momentum in Germany was still influenced by movement founder Martin Luther and his damning proclamations. Nazi roots can easily be traced to Luther's outrageous writings. (For more facts, simply Google: Luther and Jews.)

Also too, especially after the Holocaust, in the 1980s, like the Catholics, the worldwide Lutheran Church denounced his views and announced for their congregations to “knock it off!”

Remember, Anti-Semitism stands shoulder to shoulder with undeserved bitterness fraught with criminal acts to a long list of people groups—not only Jews. Humans attack and reek of injustice toward those of different skin color, language, dialect, heredity, location, weakness, unwanted babies and those who think, vote, dress or worship unlike themselves. Foolishly fault-finding can gain a satisfied, folly-filled self-righteousness. I think such anger spins the world around because these roused emotions and our earth keep going with little sign of stopping. New weeds sprout wherever humans roam.

These Things Make Me Grumpy...