

## **Seeking Spiritual Truth – The Roman Origins of Christianity**

As requested, here is a copy of my presentation – Seeking Spiritual Truth.

Also, you may want to view the YouTube documentary, Caesar's Messiah, The Roman Conspiracy to Invent Jesus.

World's most powerful propaganda machine, describing how the roman empire invented and forged a religion to subside a nation ...

It is 1:23:11 hours in length.

There are other Caesar's Messiah documentaries to choose but the above is the one to watch.

Enjoy.

My presentation:

Good morning, welcome to another dog day of Summer in paradise.

Today's topic is "Seeking Spiritual Truth – The Roman Origins of Christianity."

Ten years ago, Nancy and I attended a Roman Catholic Christmas Mass; the quite elderly priest opened his sermon with a surprising revelation; "If you believe in the Virgin Birth Story then you believe in Santa Claus;

coming down that chimney, eating those cookies, and drinking that glass of milk story too!

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In the Roman Empire days, religion and politics were one in the same; not like today where we have the separation of church and state.

As the Romans expanded their empire they were very good at assimilating the new province's customs, traditions, and habits with their Roman ones.

That included their religions; they could continue their religious beliefs and practices unabated;

but, they must also worship Caesar, the Roman Son of God; and, allow his effigy to be prominently displayed in their churches.

As in every crowd there is at least one exception; guess which province, was the proverbial thorn in Rome's side;

if you think Judea, you are right.

Hebrew history, from Abraham to the present time, is replete with Jewish conflict with their neighbours. They insist that theirs' is the one and only God; and, that one day there will be a militant messiah that conquers all nations and imposes subjugation of all gentiles to their God's rules for righteous living.

My focus today is on the 7-year Jewish rebellion that occurred during the years 66 thru 73 of the 1<sup>st</sup> Century; that's some 2000 years ago. The Roman's were victorious; but, Caesar wanted to do something about the Jewish lack of loyalty to his religious alliance.

Caesar's dilemma, as he perceived it; how can I get the Jews to acquiesce; that is, submit to me, Caesar as their Son of God; while still worshipping their God?

Titus Caesar decided that they needed to create a messiah, a Jewish one, the one that the Jews are waiting for; the one they thought they had in this war they just fought and failed.

So, Titus Caesar commissioned Josephus, his premiere Jewish historian;

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to head the scripture writing team and create the manuscript for the Gospels.

It is important to understand that this life story of Jesus Christ was written **after** the war;

and **after** Josephus wrote his historical account of the Jewish War in the year 75; (two years after the war) titled Wars of the Jews.

He also wrote a second book called, "Antiquities of the Jews" in the year 93.

Remarkably these two books are still in print to this day. I read Wars of the Jews.

Equally important to note is that both books were included in some Eastern Orthodox Bibles as proof of Jesus' prophecies, healings, and righteous life teachings.

Today's Christian scholars agree that the Gospels were written **after** that 7-year war; and, **at the same time as Josephus' two books**; but, they have yet to accept the connection between Josephus' two books and the Gospels;

and they claim that they do **NOT** know who authored those Gospels;

they simply identify them as "**Q**"; standing for question mark?

However, in this 21<sup>st</sup> Century, books are published that reveal that the Romans created Christianity. I read two of them this past winter:

Caesar's Messiah and Creating Christ; I learned from them what I'm about to tell you.

Let's start with the Nativity story.

Both Titus Caesar and Josephus agreed that they had to create a character with impeccable Hebrew credentials so that the Jewish population; and the gentiles would accept Jesus Christ as a bonafide King David pedigree;

the expectant Jewish messiah who would free the world from Roman rule; and, establish their one and only God as the world's ruler.

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So, they created the birth story of Jesus in the Gospels that parallels Moses' birth story in the OT; thereby creating a smooth, seamless transition from the old-world order to the new world order.

Here are some examples of that connectivity:

In the Gospels, Joseph brought Jesus, who represents the "new Israel" down to Egypt.

In the OT, there is a Joseph who brought Moses, who represents the "old Israel" down to Egypt.

The guiding star and three wise men story are experienced by both Joseph's.

Actually; the three wise men are the three stars of the **Orion** constellation.

For both Moses and Jesus; the Passover scene; that is, the massacre of the innocents' story depicts young children being slaughtered by a fearful tyrant; but the future saviour is saved; that is, both Moses and Jesus.

As you can see; what seems simple and innocent enough is significantly complex; but, it is seen by the well-informed Roman elites as a satire of the Jews.

The next reveal of Jesus' life story occurs when he is 30 years old in the 30<sup>th</sup> year of the 1<sup>st</sup> century.

There is much to reveal but I'm narrowing it to Jesus' prophecy of the destruction of Jerusalem and its sacred God's Temple.

This episode is the foundation upon which Christianity stands.

Jesus' ability to predict the future is so ingrained in the Christian faith; mainly because it is only on **faith alone** that it is plausible and defensible for Christians.

There is no historical evidence as proof positive of an historical Jesus to this date.

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Jesus predicted that; before **this** generation ends he will destroy the Temple, **with not one stone unturned** and raise it again in three days.

Even his own disciples challenged him on his three-day prophecy.

Here's the reveal to this story:

In the year 70, the Roman military; lead by General Titus demolished Jerusalem and its Temple **with not one stone unturned**; just like Jesus prophesied.

So, when Titus as Caesar along with Josephus, his Jewish historian were scripting the Gospels they deliberately back-dated Jesus' prophecy to the year 30; exactly 40 years before the actual event occurred in the year 70.

Why 40 years?

Because that was the normal life expectancy in those days;

and, because Titus Caesar wanted to convince the Jews, especially the militant ones that; look here, we offer you the son of man as your Son of your God; someone you can accept as the chosen King David messiah who is destined to rule the world;

just accept him and you won't have to fight us any longer;

and, at the same time; without even realizing it, you will be worshipping me;

that is what I want; your loyalty and support for me; Caesar, Emperor of the Roman Empire.

The final part to Jesus' life story is his Passion story.

In the year 33, on the eve of the Jewish Passover observance, Jesus is crucified; and his resurrection occurs three days later.

The 7-year Jewish war ended on Passover day in the year 73; here again,

Titus Caesar and Josephus back-dated Jesus' Passion story 40 years,

to the year 33. Why?

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**The point is;** Titus Caesar and Josephus created the Jesus Christ Messiah story to garner support **for** the Roman Empire; not against it, as Christians believe.

They created a Jesus story that had him preaching to the poor and needy; healing them physically and mentally; telling parables that only the initiated could understand; and, above all “Giving to Caesar what belongs to Caesar;” in other words pay your taxes; ALSO:

when it is your duty to carry the soldier’s 60 lb gear for him for one Appian Way mile; carry it two miles;

Jesus heaps praise on how wonderful Roman soldiers make good Christians;

**but**, the gem of them all is the Pontius Pilot story.

Here is the answer to the question why Jesus’ Passion story was back-dated 40 years.

Titus Caesar and Josephus create the scene where the Jewish Priests, the bad guys, torture Jesus and bring him to the Roman prefect, Pontius Pilot, the good guy;

they want him to crucify Jesus for sedition; because his claim that he is the King of the Jews, is viewed by the Romans as a threat to their kingdom.

Actually; it is a plot perpetrated by the bad guys, the Jewish priest because Jesus represented a threat to their authority.

Low and behold, Pilot could find no law-breaking by Jesus and refuses to nail him, pun intended. This happens three times.

Even Pilot’s wife can find no fault in Jesus.

Finally, in frustration, the Jewish Priests insist; and, are willing to take the blame with Jesus’ blood being on their and their children’s hands, for eternity.

To top it off; Pilot allows the bad guys, the Jewish Priests, to choose one bad guy to be released so that there is a cross made available for Jesus.

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The good guy bad guy portrayal is deliberate satire for the Roman elite to read and enjoy.

Then there is the scene where Jesus is laid to rest in a cave, a tomb carved out of rock; and, a rock is rolled to cover the entrance.

Three days later, there is the resurrection scene, in which the tomb is discovered empty by women, Mary's; each gospel has a different Mary story.

Then Titus Caesar and Josephus go into several scenes of sightings and healings by Jesus; and, then he is gone.

Actually; the Passion story is a composite of two stories that Josephus scripted in his Wars of the Jews history book; and, they are accounts that he can personally attest too.

The tomb scene for Jesus is based upon Josephus' claim that when he was a Jewish General in the war he managed to escape custody by hiding in a cave, a tomb, for two days then he arose from the cave on the third day; and, escaped to his freedom.

There in lies the Jesus tomb story connection; the three-day raising of the Temple story; and the need for the 40 year back-date; to justify the prophecy.

Then there is the Last Super story.

Somehow, somehow, Titus Caesar and Josephus needed a scene to get the Jews to accept Jesus as their Passover sacrificial lamb.

The creation of the Last Supper Communion scene provided that connection.

The breaking of bread and eating it as, "my Body" and the drinking of wine as "my Blood" symbolizing the sacrificial lamb is that connection; and,

it is symbolic of a real life, quite gruesome war scene that Josephus experienced.

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One of the many human tragedies of warfare is starvation and cannibalism.

Josephus recounts a gruesome story of a mother and her child;

and eating flesh and drinking blood.

I totally agree with your reaction.

I took communion plenty of times and I never did like the symbolism.

It's too gruesome of an image.



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Conclusion:

Now that we know the “**Spiritual Truth**” about the Gospels saga; we can appreciate the satire that Titus Caesar and Josephus intended and know that the Romans must have enjoyed.

Another “**Spiritual Truth;**” the creation of the Gospels by Titus Caesar and Josephus was **not** successful in persuading the Jews to accept Jesus Christ as their Son of God because, there were two more Jewish wars against Roman assimilation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century.

Nevertheless, Titus Caesar and Josephus must be smiling, where ever they are in spirit or whatever; because, Christians, unwittingly, still worship Titus Caesar as their saviour, their redeemer; and, they are still waiting for his return.

Very satirical indeed.

The final “**Spiritual Truth**” is the identity of God.

Caesar as Son of God, Jesus as the Son of God, and the Hebrew God;

they are **external divine identities;** that dwell outside our **human identity;**

and they expect us to be subservient to them; and, dependent up their grace for salvation.

**However,**

there is an **internal divine identity** that dwells inside our **human identity;**

it is the **spiritual truth** that dwells within our minds; it is our spirit; it is our soul; it is our consciousness; it is that voice inside us that is not subservient nor dependent upon a supernatural, mythical identity.

**We are in control of our own destiny; we determine our own fate.**

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Final word:

Several years ago, a friend asked me whether I was a Christian?

I responded, "No I'm a **Gnostic**." He retorted, "You're agnostic?"

I said, "No I am a **Gnostic**." "What's that;" he asked?

A **Gnostic** is one who has knowledge of internal spiritual truth;

it is the **Spiritual Truth** that dwells within each one of us;

that is the Gnostic Way.

That's what Nancy and I love about our Unitarian Universalist Church; we, this Congregation, share worshipping the **spiritual truth** that dwells within each one of us;

**AND,**

WE respect our variety of views and opinions.

A fitting closing to this sermon is The Responsive Reading #652 ***The Great End in Religious Instruction***.

Helen will lead us now in the closing Responsive Reading.

**Thank you.**