

History 572/Undergraduate Studies in European History

Spring 1992

Mr. Clover

Topic: The Early Christian Community

Meeting Room: 5231 Humanities Bldg.

Meeting Time: Friday, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course concerns the origins and nature of the Christian community from its inception until the destruction of the Great Temple in Jerusalem, in A.D. 70. This study of the early Christian community will be based as much as possible on the best ancient sources (in translation).

ORAL PRESENTATIONS AND WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

Participants in the course will present one oral report on a subject pertaining to the course topic. In addition, they will submit in two drafts a term paper on a subject as closely related to the course topic as possible. The second draft of the term paper should be no more than 10 to 20 pages in length.

GRADING SYSTEM

Course participation (including oral report) 35%, first draft of term paper 30 %, second draft of term paper 35 % of final grade.

READINGS

*% THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS IN ENGLISH. Tr. G. Vermes. Revised ed. Penguin Books.

*% Edgar J. Goodspeed, THE APOCRYPHA. Random House. Vintage Paperback.

*% THE NEW TESTAMENT OF THE NEW JERUSALEM BIBLE. Ed. H. Wansbrough. Doubleday Image Paperback.

*% H. Chadwick, THE EARLY CHURCH. Penguin Books. Pelican Paperback.

*% Flavius Josephus, THE JEWISH WAR. Tr. G. Williamson. Penguin Paperback.

*% Tacitus, THE ANNALS OF IMPERIAL ROME. Tr. M. Grant. Penguin Paperback.

*% Tacitus, THE HISTORIES. Tr. K. Wellesley. Penguin Paperback.

History 572/Mr. Clover/course readings cont'd)

&% THE NEW JERUSALEM BIBLE. Reader's edition. Doubleday Paperback.

% M. Cary and H. Scullard, A HISTORY OF ROME. 3rd ed. St. Martin's Press.

% E. Bickerman, FROM EZRA TO THE LAST OF THE MACCABEES. Schocken Paperback.

% F. W. Walbank, THE HELLENISTIC WORLD. Harvard Paperback.

% J. Allegro, THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS; A REAPPRAISAL. Penguin Books/Pelican Paperback.

% W.H.C. Frend, THE RISE OF CHRISTIANITY. Fortress Press Paperback.

OXFORD DICTIONARY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH. 2nd ed. Ed. F. L. Cross. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

T. Cornell and J. Matthews, ATLAS OF THE ROMAN WORLD. New York: Facts on File Publications.

SYMBOLS:

* required purchase, available at the bookstores

& recommended purchase, available at the bookstores

% on three-hour reserve, H.C. White no. 1191

non-circulating in the Reference Collection, 262 Memorial Library

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COURSE SCHEDULE

Week I/January 24th. Introduction.

Week II/January 31st. Introduction (continued). Free-for-all discussion of the Hebraic Community's attitude toward foreign dominion. Everyone read the introduction and the first book of *% Flavius Josephus, THE JEWISH WAR (introduction, preface and chapters 1-5 in the Penguin translation). Also, start thinking about a term paper topic (something close to the topic of the seminar).

Week III/February 7th. Introduction (continued). Free-for-all discussion of the early Christian community. Everyone read *% H. Chadwick, THE EARLY CHURCH, chapters 1 through 4. Also, continue thinking about a term paper topic.

Week IV/February 14th. Introduction (continued). Bibliographical orientation -- how to find books and articles which pertain to your term paper topic. This session will be managed by a member of the Memorial Library staff. Pick your term paper topic by this date See enclosed general instructions ('Manual of Survival' etc.) regarding the preparation of term papers.

Week V/February 21st. Report no. 1. See enclosed instructions for preparing reports.

Week VI/February 28th. Report no. 2.

Week VII/March 6th. Report no. 3.

Week VIII/March 20th. Report no. 4.

Week IX/March 27th. Report no. 5. The first draft of the term paper is due on this date. See enclosed instructions for preparation of the first draft.

Week X/April 3rd. Report no. 6.

Week XI/April 10th. Report no. 7.

Week XII/April 17th. No class.

(History 572/ Mr. Clover/course description cont'd)

Week XIII/April 24th. Report no. 8.

Week XIV/May 1st. Report no. 9.

Week XV/Thursday, May 7th. Supper at Paisan's (University Square),
at 5:30 p.m.

Week XV/Friday, May 8th. Report no. 10.

Friday, May 15th. The second draft of the term paper is due.
Enclosed general instructions ("Manual of Survival" etc.) pertain
to the preparation of the second draft of the term paper. Put the
second draft of the term paper in Mr. Clover's mailbox (no. 4031,
in the History Dept. wing of the Humanities Bldg., right by the
fourth-floor entrance to the elevator).

SYMBOLS USED IN THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE FIRST THREE WEEKS OF THE
COURSE:

* Required purchase, available at the bookstores

% On three-hour reserve, H. C. White no. 1191

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REPORT TOPICS

Each report contains citations of one or more books. All are available in the Memorial Library, which maintains a central catalogue of the entire library system on the second floor. The books listed below are also available as course texts or reserve readings, as follows:

- * required purchase, available at the bookstores
- & optional purchase, available at the bookstores
- % on three-hour reserve in H.C. White no. 1191
- # non-circulating, in the Reference Collection/262 Memorial Library

REPORT NO. 1: BACKGROUND -- THE REVOLT OF THE MACCABEES

">% E. J. Goodspeed, THE APOCRYPHA, pp. 373-493 (this is a translation of the First and Second Books of the Maccabees; an alternative translation is available in the 'Historical Books' section of &% BIBLE.ENGLISH.NEW JERUSALEM BIBLE); % E. Bickerman, FROM EZRA TO THE LAST OF THE MACCABEES, part II; and % F. W. Walbank, THE HELLENISTIC WORLD, chapter 12.

What caused the rebellion of the Maccabees? What does the rebellion reveal about the attitudes of the Hebraic Community to Hellenistic Civilization?

REPORT NO. 2: BACKGROUND -- A HEBRAIC REACTION TO THE REVOLT OF THE MACCABEES

&% BIBLE.ENGLISH.NEW JERUSALEM BIBLE, Book of Daniel (in 'The Prophets' section of this edition). For a general introduction, consult # F.L.Cross, OXFORD DICTIONARY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 2nd ed., s.vv. "Apocalypse" and "Daniel, Book of". Consult also % E. Bickerman, FROM EZRA TO THE LAST OF THE MACCABEES, part II.

Describe the various visions of the end of time in the Book of Daniel. When was this book composed? What does this book reveal about the attitudes of the Hebraic Community to Hellenistic Civilization?

REPORT NO. 3: A PIOUS FACTION OF THE HEBRAIC COMMUNITY (PART ONE -- THE RULES OF THE FACTION)

%* THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS IN ENGLISH (revised ed.), tr. G. Vermes, Introduction + Community Rule + Damascus Rule; and % J. Allegro, THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS: A REAPPRAISAL, entire.

When and why did the pious faction based at Khirbet Qumran

come into being? How long did the faction exist? What do the Community Rule and the Damascus Rule of the Dead Sea Scrolls reveal about the organization and functioning of the Qumran faction?

REPORT NO. 4: A PIOUS FACTION OF THE HEBRAIC COMMUNITY (PART TWO -- THE FACTION LOOKS TO THE FUTURE)

%* THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS IN ENGLISH (revised ed.), tr. G. Vermes, Introduction + Messianic Rule + War Rule + Pseudo-Danielic Writings + Midrash on the Last Days; and % J. Allegro, THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS: A REAPPRAISAL, entire.

According to the Qumran faction, what was going to happen in the future? What role would the Qumran faction play in the coming events? What role would a Messiah or Messiahs play in the coming events?

REPORT NO. 5: THE HEBRAIC COMMUNITY REACTS TO ROMAN DOMINION

*% Josephus, THE JEWISH WAR, tr. G. Williamson, entire.

Study the introduction, and then read selectively from Josephus' account of Judaea's rebellion against the Romans. What caused the revolt? According to Josephus, what role did the Zealots play in the rebellion? How did the outcome of the rebellion affect the Hebraic community in Judaea?

REPORT NO. 6: A SEPARATIST FACTION OF THE HEBRAIC COMMUNITY LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

*% NEW TESTAMENT OF THE NEW JERUSALEM BIBLE -- Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels + Mark 13 + Matthew 24 + Luke 21 + Matthew (entire).

When and where did the Synoptic Gospels take shape? Study the three Synoptic Gospel versions of the eschatological discourse of Jesus of Nazareth. Then read the Gospel according to Matthew in its entirety. What does the eschatological discourse reveal about Jesus' early followers' view of the future? According to Matthew, what place did this vision of the end have in the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth?

REPORT NO. 7: THE DIASPORA COMMUNITIES -- A SEPARATIST ADDRESSES THE FAITHFUL IN ASIA MINOR, AND TAKES A SHARP LOOK AT THE FUTURE

(1) introductory readings on the Diaspora (Dispersion) -- % E. Bickerman, FROM EZRA TO THE LAST OF THE MACCABEES, Part I; and % W.H.C. Frend, THE RISE OF CHRISTIANITY, Chapter 1; (2) *% NEW TESTAMENT OF THE NEW JERUSALEM BIBLE -- The Revelation to John, entire, with # T. Cornell and J. Matthews, ATLAS OF THE ROMAN WORLD (for the locations of the early churches mentioned in this book).

Describe the visions of the future in Revelation. What do these visions reveal about the place of the separatists in the

Diaspora communities?

REPORT NO. 8: THE DIASPORA COMMUNITIES -- THE SEPARATISTS TRY TO COMMUNICATE WITH BOTH ATHENS AND JERUSALEM

*% NEW TESTAMENT OF THE NEW JERUSALEM BIBLE -- Acts of the Apostles, entire (but especially chapters 15 and 17), with # T. Cornell and J. Matthews, ATLAS OF THE ROMAN WORLD (for the locations of the churches visited by the early Apostles).

Describe in general the travels and teachings of the early Apostles, as they are recounted in Acts. What do Paul's address in Athens and the council of Jerusalem reveal about the efforts of the separatists to communicate with the Hebraic Community and with foreigners (usually called Gentiles) at the same time?

REPORT NO. 9: THE DIASPORA COMMUNITIES -- A PHARISEE TRIES TO TALK SOME SENSE TO THE SEPARATISTS

*% NEW TESTAMENT OF THE NEW JERUSALEM BIBLE -- introduction and letters of Paul to Thessalonians, Corinthians, Galatians, Romans, and Philippians; with # T. Cornell and J. Matthews, ATLAS OF THE ROMAN WORLD (for the locations of the churches to which Paul wrote); and # OXFORD DICTIONARY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 2nd ed., ed. F. L. Cross, s.v. "Pharisees".

Who were the Pharisees? To what extent did the beliefs of the Pharisees and the separatists resemble one another? How does Paul's vision of the future (as expressed in his letters) compare with the apocalyptic visions of the earliest separatists?

REPORT NO. 10: THE ROMANS TAKE NOTICE OF THE SEPARATISTS

*% Tacitus, THE HISTORIES, introduction and Book Five; *% Tacitus, ANNALS OF IMPERIAL ROME, introduction and Book 15.37-44 (= Chapter 14 in the Penguin translation); with % M. Cary and H. Scullard, HISTORY OF ROME, 3rd ed., chapters 30-36 [general background].

What do Tacitus' observations reveal about Roman attitudes toward the Hebraic Community and the separatists?

PREPARING REPORTS (OR, WHAT AM I GOING
TO DO WITH ALL THIS STUFF?)

1. All works cited in the compendium of report topics are available in the Memorial Library. Additional copies of some works are available in other libraries on campus, including the Reserve Collection in H.C. White no. 1191. Start your search for books on the second floor of the Memorial Library, where there is a central catalogue for the entire library system, and an extra copy of the Reserve Collection's catalogue.
2. The readings for your topic are difficult and sometimes voluminous. Read selectively. Try to make an outline of your topic as soon as possible. You can revise your outline later, after you have done further readings. Your report should be an informal presentation of your topic, rather than a definitive statement. If your report involves the consideration of ancient texts, please bring the texts to class when you give your talk. Take about half of an hour to present your talk, so that there can be time for questions after your presentation.

WHAT IN THE %#@%##* IS A FIRST DRAFT?

The first draft of the term paper should be a preliminary version, WRITTEN IN COMPLETE SENTENCES, of your term paper. Try to keep the first version brief; the suggested maximum size is 10 pages. This version and the final version may be typed, printed or (if I can read your writing) handwritten. In the first draft, make sure to set forth in complete form the path of investigation you intend to pursue. If you have already solved some of the questions you posed at the beginning of your investigation, write your solutions and cite (in footnote form) the sources you consulted. If you have posed questions but not yet found the time to look for a solution, discuss these unsolved puzzles and indicate the sources you intend to consult during future research. A list of sources at the end of the paper will be a necessary part of your second draft, and an optional part of your first draft.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

All Ancient History
Courses

Mr. Clover

A MANUAL OF SURVIVAL FOR TERMPAPER WRITERS

1. Acquaint yourself with the resources of the Memorial Library and the College Library (H.C. White Hall).
2. While you are doing research on your term paper topic, distinguish between ancient evidence (literary works, physical remains, etc.) and modern criticism of the ancient evidence. Try to find more than one source for your topic. Pursue your sources actively; ask questions and formulate your own opinions about controversial matters.
3. Make sure that the term paper you hand in to your instructor reads well. Keep a good English dictionary at hand while you are writing. A good summary of proper English style is the latest edition of W. Strunk and E. B. White's THE ELEMENTS OF STYLE (Macmillan paperback); this work is available at or can be ordered from the bookstores. Copies are available in the Reserve Collection, H.C. White no. 1191. If you would like some help organizing your ideas for your paper, or some constructive criticism of a draft of your paper, arrange to see a Writing Lab instructor. The Writing Lab is located in 6171 H.C. White Hall.
4. Give credit to authors from whose works you extract information and ideas. Cite the authors who provide you with specific ideas and information in footnotes appended to the text of your paper. In addition, place at the end of your paper an alphabetized list of all works you have cited in the footnotes. N.B. Such a list of references is not a bibliography, which is a complete list of all known works in a given field. Adopt and use consistently any system of citation. The latest edition of K. L. Turabian, A MANUAL FOR WRITERS OF TERMPAPERS, THESES AND DISSERTATIONS (University of Chicago Press/Phoenix Paperback) is a convenient manual of style; this work is also available at or can be ordered from the bookstores. Copies are available on reserve, in H.C. White no. 1191.
5. Write your term paper for a general reader who knows little about your subject. If you do so, you will explain your topic more thoroughly.
6. If you elect to write a two-stage term paper, pay attention to the instructor's comments on the first draft, but be your own judge when you make changes. You are the author of your paper.