


# TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY ANTISEMITISM AND ITS ORIGINS



SLLL-Senior Scholars  
February 4 – March 3, 2019

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Feb 4 – Greco-Roman Roots

Feb 11 – The Theological Angle

**Feb 18 – Folk Superstition and  
Economics**

Feb 25 – From Religion to Race

Mar 3 – White Nationalism and White Supremacy

# Synagoga and Ecclesia





# The Crusades



Peter the Hermit and the “Peasant’s Crusade”

# Cluniac Reforms (c. 950–c.1130)

Benedictine Abbey of Cluny in Burgundy spearheaded a series of revivalist reforms within Western monasticism focusing on reenergizing traditional monastic life through art and music. It also urged pilgrimages to the Holy Lands.

One impetus was corruption within the Church, especially the control of monastic property by lay landowners. In contrast, Cluniac monasteries were to report directly to the pope rather than to a local lord. By the twelfth century the Congregation of Cluny included more than a thousand monasteries and was the largest religious movement in Europe.





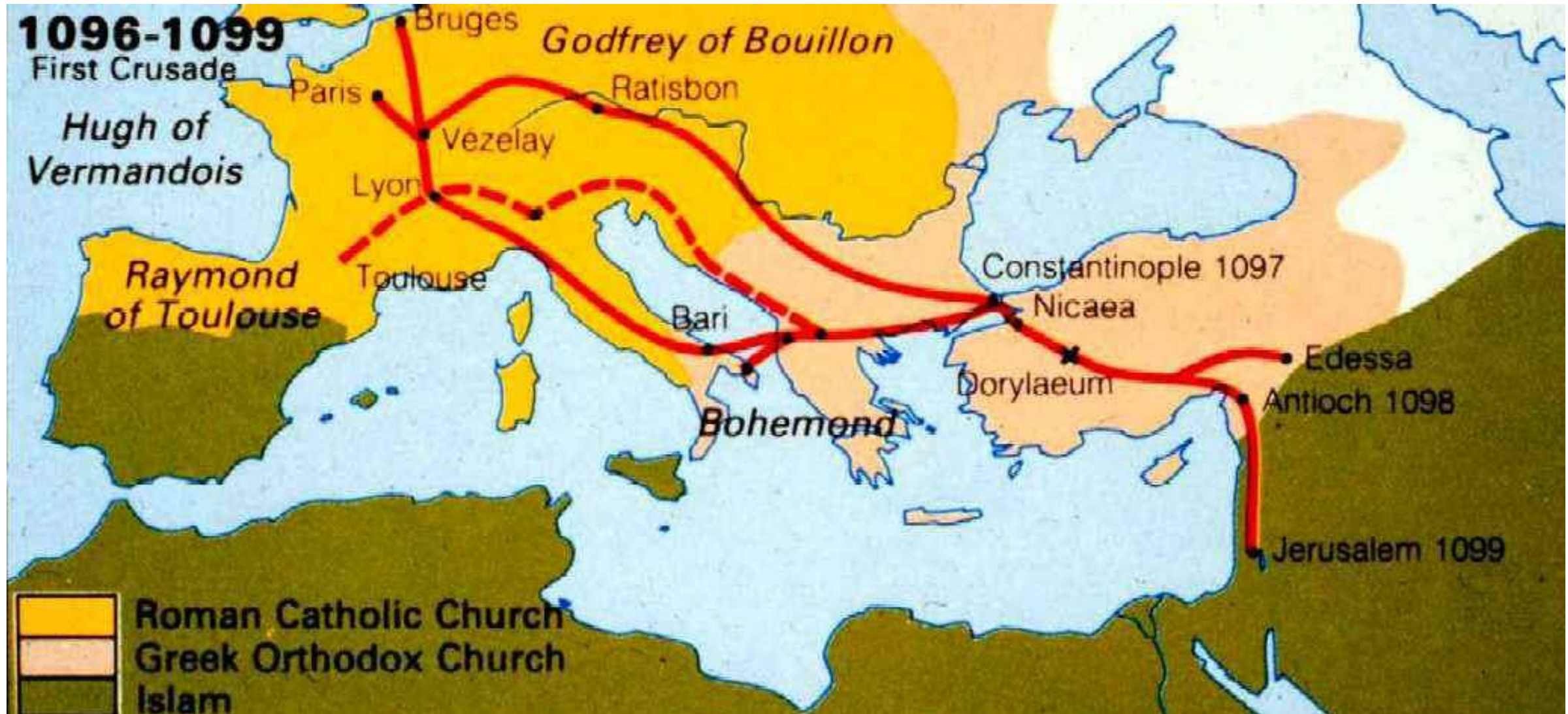
# The First Crusade Preached

In November 1095, Pope Urban II convened the Council of Clermont where ambassadors from the Byzantine emperor Alexius I Comnenus, were welcomed as they asked for help against the Muslims.





# First Crusade





# First Crusades and Local Jewish Communities

First, unofficial, Crusade led by Peter the Hermit. Was a mob of religious zealots.

Transversed Europe, pillaging and plundering as they went.

Rhineland especially hard hit

Jewish communities became targets. Some Jewish communities protected by local authorities





◆ Massacres of  
Jews  
1096 - 1102

~ River

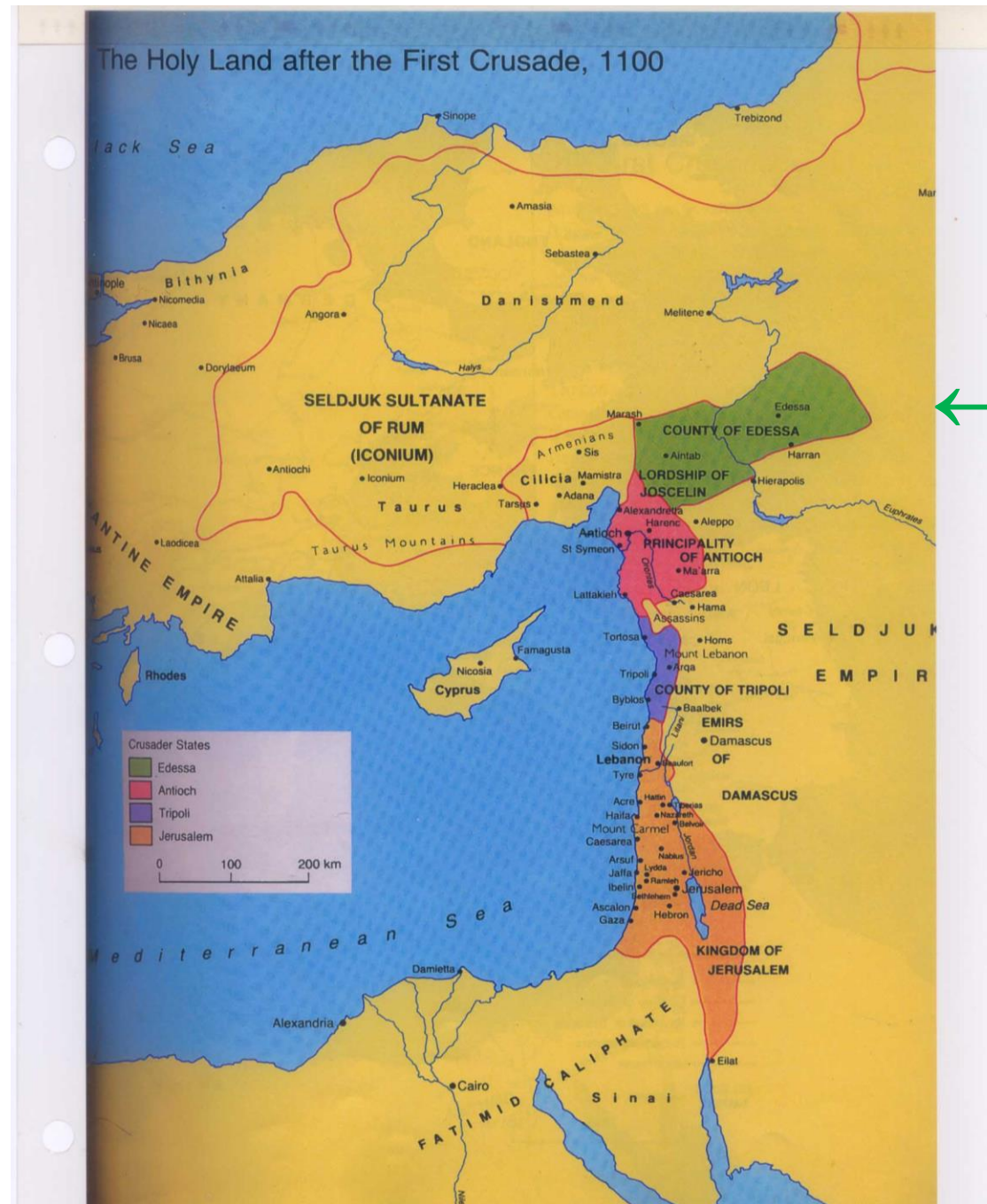




**The Crusaders taking Jerusalem in 1099 C.E.**



# Crusaders States



← County of Edessa

# Second Crusade (1145-1149)

- Started in response to the fall of the County of Edessa the previous year. This was the first Crusader state to be founded, by Baldwin of Boulogne.
- The crusade ended in defeat hastening the fall of Jerusalem and so the Third Crusade.
- Jews were largely protected. Bernard of Clairvaux forbid disturbing or killing Jews because in their dispersion they are living proof of the Passion and because they would ultimately be converted. The Bishop of Cologne actively protected the Jews and the council in Mainz decreed death penalty on those attacking Jews.





# Sicut Judaeis (ca. 1120)

- Papal Bull which proclaimed protection of Jews. It was prompted by attacks on Jews by the First Crusade. It forbade Christians, on pain of excommunication, from forcing Jews to convert, from harming them, from taking their property, from disturbing the celebration of their festivals, and from interfering with their cemeteries.
- Reaffirmed several times, by for example, Popes Alexander III, Celestine III (1191-1198), Innocent III (1199), Honorius III (1216), Gregory IX (1235), Innocent IV (1246), Alexander IV (1255), Urban IV (1262), Gregory X (1272 & 1274), Nicholas III, Martin IV (1281), Honorius IV (1285-1287), Nicholas IV (1288-92), Clement VI (1348), Urban V (1365), Boniface IX (1389), Martin V (1422), and Nicholas V (1447).

# Knights Templar

- Because many pilgrims were being killed, Hugues de Payens in 1118 founded a military order called the Poor Knights of the Temple of King Solomon. With the support of Baldwin II, King of Jerusalem, they set up headquarters on the sacred Temple.
- Gradually they set up a network of banks to allow pilgrims to deposit assets in their home countries and withdraw funds in the Holy Land. Along with donations and various business ventures, the Knights Templar became immensely wealthy.
- The Templars were noted for protecting Jews, to the point that it affected their reputation (mostly positively) with local Jews and (negatively) with the more antisemitic of their Christian neighbors.
- They were disbanded in 1312 after many of their leaders had been arrested and executed in France by King Philip.





# Third Crusade (1189-1192)

- Known as the **Kings' Crusade**.
- Attempt by European leaders to reconquer the Holy Land from Saladin (Salāh ad-Dīn Yūsuf ibn Ayyūb).
- It was partially successful, but failed to retake Jerusalem.
- Major attacks on Jews in England under Richard III. Lincoln Jewry protected.
- Also attacks in France



# Fourth Crusades

- Intended to conquer Jerusalem. Instead, in April 1204, the Crusaders conquered the great Christian city of Constantinople.
- Led to the final break (“Great Schism”) between the Eastern Orthodox Church and Roman Catholic Church.
- The crusaders did establish Latin Empire (1204–1261) in the lands they conquered.



Cook Island



# Execution of Albigensians -1209



The Albigensian Crusade was launched in 1209 to eliminate the heretical Cathars of Occitania (the south of modern-day France). It was a decade-long struggle that had as much to do with the concerns of northern France to extend its control southwards as it did with heresy. In the end, both the Cathars and the independence of southern France were exterminated.

-Wikipedia "*Crusades*"

# Later Crusades

Children's Crusade 1213?

Fifth Crusade 1217–1221

Sixth Crusade 1228–1229

Seventh Crusade 1248–1254

Eighth Crusade 1270

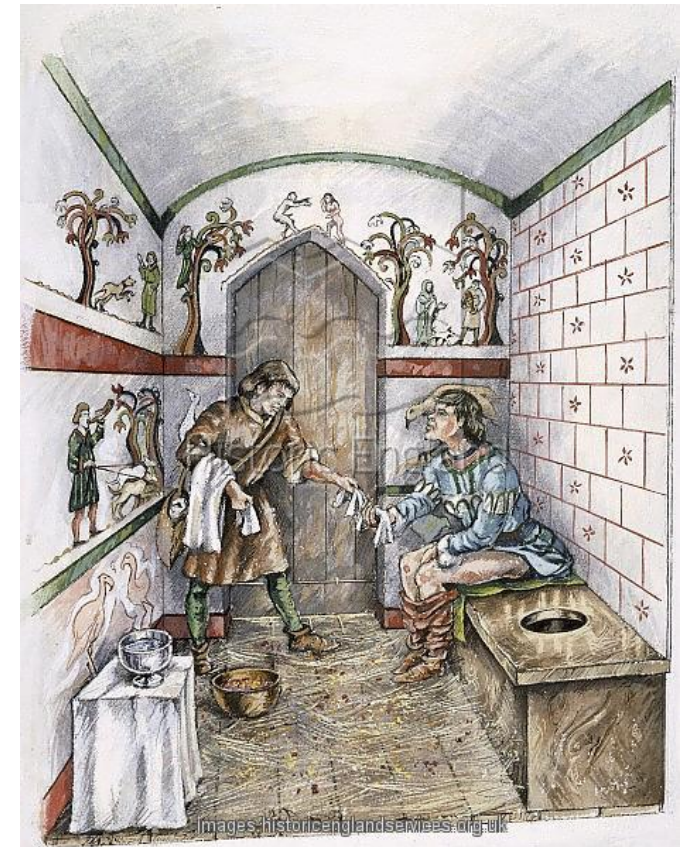
Ninth Crusade 1271–1272

Malta – establishment of the  
Hospitaller Regime (1530-31) which  
lasted until 1798





# Break Time



# Jew as Social and Religious Outcast





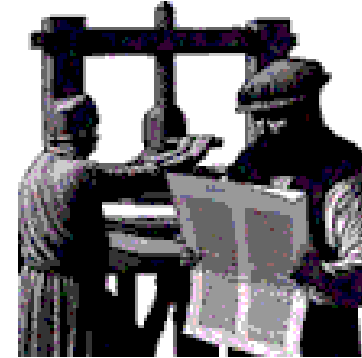
# Other Church Issues

1. HUNDRED YEAR'S WAR: In 1328, the French King, Charles IV, died without children. Edward III claimed the French throne, through his aunt. Fighting lasted 1337 to 1453
2. BLACK DEATH: In 1340's-50's killed an estimated 30%-60% of Europe's population
3. SPLIT PAPACY: In 1378, the King of France, not wanting an Italian pope, appointed his own and settled him in Avignon. Two popes ruled until 1418, when a single pope was decided upon in Rome.



# The Renaissance

- After the dislocations of the 100 Years' War, the Black Plague and the Great schism, European scholars became more independent of the Church.
  - Secular scholars began to learn Latin, Greek, Hebrew
  - Redistribution of wealth
  - -Growth of cities
  - Discovery of the New World
  - Printing (1440)



Dutch Humanist,  
Desiderius Erasmus, (1466-1536)



# Expulsions

1240 – Austria

1290, King Edward I expelled Jews from England; return legalized in 1656

1306-France

1348 Switzerland

1349-1350; 1360-1364 from Hungary

1394 - France

1421- Austria

1492 – Spain

1495 Lithuania

1597 Milan

1670- Vienna

1727 - Russia

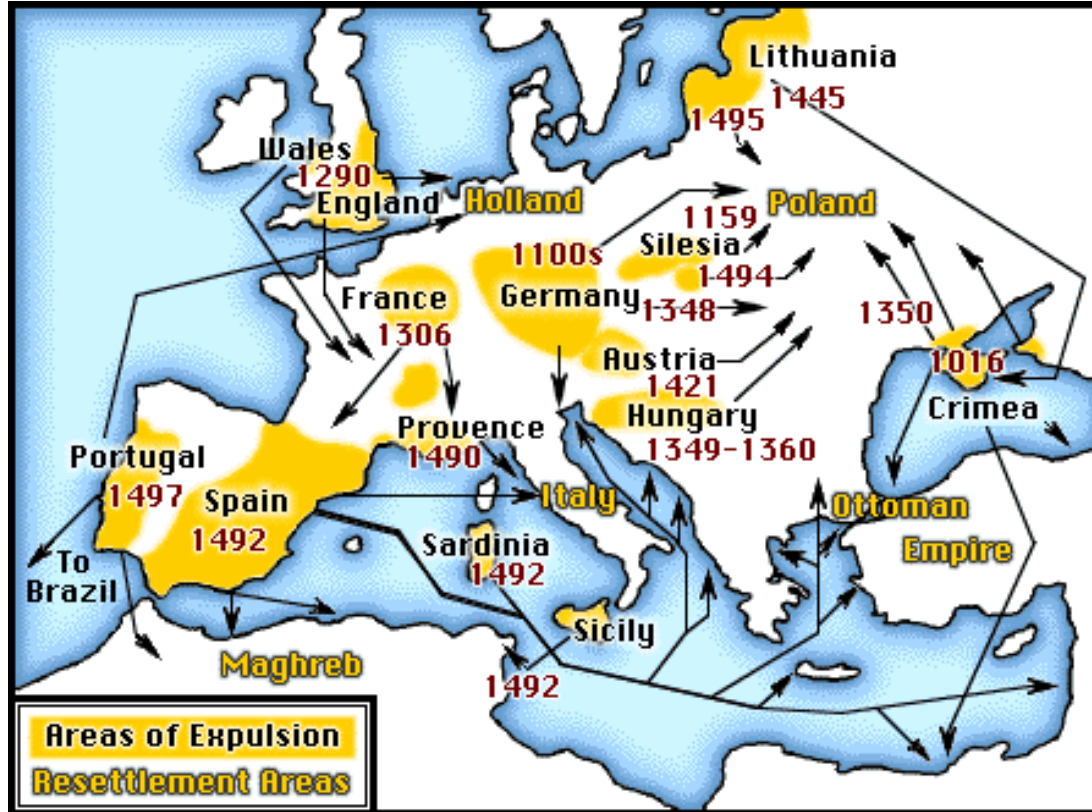
## Reasons

- religious purity,
- protection of Christian citizens from Jewish money lending
- pressures from competition

Holy Roman Emperor Louis VI in 1343, 'You belong to us, body and belongings, and we can dispose of them and do with you as we please'.



# Expulsions and Resettlements



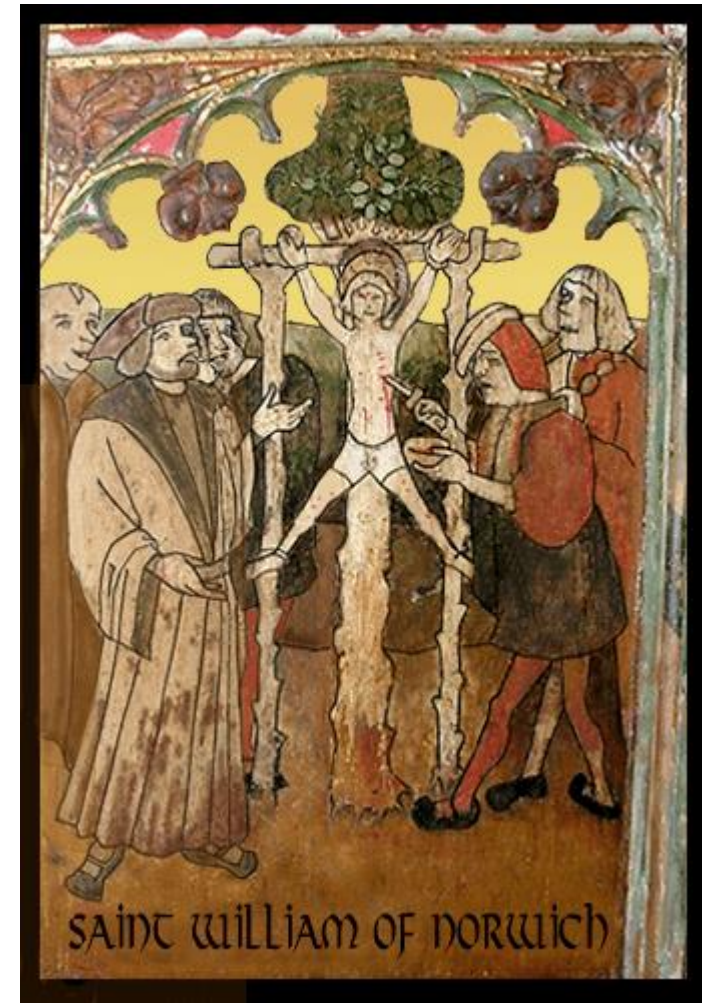
Legends of the “Wandering Jew”



# Blood Libel I – Norwich, England

In England in 1144, the Jews of Norwich were falsely accused of ritual murder after a boy, William of Norwich, was found dead with stab wounds in the woods. William's hagiographer, Thomas of Monmouth, falsely claimed that every year there is an international council of Jews at which they choose the country in which a child will be killed during Easter, because of a Jewish prophecy that states that the killing of a Christian child each year will ensure that the Jews will be restored to the Holy Land. In 1144, England was chosen, and the leaders of the Jewish community delegated the Jews of Norwich to perform the killing. They then abducted and crucified William. The legend was turned into a cult, with William acquiring the status of a martyr and pilgrims bringing offerings to the local church.

-- Wikipedia, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blood\\_libel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blood_libel)



# Blood Libel II -- Brussels

## The Stained Glass Windows of St Michael and St Gudula

The upper half of all six windows tell the story of the sacramental hosts stolen by Jews on Good Friday in 1370 and while being desecrated by daggers in a synagogue miraculously bled. The hosts were retrieved and six Jews were burned at the stake in the middle of the Grand Place while others were banned from Brussels forever. The Chapel of the Holy Sacrament was built to store these hosts plus other treasures. This 600-year-old story, conceived in days of extreme bigotry and persecution, is still popular today and the story and its associated miracles is celebrated annually at the cathedral on the Sunday following the 15th of July.



-- <https://crowcanyonjournal.wordpress.com/2013/08/21/the-stained-glass-windows-of-st-michael-and-st-gudula/>



# Book Burning

In 1236 a Jewish apostate, Nicholas Donin, submitted to Pope Gregory IX 35 charges against the Talmud, claiming that these impeded the conversion of Jews.

Pope Gregory ordered the confiscation of Jewish books on the first Saturday of Lent 1240 and ordered the heads of the Dominican and Franciscan Orders in Paris to burn "those books in which you find errors of this sort..."

Similar instructions were conveyed to the kings of France, England, Spain, and Portugal.

After the book burning, a public religious disputation between Jews and Christians was staged in Paris on June 25–27, 1240. The chief Jewish spokesman was R. Jehiel of Paris.

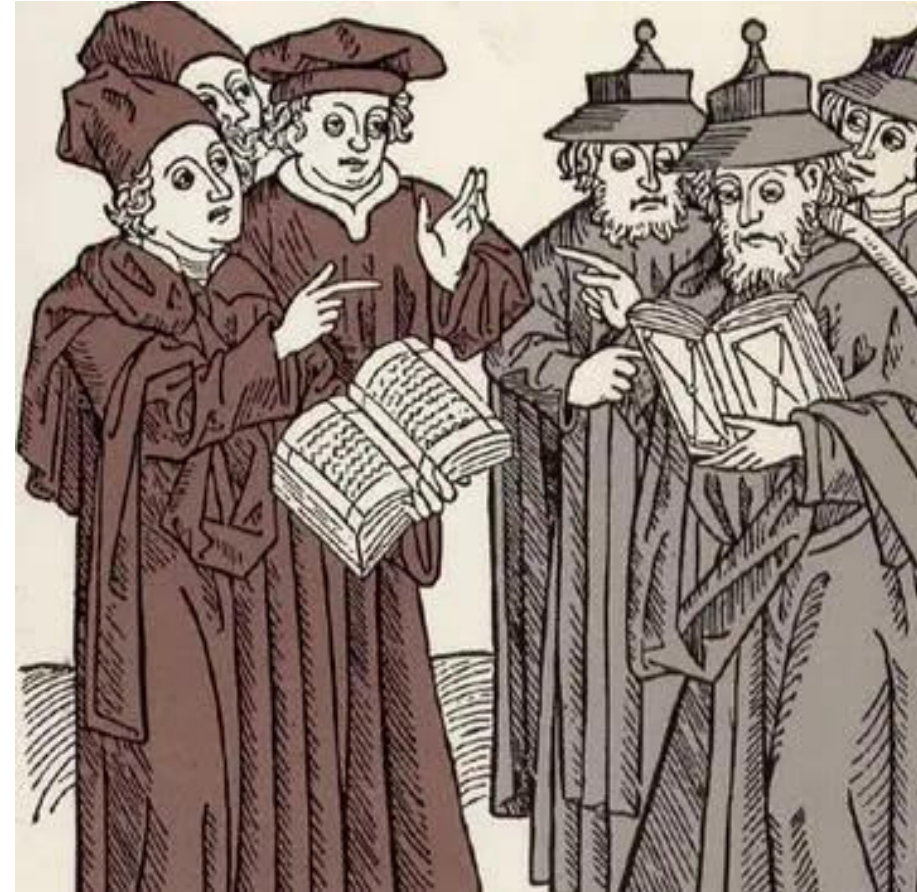
Subsequently an inquisitorial committee condemned the Talmud. In June 1242, 24 wagon loads of books totaling thousands of volumes were handed to the executioner for public burning.



-- edited from <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/burning-of-the-talmud>

# Medieval Disputations

- 1240 – Paris
- 1263 – Barcelona(Pablo Christiani vs Rabbi Moses ben Nahman)
- 1375 – Burgos
- 1413 – Tortosa
- In 1518 – several between Catholics and Lutherans





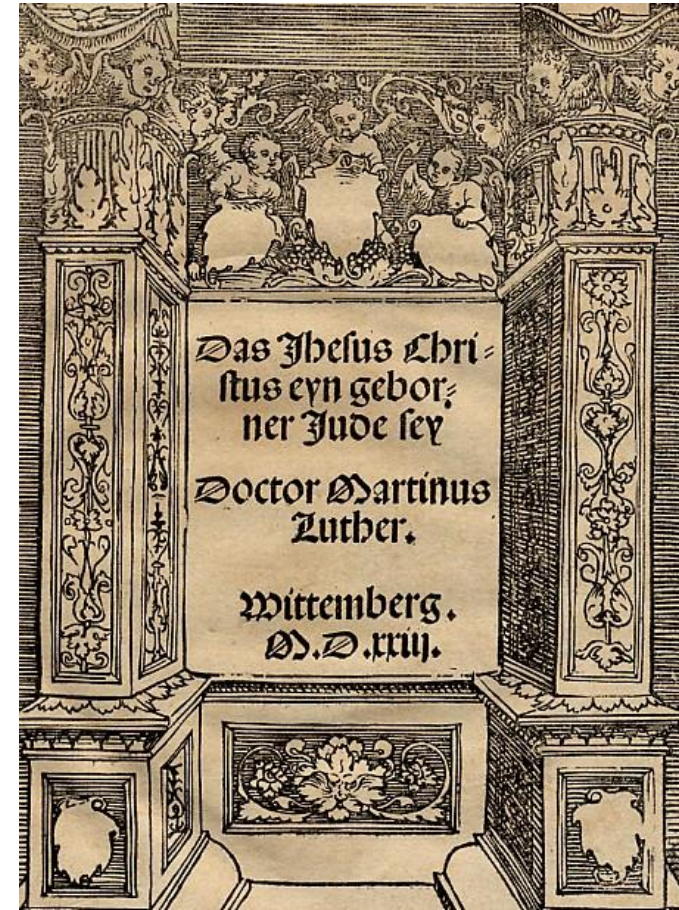
# Martin Luther



1483-1546

# Martin Luther, I “That Jesus Christ was Born a Jew”

If I had been a Jew and had seen such dolts and blockheads govern and teach the Christian faith, I would sooner have become a hog than a Christian. They have dealt with the Jews as if they were dogs rather than human beings; they have done little else than deride them and seize their property. When they baptize them they show them nothing of Christian doctrine or life, but only subject them to popishness and monkery ... If the apostles, who also were Jews, had dealt with us Gentiles as we Gentiles deal with the Jews, there would never have been a Christian among the Gentiles ... When we are inclined to boast of our position [as Christians] we should remember that we are but Gentiles, while the Jews are of the lineage of Christ. We are aliens and in-laws; they are blood relatives, cousins, and brothers of our Lord. Therefore, if one is to boast of flesh and blood the Jews are actually nearer to Christ than we are ... If we really want to help them, we must be guided in our dealings with them not by papal law but by the law of Christian love. We must receive them cordially, and permit them to trade and work with us, that they may have occasion and opportunity to associate with us, hear our Christian teaching, and witness our Christian life. If some of them should prove stiff-necked, what of it? After all, we ourselves are not all good Christians either.[1523]





# Martin Luther, “The Jews and Their Lies” II

- What shall we Christians do with this rejected and condemned people, the Jews? Since they live among us, we dare not tolerate their conduct, now that we are aware of their lying and reviling and blaspheming. If we do, we become sharers in their lies, cursing and blasphemy. Thus we cannot extinguish the unquenchable fire of divine wrath, of which the prophets speak, nor can we convert the Jews. With prayer and the fear of God we must practice a sharp mercy to see whether we might save at least a few from the glowing flames. We dare not avenge ourselves. Vengeance a thousand times worse than we could wish them already has them by the throat. I shall give you my sincere advice:



# Martin Luther, “The Jews and Their Lies” III

- First to set fire to their synagogues or schools and to bury and cover with dirt whatever will not burn, so that no man will ever again see a stone or cinder of them. This is to be done in honor of our Lord and of Christendom, so that God might see that we are Christians, and do not condone or knowingly tolerate such public lying, cursing, and blaspheming of his Son and of his Christians. For whatever we tolerated in the past unknowingly and I myself was unaware of it will be pardoned by God. But if we, now that we are informed, were to protect and shield such a house for the Jews, existing right before our very nose, in which they lie about, blaspheme, curse, vilify, and defame Christ and us (as was heard above), it would be the same as if we were doing all this and even worse ourselves, as we very well know.



# Coming Next: Scientific Racism

