

Problem Statement and Working Bibliography



Jonathan Esterman MDiv

DMin 723: Developing a Topic for Research

Portland Seminary

Dr. Loren Kerns

June 25, 2017

Contents

Topic.....	3
Problem.....	3
Story	3
Research Question	3
Working Hypothesis	3
Intended Outcome.....	4
Artifact.....	4
Bibliography	5

YidBrik



Building Jewish Bridges

Topic

I am studying the divide between the Jewish and Christian faiths and the formation a bridge of shalom and understanding between these historically-opposed groups.

Problem

There is a deep divide of misunderstanding and feeling of mistrust between the Jewish people and Christianity as a whole.

Story

James is a millennial and just of off the phone with his parents. *“James, you’re Jewish.”*

This angered him. They kept it secret from him out of fear of anti-Semitic actions toward him. After all, they justified, he is a Christian and attending church. He did not understand this logic, but discovered that their fear was not an isolated struggle. Upon showing up impromptu to a synagogue service near where he lived, he entered the sanctuary to find a seat and was surprised when, moments later, police arrived and arrested him on-site, reading him his rights and the charge of disturbing the peace due to hate crimes related to antisemitism. What he did not know at the time was the fear of his parents is a widespread truth within the Jewish community, resultant of the perceived intentionally collaborated and planned extermination of the Jewish people by Christians as a whole.

Research Question

How can Jews and Christians forge a theologically practical solution to enable them to resolve differences to offer a unified salvific solution?

Working Hypothesis

A co-led “bridge ministry” can address misunderstandings and conflicting theologies to find an amenable solution that is holistically biblical and consistent.

Intended Outcome

Jews and Christians have mutually-beneficial relationships and projects, such as lifelong education and mercy ministries, which benefit both groups to bring about tikkun olam.

Artifact

Website, including articles, blog, resources, and co-led “pod-blog” to answer theological questions via semiotic analysis, as a groundwork for a unifying theological framework.



Bibliography

- Burns, Joshua Ezra. "The Dissociation of Judaism and Christianity in the Roman near East, First to Third Centuries C.E.: Historical Sources and Interpretation." PhD Dissertation, Yale University, 2010.
- Cohen, Abraham. *Everyman's Talmud: The Major Teachings of the Rabbinic Sages*. New York: Random House, 1995.
- Donin, Hayim. *To Be a Jew: A Guide to Jewish Observance in Contemporary Life*. New York: Basic Books, 1991.
- Dosick, Wayne. *Living Judaism: The Complete Guide to Jewish Belief, Tradition, and Practice*. New York: HarperOne, 2010.
- Ehrman, Bart D. "The History of the Bible: The Making of the New Testament Canon." DVD. Chantilly, VA: Teaching Co., 2005.
- . *Misquoting Jesus: The Story Behind Who Changed the Bible and Why*. New York: HarperCollins, 2005.
- . *Jesus, Interrupted: Revealing the Hidden Contradictions in the Bible (and Why We Don't Know About Them)*. New York: HarperOne, 2009.
- . *Forged: Writing in the Name of God - Why the Bible's Authors Are Not Who We Think They Are*. New York: HarperOne, 2011.
- . *How Jesus Became God: The Exaltation of a Jewish Preacher from Galilee*. New York, NY: HarperOne, 2015.
- . *Jesus before the Gospels: How the Earliest Christians Remembered, Changed, and Invented Their Stories of the Savior*. New York: HarperOne, 2016.
- Fiddes, P. S. . "The Hiddenness of Wisdom in the Old Testament and Later Judaism." PhD Dissertation, University of Oxford, 1976.
- Kaplan, Aryeh , Pinchas Stolper, and Berel Wein. *The Real Messiah?: A Jewish Response to Missionaries*. Toronto: Jews for Judaism, 2004.
- Kaplan, Aryeh and Abraham Sutton. *The Handbook of Jewish Thought*. Vol. 1. Brooklyn, NY: Moznaim Publishing Corporation, 1979.

———. *The Handbook of Jewish Thought*. Vol. 2. Brooklyn, NY: Moznaim Publishing Corporation, 1979.

Kelemen, Lawrence. *Permission to Believe*. Southfield, MI: Targum/Feldheim, 1990.

———. *Permission to Receive: Four Rational Approaches to the Torah's Divine Origin*. Southfield, MI: Targum, 1996.

Leggett, Katie Rebecca. "Reconsidering Otherness in the Shadow of the Holocaust: Some Proposals for Post-Holocaust Ecclesiology." PhD Dissertation, The University of Edinburgh, 2015.

Shelton, R. Larry. "Relational Atonement: Covenant Renewal as a Wesleyan Integrating Motif." Faculty Publication, Portland Seminary, 2008.
<http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/gfes/5>.

Singer, Tovia. "Let's Get Biblical." Cassette Tape. Monsey, NY: Outreach Judaism, 2001.

Tapper, Aaron J. Hahn. *Judaisms: A Twenty-First-Century Introduction to Jews and Jewish Identities*. Oakland: University of California Press, 2016.

Telushkin, Joseph. *A Code of Jewish Ethics*. New York: Bell Tower, 2006.

———. *Jewish Literacy: The Most Important Things to Know About the Jewish Religion, Its People, and Its History*. Revised ed. New York: William Morrow, 2008.

Vevle, Ole Made Sirks. "Resident Proselytes, God-Fearers and the Noahide Laws. Making a Case for an Identification between the Ger Toshav in Traditional Judaism and the Sebomenos Ton Theon in Hellenistic Literature." PhD Dissertation, The University of Bergen, 2013.