

## FLAVIUS JOSEPHUS

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As said elsewhere, people happily believe the stories about the ancients. They gladly accept the history of Alexander the Great who died over 300 years before the birth of Christ and agree that Alexander was a homosexual and said certain things which no one seems to doubt. We read about the exploits of Julius Caesar and no one seems to doubt that when looking at the shores of Britain he said, "I came, I saw and I conquered". This was about 44 years before the birth of Christ and people accept this.

But when it comes to the accounts of the life of Christ, people cast doubts upon everything about His life, whereas they do not doubt or question the actions or the sayings of Alexander, Caesar and others.

People say that the only evidence of the existence of Christ is in the Gospels and a reference in Josephus.

But this is not true. It is completely untrue!

There are Roman, Jewish and Greek records which testify to His miracles, although they do not state that they believed in them, and His death is recorded in these many secular records and some refer to His being seen after His resurrection. Roman records give details about the trial of Jesus which details are not recorded anywhere else. They also confirm that 40 days after the Resurrection 3000 Jews were converted on the Day of Pentecost when these Jews admitted that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God whereas only weeks earlier they had shouted, "Crucify Him!".

(See article [Eye Witnesses to Jesus Christ](#))

There is the Didache, Roman historians Cornelius Tacitus, Lucien of Samasota, the letter of Pontius Pilate and many other non-Christians and secular writings and records. But commentators, writers and others fail to tell us this showing that they are biased.

(See article [The Didache](#)).

Josephus was born in Jerusalem around 37 AD and came from a priestly family. There are debates as to what Jewish sect he belonged to but this is written to distract us from his work. He was a brilliant scholar and committed to accuracy and, in many cases, that accuracy has been proved.

He went to Rome to plead with Nero to release several Jewish priests. He was shipwrecked and, back at home, he found a group of Jewish rebels wanting to fight the Romans who were occupying their land. Josephus joined these revolutionaries but, in 67, they had to surrender to Vespasian's troops. There are stories that the rebels had a lottery for a suicide pact presumably to escape capture, humiliation and execution at the enemies hands. Josephus escaped the suicide lottery and some people insist that this story is exaggerated to make Josephus more important.

He was taken to Rome and appeared before Vespasian and began to work for the Romans. The Jews called him a traitor but he set about writing a history of the Jews. He wrote with proven accuracy about how Rome captured Judea and described Jerusalem in great detail which archaeologists have proved to be absolutely accurate.

At one stage in his writings, Josephus refers to Jesus as the so-called Messiah but then states that He is the Messiah, a wise man, if it is lawful to call Him (just a) man, a doer of wonderful works, a teacher of such men as receive the truth who drew to Himself many Jews and Gentiles. He was the Christ and Pilate condemned Him to the Cross and He appeared to His followers alive on the third day.

Josephus also writes briefly about John the Baptist.

Josephus was not a Christian but he was a reliable historian.

People who believe the ancient stories and writings about Alexander and Caesar (and others) invent stories to discredit what Josephus wrote about Christ. Some claim that Christians inserted these comments about Christ into Josephus work, but offer no explanation as to how it could be done.

So Josephus and Christ are ridiculed. It is part of a worldwide continuous plot to use any means to deny the existence of Christ. If we speak against homosexuals we are called homophobic or if we speak against Mohammed or the Muslim faith we are called Islam-phobic but people can, and do speak against Christ and persecute Him and His disciples.

Even when further evidence of Josephus historical accuracy came into being, the Christ-haters produced all sorts of inventions to disapprove it.

Doubts had been cast upon the city of Masada about which Josephus wrote. Historians and archaeologists said this city never existed.

But this city was discovered at the end of the twentieth century, whereas for centuries it had been claimed to be a myth. Although Josephus said that the fortified walls were of marble, since he was writing this in Rome where marble spoke of opulence, he was trying to show that opulence was the means by which Masada, the city in the desert, was built.

So Josephus had been, and often still is, claimed to be a fraud and a writer of sensationalism and exaggeration and that he did not write about Jesus the Messiah and yet his descriptions of Jerusalem and Masada has been proved to be accurate. And it has to be stressed again that there are many other writings that testify about the life of Christ.

People accept that Josephus was born in Jerusalem of a priestly family, was shipwrecked, joined the Jewish revolutionaries, had a lottery about a suicide pact, went to Rome and worked for the Romans but they balk at his account of Christ. This is selectiveness and prejudice.

Historians and archaeologists said that the Philistine did not exist and that, as Goliath was a Philistine, he did not exist. But excavations proved that the race of the Philistines did exist.

I hate to use the expression but there is a lot of Christ-bashing going on and people are telling lies.

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