

The Catholic View of Judaism



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Introduction

Many modern Christians use the Bible to claim the Jews are the “chosen people of God”.

They typically refer to these verses:

Genesis 12:3 (I will bless those that bless you, and curse him that curse you)

Genesis 26:4 (I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and will give them all these lands)

Deuteronomy 14:2 (For you are a holy people unto the LORD your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a special people, above all the nations that are upon the earth)

Leviticus 20:26 (I have set you apart from the nations to be my own.)

In other words, their evidence that Jews are the “chosen people” comes from books written by Jewish authors...

By contrast, Jesus claimed God was the Father of ALL people and ALL nations.

Before Jesus was killed for criticizing Judaism, He created the Catholic Church to spread His message.

Many of the Early Church Fathers, Doctors of the Church, and Popes were also critical of the Jewish people.

For example, Catholic theologian St. Thomas Aquinas wrote “Jews, by reason of their fault, are sentenced to perpetual servitude” in his letter to Margaret of Flanders from 1271.

Many modern Catholics are unaware of Church history though and have been fooled into the “chosen people” myth.

Therefore, Jett & Jahn Media has created “The Catholic View Of Judaism” series.

In the series, we will write articles that honor famous Catholics who have spread the truth about Judaism.

(All of the sources we will use are from well documented academic books and articles. If you doubt any claim we make, we welcome you to look it up for yourself)

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Saint Hippolytus

“The Expository Treatise Against Jews”



Saint Hippolytus was born in 170 A.D in Rome, Italy and became a Catholic priest and scholar.

He is recognized as an Early Church Father for his influence on the Catholic religion. In his writing, he claimed Jews face a “myriad of troubles” as God’s punishment for murdering Jesus.

In “The Expository Treatise Against The Jews”, he declared: “Now, then, incline your ear to me, and hear my words, and give heed, you Jew. Many a time do you boast yourself, in that you condemned Jesus of Nazareth to death”.

The entire source can be found on the Catholic website, NewAdvent.org (<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/0503.htm>).

In 235, Saint Hippolytus was arrested and executed by the Roman Emperor Maximinus Thrax. He is honored as a martyr for the Catholic faith.

Origen Adamantius

“Contra Celsus”



Origen Adamantius was born in 185 A.D. in Alexandria, Egypt and became a Catholic priest and scholar. He is recognized as an Early Church Father for his influence on the Catholic religion.

He is recognized as an Early Church Father for his influence on the Catholic religion. In his writing, he claimed Jews are a “most wicked nation”, punished for their sins “committed against our Jesus”.

In Chapter 9 of Book 2 in “Contra Celsus”, he declared:

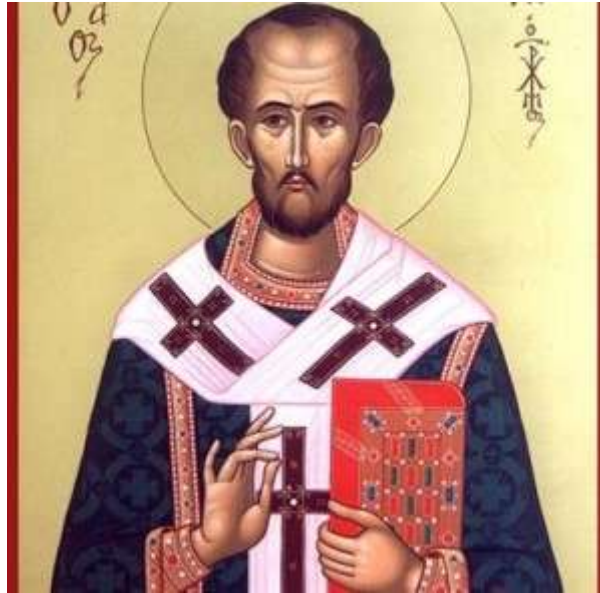
“On account of their unbelief and other insults which they heaped upon Jesus, the Jews will not only suffer more than others in the judgment which is believed to impend over the world, but have even already endured such sufferings.” The entire source is posted on the Catholic website, NewAdvent.org.

(<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/04162.htm>)

In 250, Origen was arrested and tortured by the Roman Emperor Gaius Messius Quintus Decius. He died three years later but his writing had a significant impact on Christianity.

Saint John Chrysostom

“The Eight Homilies Against Jews”



Saint John Chrysostom was born in 347 in Antioch, Turkey and became a Catholic priest and scholar. In 397, he was appointed Archbishop of Constantinople.

He is recognized as a Doctor of the Church for his contributions to Catholic theology. He is widely known for “The Eight Homilies Against Judaizing Christians”.

In part three of the first homily, he explained: “The Jews say that they, too, adore God. God forbid that I say that. No Jew adores God! Who say so? The Son of God say so. For He said: “If you were to know my Father, you would also know me. But you neither know me nor do you know my Father”. Could I produce a witness more trustworthy than the Son of God?”

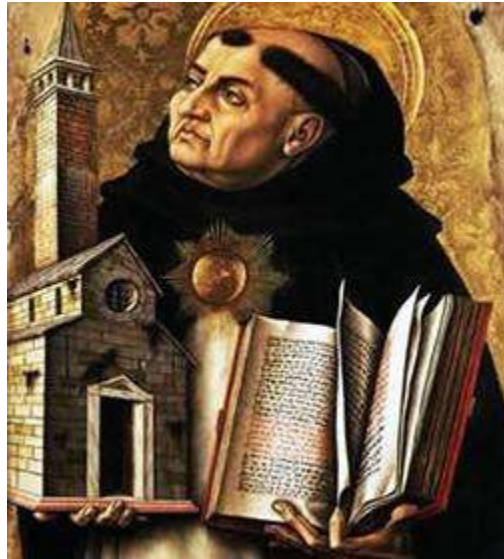
The entire source is posted on the Fordham University website, Fordham.edu.

(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/chrysostom-jews6-homily1.asp>)

In 405, Saint John Chrysostom was arrested and exiled by Byzantine Empress Aelia Eudoxia. He died two years later but was given the Greek name “chrysostomos”, (English: Golden mouthed). Saint John Chrysostom is widely recognized as “the greatest preacher in the early church”.

Saint Thomas Aquinas

The Letter On Treatment of Jews



Saint Thomas Aquinas was born in 1225 in Roccasecca, Italy and became a Catholic priest and scholar. He is recognized as a Doctor of the Church for his contributions to Catholic theology.

From 1265-1272, he wrote "*Summa Theologica*" to summarize and explain the teachings of the Catholic Church.

In 1271, Countess Margaret of Flanders wrote him a letter and requested political advice. She wanted to know the Catholic view of the Jewish people.

In response, Saint Thomas Aquinas wrote :

"Jews by reason of their fault are sentenced to perpetual servitude" for killing Jesus.

He also claimed "Jews may not keep those things which they have extorted from others through usury".

He added "the Jew should be punished with a greater fine than anyone else in a similar case."

Later in the letter, he wrote “Jews of each sex in all Christian provinces, and all the time, should be distinguished from other people by some clothing.”

(In other words, Saint Thomas Aquinas supported forcing Jews to wear badges...
Sound familiar?)

The entire source is posted on the Catholic website, Thomistica.net.

(<http://thomistica.net/letter-to-margaret-of-flanders/>)

After Saint Thomas Aquinas died in 1274, he was given the Latin name Doctor Angelicus (the Angelic Doctor) and is widely considered the greatest philosopher and theologian of the Catholic Church.

Saint John Capistrano

His Crusade Against Judaism



Saint John of Capistrano was born in 1385 in Italy and became a Catholic priest and scholar.

From 1451 to 1453, he traveled throughout Europe preaching against Judaism and usury (money lending). His powerful speeches convinced many Catholics to expel Jews from their communities.

These facts are documented in a book published by The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies:

Schlomo Simonsohn, *The Apostolic See and the Jews*. (Toronto, The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, 1991), 219-220

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

In 1456, he led a successful Crusade against the Ottoman Empire (he was 70 years old at the time). After he died later that year of the bubonic plague, he became known as the "Soldier Saint".

King Charlemagne

“Capitulary for the Jews”



Charlemagne was the German King that spread Catholicism and is widely recognized as the “father of Europe”.

In 800 A.D., Pope Leo III crowned Charlemagne the Emperor of Rome which created the Holy Roman Empire.

In 814, King Charlemagne (German: Karl der Grosse) took a firm stand against money lending and created the Capitulary for the Jews.

This collection of laws influenced the financial policy and economic structure of Europe throughout the Middle Ages.

The first law threatened to cut off the right hand of any Jew who loaned money and collected debt from the Church or Catholics. The second law erased any debt that existed between Jews and Catholics. The third law prohibited Jews to sell wine, grain, or other commodities at their home and threatened confiscation and imprisonment for any violations of this rule.

The fourth law included the oath Jews must take to do any business in the Empire, which states "May the God who gave the law to Moses on Mount Sinai help me, and may the leprosy of Naamon the Syrian come upon me as it came upon him, and may the earth swallow me as it swallowed Dathan and Abiron, I have not committed evil against you in this cause."

The entire source is posted on the Fordham University website, Fordham.edu.

(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/814capitul-jews.asp>)

For the next one thousand years, the German kings were crowned Holy Roman Emperor by the pope and protected the European economy from Jewish usury.

Pope Gregory I

Papal Policy Toward Judaism



Saint Gregory the Great was born in Rome, Italy in 540 and became a Catholic priest and scholar.

In 590, he was elected pope and wrote over 800 letters expressing various observations and thoughts about the Church.

Saint Gregory the Great mentioned Jews in 30 of those letters:

He described Jews as “wicked”, “deceitful”, “superstitious”, “vomit”, and “eternally doomed”. He claimed they were “enemies of Christ”

These facts are documented in a book published by The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies:

Schlomo Simonsohn, *The Apostolic See and the Jews*. (Toronto, The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, 1991), 10.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

Saint Gregory the Great died in 604 but many future popes followed his example and criticized Judaism.

Pope Innocent III

Etsi non Displaceat (Though I Should Not)



Pope Innocent III was born in 1160 in Gavignano, Italy. He became a Catholic priest and scholar and was elected as Pope in 1198. In 1205, Pope Innocent III criticized the Jews in *Etsi non Displaceat* (Though I Should Not...).

This Papal bull (law) accused Jews of arrogance, money lending for profit, and blasphemy. He also claimed Jews were punished with “perpetual servitude” for killing Jesus.

These facts are documented in a book published by The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies:

Schlomo Simonsohn, *The Apostolic See and the Jews*. (Toronto, The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, 1991), 99.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

Pope Innocent III died in 1198 but is widely recognized as one of the most powerful and influential popes in the history of the Roman Catholic Church.

Pope Honorius III

Generali Concilio (General Council)



Pope Honorius III was born in 1148 in Rome, Italy. He became a Catholic priest and scholar and was elected as Pope in 1216.

In 1218, Pope Honorius III wrote *In Generali Concilio* (General Council):

The Papal bull (law) forced Jews to wear special clothing to distinguish themselves from Catholics. Jews were also forced to pay a special tax to their local Catholic church.

Later in 1221, he wrote *Ad Nostram Noveritis Audientiam* (To the hearing, know that...), which legally forbid Jews from holding public positions.

These facts are documented in a book written by author Michael C. Thomsett:

Michael C. Thomsett, *The Inquisition: A History*. (North Catholina, McFarland & Company, 2010), 118.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

Pope Gregory IX

Sufficere Debueret Perfidio (The Faithless Should Have Sufficient Work)



Pope Gregory IX was born around 1170 in Anagni, Italy. He became a Catholic priest and scholar and was elected as Pope in 1227.

In 1205, Pope Gregory IX criticized the Jews in *Sufficere Debuerat Perfidio* (The Faithless Should Have Sufficient Work). The Papal bull (law) prohibited Jews from hiring Christian servants to avoid manual labor. He reaffirmed the Catholic theory that Jews were punished with perpetual servitude for killing Jesus.

In 1239, he also wrote *Si Vera Sunt* (If They Are True...), which required that copies of the Jewish Talmud be confiscated and burned. The owners of the Talmud were also examined for blasphemy against Jesus.

These facts are documented in a book published by The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies:

Schlomo Simonsohn, *The Apostolic See and the Jews*. (Toronto, The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, 1991), 100.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

Pope Innocent IV

Impia Judeorum Perfidia (The Disrespectful, Deceitful Jews)



Pope Innocent IV was born in 1195 in Genoa, Italy. He became a Catholic priest and scholar and was elected as Pope in 1243.

In 1205, Pope Innocent IV wrote *Impia Judaeorum Perfidia* (The Disrespectful, Deceitful Jews).

The Papal bull (law) reaffirmed the restrictions on Jews implemented by Pope Gregory IX. The Jewish Talmud was banned and Jews were prohibited from hiring Catholics to avoid manual labor.

These facts are documented in a book published by The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies:

Schlomo Simonsohn, *The Apostolic See and the Jews*. (Toronto, The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, 1991), 306.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

Pope Eugene IV

Dundum ad Nostram Audientiam (To Our Hearing)



Pope Eugene IV was born in 1383 in Genoa, Italy. He became a Catholic priest and scholar and was elected as Pope in 1441.

In 1442, Pope Eugene IV wrote *Dundum ad Nostram Audientiam* (To Our Hearing...). The Papal bull (law) forced Jews to live in separate houses than Catholics and forbade Jews from holding public office.

These facts are documented in a book written by Michael C. Thomsett:

Michael C. Thomsett, *The Inquisition: A History*. (North Catholina, McFarland & Company, 2010), 118.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

Pope Nicholas V

Super Gregem Dominicum (Upon The Flock Of The Lord)



Pope Nicholas V was born in 1378 in Sarzana, Italy. He became a Catholic priest and scholar and was elected as Pope in 1455.

That same year, Pope Nicholas V wrote *Super Gregem Dominicum* (Upon the Flock of the Lord).

The Papal bull (law) made it illegal for Jews and Muslims to interact with Catholics. He also declared that any testimony of Jews or Muslims against Catholics was invalid.

These facts are documented in a book published by The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies:

Schlomo Simonsohn, *The Apostolic See and the Jews*. (Toronto, The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, 1991), 34.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

Pope Calixtus III

Si ad Reprimendos (If He Is Preventing...)



Pope Calixtus III was born in 1397 in Genoa, Italy. He became a Catholic priest and scholar and was elected as Pope in 1455.

The next year, Pope Calixtus III wrote *Si ad Reprimendos (If He Is Preventing...)*.

The Papal bull (law) reaffirmed the restrictions on Jews and Muslims implemented by Pope Gregory IX. Jews and Muslims were outlawed from interacting with Catholics and any legal testimony they offered against Catholics was invalid.

These facts are documented in a book published by The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies:

Schlomo Simonsohn, *The Apostolic See and the Jews*. (Toronto, The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, 1991), 35.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

Pope Sixtus IV

Numquam Dubitavimus (He Never Hesitated To...)



Pope Sixtus IV was born in 1414 in Celle Ligure, Italy. He became a Catholic priest and scholar and was elected as Pope in 1471.

In 1482, Pope Sixtus IV wrote *Numquam Dubitavimus* (He Never Hesitated To...).

The Papal bull (law) led to the Spanish Inquisition and the expulsion of Jews and Muslims from Spain.

These facts are documented in a book published by The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies:

Schlomo Simonsohn, *The Apostolic See and the Jews*. (Toronto, The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, 1991), 380.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

The Inquisition was unfortunate but provoked by Jews and Muslims taking advantage of Christians. It was necessary to protect European society from foreign influences.

Pope Paul IV

Cum Nimis Absurdum (Since It Is Absurd...)



Pope Paul IV was born in 1476 in Capriglia Irpina, Italy. He became a Catholic priest and scholar and was elected as Pope in 1555.

In 1555, Pope Paul IV wrote *Cum Nimis Absurdum* (Since It Is Absurd...).

The Papal bull (law) introduced severe religious and economic restrictions on Jews throughout Europe.

Pope Paul IV declared that Jews were sentenced to eternal slavery when they rejected and killed Christ. He also noted that the Church had allowed Jews to live among Catholics although they deserve to be slaves.

However, Pope Paul IV also recognized that Jews had taken advantage of Christian kindness. He claimed they were “without gratitude” and “claim superiority” over Catholics.

He declared “Jews have rudely invaded Rome” and interacted with Christians without wearing garments that identify them as Jews. He also claimed Jews had “conducted business”, “participated in real estate” hired Christian nurses and housemaids as servants, and a “wide variety of other dishonorable things”.

He claimed the “Church of Rome tolerates Jews” and explained “we hope to win them over with our kindness and generosity.” He hoped that “perhaps they will eventually recognize their erroneous ways and see truth of Catholic faith.”

Conversely, he believed Jews remain “slaves because of their immoral deeds” and claimed Catholics “have been freed by Jesus” and should never serve a Jew.



Then, Pope Paul IV explained a detailed plan to protect European culture from Jewish influences:

The first part of his plan required all Jews to live in one area of city, separate from Catholics. (In other words, the idea of the Jewish ghetto was actually invented by the Catholic Church)

The second allowed permitted only one synagogue per city.

The third forced Jewish men to wear yellow hats and Jewish women to wear a yellow scarf or patch.

The fourth made it illegal for Christian wet nurses to breastfeed Jewish babies.

The fifth made Jews follow the Sunday Sabbath.

The sixth outlawed Jewish testimony against any Catholic.

The seventh denied Jewish interaction with Catholics.

The eighth forced Jews to speak and write Latin.

The ninth part of his plan restricted Jews from participating in the trade and sale of food sources.

The tenth made it illegal for Jewish doctors to treat Catholics.

The eleventh instructed all Catholics to never greet any Jew with a formal greeting.

The twelfth introduced strict business restrictions and money lending regulations on the Jews.

The thirteenth gave Catholics legal privileges over Jews in all circumstances without exception.

The fourteenth explained that any failure to follow these rules will be treated as crime and punished by proper authorities on an individual basis.

The fifteenth revoked any privileges given to the Jews by previous any popes.

These facts are also documented in a book published by The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies:

Schlomo Simonsohn, *The Apostolic See and the Jews*. (Toronto, The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, 1991), 291.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

Pope Pius V

Cum nos Nuper (When We Recently...)



Pope Pius V was born in 1504 in Bosco Morengo, Italy. He became a Catholic priest and scholar and was elected as Pope in 1566.

The next year, Pope Pius V wrote *Cum nos Nuper* (When We Recently). The Papal bull (law) made it illegal for Jews to own real estate.

In 1569, he also wrote *Hebraeorum Gens* (Nation of the Hebrews), which accused Jews of immorality and ordered their expulsion from the Papal States.

These facts are documented in a book written by Michael C. Thomsett:

Michael C. Thomsett, *The Inquisition: A History*. (North Catholonia, McFarland & Company, 2010), 118.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

Pope Gregory XIII

Sancta Mater Ecclesiae (Holy Mother Of The Church)



Pope Gregory XIII was born in 1502 in Celle Ligure, Italy. He became a Catholic priest and scholar and was elected as Pope in 1572.

In 1482, Pope Gregory XIII wrote *Sancta Mater Ecclesiae* (Holy Mother of the Church). The Papal bull (law) created a program that required Jews to attend Church and listen to a conversion sermon every Saturday.

These facts are documented in a book published by The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies:

Schlomo Simonsohn, *The Apostolic See and the Jews*. (Toronto, The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, 1991), 38.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

Pope Clement VIII

Cum Sapae Accidere (When The Wine Was Boiled...)



Pope Clement VIII was born in 1536 in Fano, Italy. He became a Catholic priest and scholar and was elected as Pope in 1592.

That same year, Pope Clement VIII wrote *Cum Sapae Accidere* (When the Wine Was Boiled). The Papal bull (law) banned Jews from selling goods.

The next year he wrote *Caeca et Obdurata Hebraeorum perfidia* (Blinded and Hardened by the Deceitfulness of the Jews), which claimed the Jews used money lending to take advantage of the working class.

Later that year, he also wrote *Cum Haebraeorum Malitia* (When Jews Harm), which banned the Talmud and demanded that copies be confiscated and burned.

These facts are documented in a book written by Michael C. Thomsett:

Michael C. Thomsett, *The Inquisition: A History*. (North Catholina, McFarland & Company, 2010), 118.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

Pope Benedict XIV

Beatus Andreas (Blessed Andrew)



Pope Benedict XIV was born in 1675 in Bologna, Italy. He became a Catholic priest and scholar and was elected as Pope in 1740.

The next year, Pope Benedict XIV wrote *Beatus Andreas* (Blessed Andrew).

The Papal bull (law) declared that Jews carried out the ritual murder and blood sacrifice of Catholic children.

More specifically, he wrote the document in response to the death of Andreas of Rinn (German: Anderl Oxner von Rinn). He was a three-year old boy killed by Jews in the village of Rinn, Austria back in 1462.



Pope Benedict XIV claimed Jews commit these murders “out of hatred of Christ” and “out of hatred for the Christian faith”.

He also mentions what happens “when a case of this kind occurs, as it appears common with respect to a child who has been killed in Holy Week by Jews out of contempt toward Christ. The murders of the Blessed Simon and Blessed Andreas in particular are such, but so too are the murders of many which are listed by the authors. ”

The entire source is posted on the Catholic website, RomanCatholicism.org.

(<http://www.romancatholicism.org/beatius-andreas.htm/>)

These facts are documented in a book written by Michael C. Thomsett:

Michael C. Thomsett, *The Inquisition: A History*. (North Catholina, McFarland & Company, 2010), 118.

This source can be viewed for free on Google Books.

Conclusion

Modern Catholics & Judaism

The Catholic Church's ability to protect European culture was increasingly weakened following the Protestant Reformation.

Europe was divided and the Church gradually lost political power. The Catholic monopoly of religious authority was broken and the Church forced to share power with Lutherans, Anglicans, and Calvinists.

Modern Catholicism makes moral observations and gives spiritual advice but no longer has the political authority to protect the political, economic, and religious values of European society.

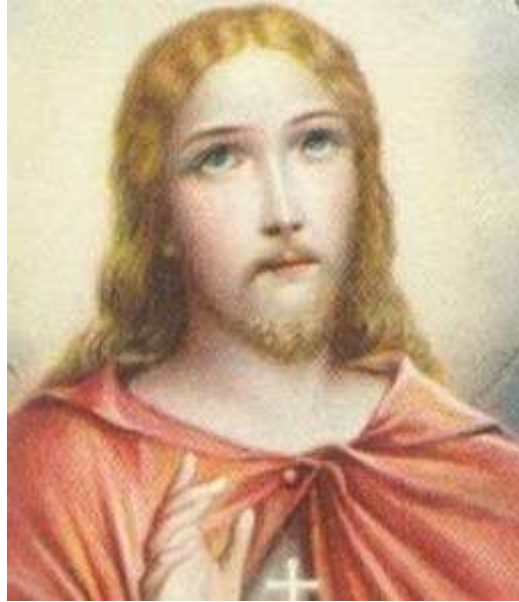
Following World War II, Church leaders wanted to distance themselves from the past and renounced several traditional teachings of Catholicism.

From 1962 to 1965, the Catholic Church held the Second Vatican Council. The purpose of the council was to examine the relationship between the Church and the modern world.

Nostra Aetate (In Our Age) was the Declaration on the Relation of the Church with Non-Christian Religions from the Second Vatican Council.

This document claimed that Jesus' death "cannot be charged against all the Jews, without distinction, then alive, nor against the Jews of today." It added that "Jews should not be presented as rejected or accursed by God"

In conclusion, the document declared that the Catholic Church "decries hatred, persecutions, displays of anti-Semitism, directed against Jews at any time and by anyone."



In other words, Church leaders wanted to stay relevant in the modern world and sacrificed the traditional beliefs of Catholicism.

Therefore, many modern Catholics do not know the true teachings of their Church.

As Catholic theologian St. Thomas Aquinas wrote “Jews, by reason of their fault, are sentenced to perpetual servitude” in his letter to Margaret of Flanders from 1271.

Therefore, Jett & Jahn Media created “The Catholic View Of Judaism” series to honor famous Catholics who have spread the truth about Judaism.

(All of the sources we used were from well documented academic books and articles. If you doubt any claim we make, we welcome you to look it up for yourself)