

How Early Christianity reacted to Sacrifice in Judaism
and Roman sacrificial rituals.

Abstract

Yumi Doi

This presentation will focus on sacrifice in the Early Christian community in the first century A.D. of the Roman Empire. In the earliest Christian community in Jerusalem there were already both Jews (who spoke Hebrew) and Gentiles (who spoke Greek). In addition, in the course of his missionary journeys, Paul encountered the various Gentiles who were Pagans within/outside Judea as the Acts says. Both Jews and Gentiles had Sacrifice rituals. In contrast early Christianity had no longer sacrificial rituals, but the Eucharist that could be interpreted as substitution for them. This change process will be analyzed minutely. Firstly, how did the people, who had converted from Judaism to Early Christianity, react to the Roman sacrificial rituals including animal sacrifices. Secondly, did the Gentile Christians carry out sacrificial rituals in the Jewish Jerusalem Temple? How did they begin to put sacrifice of the Eucharist in the Temple?

Literature:

1. Klauck, Hans-Josef, *Die religiöse Umwelt des Urchristentums / 1. Stadt- und Hausreligion, Mysterienkulte, Volksglaube*, Stuttgart ; Berlin ; Köln : Kohlhammer 1995
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