



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series IV: Sermons, 1914-1963, undated.

Reel
160

Box
57

Folder
673

Who crucified Jesus?, 1942.

1). Most famous - Vast literature - To this day nearly 2000 - still writing
baffles -

Trial which led - very heart-epic - Prelude-drama - Passion
Decisive - Jews charged - Christ Killers - Put to death Saviour
Persecutors - Avenged

(a) It was no use reminding - that according to their own
teaching that if not died - no redemption -

(b) It was no use reminding, that even if 1900 - 1910
changed up premises - who had nothing whatever - How many

(c) Story told & related to such persecutors, & each in turn
filled with bitter hatred against Jews - not a word

(d) What was stressed -
that was not stressed - still is not
weakness, stubbornness, in speaking
cruelty in turning him over -
inferiority

(e) How recently - fairer & more historical treatment
such as "The Ananias" - Partisanship - Correct
just appraisal of Judaism - Pharisees
background of Jesus' Teaching - pts of contact
mess. movements & hopes -

(1) What was stressed was not that (1) I was a Jew
(2) His father rather - many & people - were Jews (3) Brand
as a Jew - educated in ^{+ school & synagogue} Torah - observant of customs &
traditions - (4) loved and taught among Jews in Judea
(5) all his disciples were Jews (6) What he taught for
unhappily & overwhelmingly of doctrine & ethics as
found in J. Habb. (7) that the whole N.T. was
written by Jews (8) that J. died as a Jew with a
Heb. prayer on his lips - no new Religion!

(2) These ~~were~~ not stressed. Still not stressed!
What was stressed - wickedness & treachery &
blasphemy / Jews in rejecting J. - who came as their
& ruler's son & turned - their cruelty in
turning him over to the Romans & having him
put to death - & the infirmity of J. of political
teaching to those / Ch. -

(3) How recently - fairer + more honest approach
- much less of the 'ancient' historians' little
partisan ship - great Ch. relations - correct
the propaganda & the misinterpretations -
- just affair of Judaism in Time of J. -
- J. back found of Jews' teachings - bits of control
- departure - of any -
- then movements & super in time of J. - why

then answer - how J. fits into that mess. complex
And ~~with~~ against such a background - the case
J. is studied - his trial & his execution analyzed.

(g) Jewish scholars too have marked the new
objectively ~~historical~~ ^{acceptance} ~~attitude~~ - In past, recalled
from subject entirely. It was dangerous - Talmi -
(Solomon Zeitlin) latent - most qualified authoritative
Hebrew & Rabbinic dept of Princeton univ - specialized in
that period - "Who crucified Jesus?"

(2) Marshall also the facts - studies all available
data, N.T. - Rothman - Roman records - Josephus etc
~~from~~ the G.R. an excellent historical summary
the institution, practices, classes and political background
among the Jews, P. in the time, Jews -

~~He~~ then subjects the Gospel records to a thorough analysis -
and the major teachings of Jesus - and where he
disputed ~~with~~ from the accepted J. that he does
Finally - he takes up the Trial + Execution of -
reviews all the evidence - and arrives at his
conclusion: "No Jew did not crucify Jesus." (p. 179)

(3) Likens Jesus to an an Antichrist (p. 209)

(4) J. was not arrested, tried + executed by Jews here.
he propounded ideas contrary to Judaism -

None of his ideas - would have subjected him to corp. punishment⁴
at the hands of a J. Sanhedrin. ~~some blasphemy~~ that is
cursing God by the name / etc - was a capital crime
but J. nowhere cursed God. - To claim that the
Messiah was no capital crime. Jews were targeted
to avert the coming of the Messiah -

5) Na would the Sanhedrin who procedure was first, ^{guided by statutes} which
met at ~~fixed intervals~~ ^{daily} - at ~~regular~~ ^a ~~fixed~~ ^{fixed} place, -
have ~~convened~~ ^{tried} J. on a holiday - ^(Passover -) it came out on
a holiday - ~~a first time in history~~ ^{never conducted session at night} a convicted him on
same day that his trial began (opened the rules), ^{Verdict: quiet passion to all day}
had him crucified - (4 methods) 700-200-100-50, 100

^{Rump}
6) Pol. Trial Sanhedrin - offenders against state - Rulers
appointed the members - permitted to carry out his
wishes - gave semblance of legality to his decisions -
no statutes to guide them - no fixed order of procedure -
met when "summoned" - Mock trial - ^{Augustus Caesar}

When Pol. became a Roman province 6 A.D. - Roman
procurators became Rulers, counsellors. They were an
inferior control over the pol. life of nation and they
passed judgement + inflicted punishment on those
charged with pol. crimes ag. state.

They appointed the High Priests - & these were
entrusted with task to preserve pol. + social
order in country. The High Priest was responsible

to the Romanes for the hangmen, the country. It was
their duty to hunt out the rebels against the State and
to report them to the R. officials. They became ~~the judges~~
the watchdogs of Roman imperialism, ^{and} they were ever
ready to exterminate Jews who raised arms against their
empire. - They arrested those concerned a measure to
suppress - ~~the Jewish -~~

"They arrested me
 J. hated by his followers as Unmoh - Keep 7 years -
 the State, summoned a (J.D.) Sarkudin before which they presented
 the evidence in the case for the prosecution, then the prosecution
passed judgment on the convicted and carried out the
incarceration, thus, we may describe now, the High Priest
in the time of Jews as being all the 'Zivishig' of an own
two or three days"

1/ Jesus - hated by his followers - Herod - King / Jews
Exploiter! - Sicarii - Opposed to collaboration with
Romans - Christians - Underground - led rebels
Other - rel. groups of Son / God - Great power
5000 - Sentences - Relief prevailed - mercilessly crucified those who
championed a dream / liberty - or those who opposed
God with them / who prophesied of King / the Jews!
"Regarded any / movement ag. Rome as a menace to
their entire temporal dominance in near East"

8. When J. entered Jerusalem - crowded - acclaimed - (6
Arrested on night / 1500 - (leaving his disciples head - lost / loft)
what from High Priest - led to hanging #12 - Pol. San. Sum. heard
His "rubber stamps" "Are you the Messiah Christ, the Son, God?" "I am
+ ye shall see the Son, man sitting on the right hand of God" - Tar his clothes
- no need for witnesses - absent language - 1st E. assembly
17. As does - Jews / Nazareth, King, the Jews { both to death
penalty }

Jews was turned over to Pilate "as a polit. prisoner against the
Roman state." Pilate sentenced J. and had him crucified.
as Cross - Jews / Nazareth, King, the Jews

~~9. P. 211~~

9. Crucifixion - p. 200 - 212

10. Reconciliation - not create - cooperate - both
under attack in this pagan world - Greeks + Jews
= Repeat 10 Cross - and Simon on mount
= Wholesale conversion of a Race - Race of Jews -
by a people - that where churches religion is
universally this fact - Bloody lines among nations
who do homage to Jesus, Peace - Impenetrable led
= Work to be done - begin all over the world -