Destroyer of the gods: early Christian distinctiveness in the Roman world

Early Christians and Christianity in the eyes of non-Christians -- A novel pattern of religious belief and practice -- A different kind of religious identity -- A bookish religion -- Social and behavioral distinctives -- Concluding reflections -- Academic forebears in the historical approach to early Christianity

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Silly, stupid, irrational, simple. Wicked, hateful... Yet, as “Destroyer of the gods” demonstrates, in an irony of history the very features of early Christianity that rendered it distinctive and objectionable in Roman eyes have now become so commonplace in Western culture as to go unnoticed. Christianity helped destroy one world and create another.”...more. Destroyer of the gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in the Roman World, by Larry W. Hurtado (Author). Although Christians in the early church aimed to be good citizens, and to show due respect and care for both their neighbors and the State (as Christians do today), their beliefs in Jesus as the one true God put them at odds with the prevailing culture (as Christian beliefs and practices increasingly do in our secular culture today). But as Hurtado points out in Destroyer of the gods, Christian distinctives must be taken into consideration as a piece of the puzzle. Consider a few Christian distinctives, which are often taken for granted today Early Christian distinctiveness in the Roman world. By Larry W. Hurtado. Pp. xiv + 290 incl. An abstract is not available for this content so a preview has been provided below. Please use the Get access link above for information on how to access this content. Copyright: © Cambridge University Press 2017. Recommend this journal. Email your librarian or administrator to recommend adding this journal to your organisation's collection. The Journal of Ecclesiastical History.