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Mrs. Lyrl Van Hyning, author of Key to the Mystery and editor/publisher of the 1950s antisemitic periodical Women's Voice, also published a leaflet accusing the Jews of hiding their secret anti-Christianity in the Talmud. Directly or indirectly, Van Hyning and Nesta Webster base their claims on the Rev. IUstøin Bonaventura Pranaitøis (d. 1917?) and his Christianus in Talmude Iudaeorum: sive, Rabbinicae doctrinae de Christianis secreta (The Secret Jewish Rabbinical **Teachings Concerning** Christians). Petropoli: Officina typographica Academiae Caesareae Scientiarum, 1892. [130 p; 26 cm], and Wesley Swift's 1939 translation entitled The Talmud Unmasked.

These fabrications are of interest to students of Freemasonry primarily because anti-Semites are often also anti-masons, and will use similar methods of deception and falsehood in their attacks.

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MORRIS KOMINSKY

Falsifiers of the Talmud

Antisemites such as Van Hyning, Nesta Webster, Benjamin H. Freedman and Wesley Swift have claimed that the Talmud has been systematically hidden from non-Jews, and that it is the supreme authority of Jewish law, philosophy and ethics. In truth, it is available in most good public libraries and most Jews regard it as simply one branch of Jewish theology, of limited interest outside of rabbinical seminaries.

The Talmud consists of two parts: the Mishnah, and its commentary, the Gemara. The Mishnah, compiled and edited by Judah Hanasi about 200 C.E., was the first Jewish code of laws since the Torah. There are two Gemaras, known as the Babylonian and the Palestinian. The former, completed about 500 C.E., is the record of the discussions of the Palestinian scholars. The Mishnah plus the Babylonian Gemara is known as the Babylonian Talmud; the Mishnah plus the Palestinian Gemara is known as the Palestinian Talmud. The two Talmuds have always been printed separately, and never together.

Van Hyning's leaflet was widely reprinted, excerpted, added to and quoted from or referenced throughout the 1950s and 1960s by such publications as *The Cross and the Flag, Common Sense,* and *Thunderbolt.* In the early 1970s the Rev. Gerald L.K. Smith continued to distribute a free tract quoting most of these lies. Rarely quoted today, these fabrications continue to be the foundation of many claims that Judaism is anti-Christian.

The following is Van Hyning's list. Both Pranaitøis and Freedman claim a longer list but the following list and refutations dispels the whole.

ACCUSATIONS

"The Talmud refers to Jesus Christ as the bastard son of a harlot (Kallah, 1b, 18b)"

"Jesus is blasphemed as a fool (Schabbath, 104b), a conjurer (Toldoth Jeshu), and idolater. (Sanhedrin 103a) and a seducer (Sanhedrin 107b)."

FACTS

Kallah, 1b, 18b. The quotation does not exist in this volume. This is a complete fabrication, and even the reference numbers are fabricated.

Schabbath, 104b. The correct spelling of this volume is Shabbath. It does not make an evaluation of anyone, but rather reports a dialogue; "It was taught, Rabbi Eliezer said to the Sages: But did not Ben Stada bring forth witchcraft from Egypt by means of scratches (in the form of charms) upon his flesh? He was a fool, answered they, and proof cannot be adduced from fools." The professional antisemites are relying on the theory that the Talmudic scholars meant Jesus when they referred to Ben Stada. A British scholar, R. Travers Herford, gives it as his opinion in "Christianity in Talmud and Midrash" (p. 37) that Ben Stada means Jesus of Nazareth. Further on, however, he says "...The Talmud has preserved only a very vague and confused recollection of Jesus" (p. 83). And he points out that some people argue "that there are in the Talmud two persons called Jesus, neither of whom is the historical

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Jesus of Nazareth" (p. 347).

Toldoth Jeshu is a book from the Middle Ages. It is not a part of the Talmud. [The Toledoth Yeshu is a polemic work written in about the 10th century. The Oxford Dictionary of Jewish Religion says of it, "..the work is an expression of vulgar polemics written in reaction to the no less vulgar attacks on Judaism in popular Christian teaching and writing [of that time]".]

Sanhedrin 103a. Van Hyning's claim that it calls Jesus an idolator is a complete fabrication.

Sanhedrin 107b. This is a distortion of the truth by Van Hyning based upon a legendary story in this portion of the Talmud. As it is actually related, Jesus and his teacher met a woman at a wayside inn; Jesus admired her extreme beauty. For this the teacher severely admonished him and dismissed him as a pupil. The rabbis in the Talmud sharply criticized the teacher for his harshness and severity towards Jesus.

"The Talmud teaches that Jesus died like a beast and was buried in that 'dirt heap'...where they throw the dead bodies of dogs and asses and where the sons of Ssau (the Christians) and of Ismael (the Turks), also Jesus and Mohammed, uncircumsized and unclean like dead dogs are buried (Zobar, III, 282).

Zohar, III, 282. This is a cabalistic work that came into being during the Middle Ages [13th c.]. It is *not* a part of the Talmud. This entire "quotation" is a complete fabrication.

"One of the basic doctrines of the Talmud is that all non-Talmudists rank as non-humans, that they are not like men, but beasts. (Kerithuth, 6b, p. 78)".

Kerithuth, 6b, p. 78. Even the numbering system is a fabrication. 6b means page 6, side 2. Consequently, page 78 can have no relationship to 6b. This claim is based upon a particular dialogue in which reference is made specifically to heathens in a fashion comparable to that of many Christian preachers who today still thunder away with the doctrine that only those who accept Jesus Christ will be "saved." Obviously no sane person with a semblance of decency would condemn presentday Jews for the dialogue of some individual religious philosophers 1700 years ago.

"A JEW WHO KILLS A CHRISTIAN COMMITS NO SIN, BUT OFFERS AN ACCEPTABLE SACRIFICE TO GOD. 'Even the best of the non-Jews should be killed.' (Abhodah Zarah, 26b Tosepoth)."

Abhodah Zarah, 26b, Tosepoth. Tosepoth is not a part of the Talmud. It is a collection of commentaries on the Talmud. In a passage alluded to by Van Hyning, Tosepoth quotes a Talmudic source as stating that the command of killing all Canaanites was applicable only during the war against them.

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"The following quotation from and Tract Mechilla. No such book about the Talmud should be of exists in the Talmud. interest to all Christians. Note: Furthermore, the internal 'GOY' means non-Jews; 'GOYIM' evidence in the alleged quotation is plural for Goy." suggests crude fabrication. The "Jehovah Himself studies the Talmud is not "that book"; it is a Talmud standing, he has such collection of volumes. respect for that book (Tract Mechilla)." Abhodah Zarah 8-6. Insofar as "Every goy who studies the Talmud and every Jew who helps this volume is concerned the him in it, ought to die. quotation is a complete (Sanhedrin, 59a Abhodah Zarah fabrication. Even the reference 8-6)." number is incorrect. It should read "Abhodah Zarah 8a or 8b." A number such as 8-6 can never exist in the Talmud. Sanhedrin, 59a. Here is reported a dialogue between two Rabbis, the first of whom does indeed fanatically advocate death for a heathen who studies the Torah (the Pentateuch, not the Talmud), The second Rabbi effectively demolishes his colleague's argument by pointing out that the heathen who studies the Torah succeeds in elevating himself to the status of a High Priest. "To communicate anything to a Libbre David 37. This is a goy about our religious relations complete fabrication. No such book exists in the Talmud or in would be equal to the killing of all Jews, for if the goyim knew what the entire Jewish literature. we teach about them they would kill us openly. (Libbre David 37)." "A Jew should and must make a The Book of Jore Dia 17. No such false oath when the goyim asks if statement appears, This is a our books contain anything complete fabrication. against them. (Szaaloth-Szaaloth-Utszabot, The Book of Jore Dia 17. There is no such Utszabot, The Book of Jore Dia book in the Talmud. These two 17)." words are part of the title of some 1500 books, but by themselves they mean only "responses.' "The Jews are human beings, but Baba Mecia 114-6. This quotation the nations of the world are not is a complete fabrication. Even human beings but beasts. (Baba the numbering is incorrect. There Mecia 114-6)." can be no 114-6; it has to be 114a or 114b. "When the Messiah comes every Simeon Haddarsen, fol. 56D. Jew will have 2800 slaves. There is no such book in the (Simeon Haddarsen, fol. 56D)." Talmud. It is actually the name of a 10th century Bible commentator. The "fol. 56D" is an invention. "Jehovah created the non-Jew in Midrash Talpioth, 225-L. This is human form so that the Jew not a volume of the Talmud. It is would not have to be served by something composed by a beasts. The non-Jew is Turkish Jew in the 18th century. consequently an animal in human His name was Elijah ben form, and condemned to serve Solomom Abraham, ha-Kohen. the Jew day and night. (Midrash Talpioth, 225-L)." "As soon as the King Messiah will Josiah 60. This is not a volume declare himself, He will destroy from the Talmud. There is no

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Rome and make a wilderness of it. Thorns and weeds will grow in the Pope's palace. Then he will start a merciless war on non-Jews and will overpower them. He will slay them in masses, kill their kings and lay waste the whole Roman land. He will say to the Jews: 'I am the King Messiah for whom you have been waiting. Take the silver and the gold from the goyim.' (Josiah 60, Rabbi Abarbanel to Daniel 7, 13)."

book of that title in existence.

"A Jew may do to a non-Jewess what he can do. He may treat her as he treats a piece of meat. (Nadarine, 20, B; Schulchan Aruch, Choszen Hamiszpat 348)."

Nadarine 20. The actual quotation is: "The Rabbis say: That whatever a man wants to do with his wife he may do; just as he can prepare meat to suit his fancy." This concept of male superiority of 1700 years ago bears no relationship to the philosophy and conduct of present-day Jewry. To represent this as the teachings of Judaism in the twentieth century is to perpetuate a palpable fraud. Van Hyning perpetrated the additional fraud of twisting it into a Jew vs. Gentile problem.

"A Jew may rob a goy--that is, he may cheat him in a bill, if unlikely to be perceived by him. (Schulchan Aruch, Choszen Hamiszpat 348)."

Schulchan Aruch, Choszen Hamiszpat 348. This is not a part of the Talmud. It is actually a part of a collection of Biblical commentaries in the sixteenth century. The actual text in this volume says that it is forbidden to steal even a small item from a Jew or non-Jew, from children or from adults. One of the commentators remarks that in dealing with an idolator it would be permissible to use artifice or stratagem to effect repayment of a loan. He then adds that others say that to do it intentionally is forbidden, but if the idolator makes a mistake in one's favor, it is proper to accept the advantage that accrues. However it is pointed out that the famous Rabbi Maimonedes is vigorously opposed to such procedures.

"All property of other nations belongs to the Jewish nation, which consequently is entitled to seize upon it without scruples. An orthodox Jew is not bound to observe principles of morality towards people of other tribes. He may act contrary to morality, if profitable to himself or to Jews in general. (Schulchan Aruch, Choszen Hamiszpat 348)."

Schulchan Aruch, Choszen Hamiszpat 348. This is a complete fabrication.

"On the house of the goy one looks as on the fold of cattle. (Tosefta, Erubin VIII, I)."

Tosefta, Erubin VIII, I. This is a complete fabrication. Tosefta is not part of the Talmud.

"How to interpret the word 'robbery'. A goy is forbidden to steal, rob or take women slaves,

Tosefta, Abhodah Zarah VIII, 5. This is a complete fabrication. Tosefta is not part of the Talmud. Falsifiers of the Talmud Página 5 de 6

etc., from a goy or Jew. But the Jew is NOT forbidden to do all this to a goy. (Tosefta, Abhodah Zarah VIII, 5)."

"All vows, oaths, promises, engagements, and swearing, which, beginning this very day of reconciliation, we intend to vow, promise, swear, and bind ourselves to fulfill, we repent of beforehand; let them be illegalized, acquitted, annihilated, abolished, valueless, unimportant. Our vows shall be no vows, and our oaths no oaths at all. (Schulchan Aruch, Edit. 1, 136)."

Schulchan Aruch, Edit. 1, 136. This is not from the Talmud. This is actually a garbled version of the Kon Nidre prayer. The reference to "Edit. 1, 136" is completely meaningless. [The Kon Nidre prayer, from the 8th century CE, did not release anyone from a judicial oath or obligation between people. It was intended to release a Jew from a vow made to God, specifically those made under duress to accept another faith.]

"At the time of the Cholhamoed the transaction of any kind of business is forbidden. But it is permitted to cheat a goy, because cheating of goyim at any time pleases the Lord. (Schulchan Aruch, Orach Chaim 539)."

Schulchan Aruch, Orach Chaim 539. This is a complete fabrication.

"If a Jew be called upon to explain any part of the rabbinic books, he ought to give only a false explanation. Who ever will violate this order shall be put to death. (Libbre David 37)."

Libbre David 37. There is no such book, as previously noted.

Excerpted from: *The Hoaxers, Plain Liars, Fancy Liars and Damned Liars.* Morris Kominsky. Boston: Branden Press, Inc. 1970. SBN 8283-1288-5 LCCCN 76-109134. HC 735pp. pp. 169-176. [leaflet reprinted on p. 166-176]

The following is taken from a 06 Feb 1999 newsgroup thread archived at http://crnews.pastornet.net.au/jmm/aasi/aasi0151.htm with rebuttal provided by Nigel B. Mitchell nbm@echidna.id.au

Abhodah Zarah (22a): Christians have intercourse with animals.

This fabrication is not in the text.

Sanhedrin 67a: Jesus referred to as the son of Pandira, a soldier. Mother a prostitute.

According to a footnote in the Talmud, this passage refers to a Jewish revolutionary named Ben Stada or Ben Padira who came from Egypt, claimed to be a prophet, led his followers to Mount Zion, and was executed by the Romans, about 100 years after the time of Jesus. The footnote also says that Christians have long misunderstood this passage as a reference to Jesus and tried to censor it or condemn the Jews because of it. Note the legend put about by Celsus, the Greek philosopher, who argued with Justin martyr in the 2nd century, and who repeated a tale that Jesus was the son of a Roman centurion called Panthera.

Kelhubath (11a-11b): "When a grown-up man has had intercourse with a little girl... It means this: When a grown up man has intercourse with a little girl it is nothing, for when the girl is less than this [see footnote] three years old it is as if one puts

This is probably the most insidious quote in the whole list. The words are correctly quoted but completely out of context. All the words after [see footnote] actually appear in the footnote, and are therefore not part of the Talmud itself. This passage is a

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the finger into the eye [again see footnote] tears come to the eye again and again, so does virginity come back to the little girl three years old." discussion of the penalties and consequences of adult-child sexual relations. The point being made is that if a man has sexual relations with a little girl, that is to be punished less harshly than if it is with an older child or an adult woman. Importantly, when she grows up, the child is to regarded as still having her virginity for legal and marriage purposes. She is not to suffer. In modern times it is quite shocking to think that the fine or reparation for raping an infant should be less than that for raping or seducing an older child, but that is the relative judgement that some of the rabbis made, and which is recorded in the Talmud. The following paragraphs continue to discuss this issue, and there does not seem to be a strong consensus on the issue. The important thing, though, is that whilst from a modern standpoint we (whether Christian, Jew or atheist) might deplore the medical and psychological ignorance which seems to inform this decision, it must be stressed that the Talmud in no sense condones such behaviour. The discussion is about how it should be punished.

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