I have been outlining some of the issues that I may talk about in a book on the rise of anti-Judaism in early Christianity, if I write it. In previous posts I have detailed some of the uglier Christian attacks on Jews and Judaism, almost all of them tied to Christian ways of reading the Old Testament that different from traditional, Jewish readings. Some Christians claimed that Jews misread what God had told them in the Scripture, and that this is what led them to reject their messiah, and since they had rejected their messiah, God had rejected them. Christians, not Jews, were the people of God. Jews were condemned.

It’s not a happy history, and it gets worse. In my book I will not move into the later consequences of the Middle Ages down to modernity – restrictions on what Jews could do for a living, on where they could live, on how they could engage with others in their communities; eventually the pogroms and expulsions; and so on. I will be focusing only on the *beginnings* of anti-Jewish sentiments in parts of early Christianity (not all of it!) in the first four centuries that led to the horrendous history that we know about.

Here now I pick up where I left off last time:

By the end of the second century ...

This is an incredibly important topic for understanding the history of the western world. But to read the rest of the post, you’ll need to belong to the blog. It doesn’t cost much, so why not join? Every penny you pay goes to help those in need.

Did It Hurt to Be Martyred? The Surprising Answer. Guest Post by Stephanie Cobb.
When Christians Went on the Attack Against Jews