

Destroyer Of The Gods Early Christian Distinctiveness In The Roman World

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In *Destroyer of the Gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in the Roman World*, Larry W. Hurtado provides an in-depth survey of the features that made early Christianity unusual in the Roman world. Hurtado's exploration of the distinctive features of early Christianity is informative, exciting to read, and enlightening.

Destroyer of the gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in ...

In Larry W. Hurtado's book *Destroyer of the Gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in the Roman World*, early Christianity is shown as a very different kind of religion

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compared with the religious thought of the ancient Roman world. Hurtado, an Emeritus Professor at the School of Divinity at the University of Edinburgh, unfolds the little-known origins of Christianity in a thoughtful and thorough monograph.

Destroyer of the Gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in ...

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Destroyer of the gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in ...

The Roman world rendered harsh judgments upon early Christianity—including branding Christianity "new." Novelty was no Roman religious virtue. In *Destroyer of the gods*, Larry Hurtado demonstrates how Christianity thrived despite its new and distinctive feature and opposition to them. Christianity stood apart from the Roman world through its utter rejection of the traditional gods, as well as through an offering of a new and different religious identity, not based on ethnicity.

Destroyer of the gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in ...

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.

Destroyer of the Gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in ...

Hurtado says *Destroyer of the Gods* is "not a technical monograph" but a book "intended for a wide spectrum of readers" (p. xiii), which shows that many of our "commonplace notions" about religion originated "in the rambunctious early Christian movement" (p. 2). The book comprises five main chapters, the first being an introduction to outsiders' perceptions of the early Christians with the remaining four focusing on the movement's most distinctive traits.

Destroyer of the Gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in ...

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Destroyer of the Gods | Reading Religion

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Destroyer of the gods is a very clear and readable book and is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand issues dealt with in early Christian writers, particularly Paul's letters. I thoroughly recommend it to students of the New Testament and more widely as a reminder that there is a cost to a church which stands out in its social and cultural setting.

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Destroyer of the Gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in ...

In his book *Destroyer of the gods* Larry Hurtado highlights some of the features that made early Christianity so distinctive, unprecedented, and indeed, nearly inconceivable for many at the time. These are features that are widely assumed as part and parcel to religion by many today, yet which at the time caused Christians to be viewed by outsiders as impious, irreligious, and a threat to social order.

Book Review: Destroyer of the gods - By Larry Hurtado ...

In the rejection of the gods and in the centrality of texts, early Christianity obviously reflected commitments inherited from its Jewish origins. But these particular features were no longer identified with Jewish ethnicity and early Christianity quickly became aggressively trans-ethnic—a novel kind of religious movement.

Destroyer of the gods - Baylor University Press

Destroyer of the Gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in the Roman World:
Hurtado, Emeritus Professor of New Testament Literature and Theology Larry W:
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Destroyer of the Gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in ...

It remains to be seen how someone else will take his work and build upon it., *Destroyer of the gods* is a welcome and important book as it challenges what seems by now have become the mainstream, at least in late antique studies, namely highlighting the similarities between Christianity and other ancient religions and stressing the embeddedness of Christians in the Greco-Roman world., ...An admirable discussion of early Christianity partly directed towards an educated lay readership, and one ...

Destroyer of the Gods : Early Christian Distinctiveness in ...

Brindle/Book Review/*Destroyer of the Gods* . 2 2 . could recant by reciting a prayer to the Roman gods, making a supplication to an image of the emperor, and cursing Christ (p. 23). The growth of the Christian communities had led many people to abandon the worship of the Roman gods, and this was causing a severe economic impact (p. 24).

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