**Pre-Nazi Anti-Semitism (Traditional & Modern) Read each excerpt carefully. Match it with the correct author, date, & description. Write on a separate sheet of paper.**

1. "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!" All the people answered, "Lethis blood be on us and on our children!" Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.
2. It appeared an unworthy thing that in the celebration of this most holy feast [i.e., Easter] we should follow the practice of the Jews, who have impiously defiled their hands with enormous sin, and are, therefore, deservedly afflicted with blindness of soul… Let us then have nothing in common with the detestable Jewish crowd; for we have received out Savior a different way.
3. The Jew is the world's enigma. Poor in his masses, he yet controls the world's finances. Scattered abroad without country or government, he yet presents a unity of race continuity which no other people has achieved. Living under legal disabilities in almost every land, he has become the power behind many a throne. There are ancient prophecies to the effect that the Jew will return to his own land and from that center rule the world, though not until he has undergone an assault by the united nations of mankind.
4. The more the Christians are restrained from the practice of usury, the more are they oppressed in this matter by the treachery of the Jews, so that in a short time they exhaust the resources of the Christians. Wishing, therefore, in this matter to protect the Christians against cruel oppression by the Jews, we ordain in this decree that if in the future under any pretext Jews extort from Christians oppressive and immoderate interest, the partnership of the Christians shall be denied them till they have made suitable satisfaction for their excesses.
5. I had made up my mind to write no more either about the Jews or against them. But since I learned that these miserable and accursed people do not cease to lure to themselves even us, that is, the Christians, I have published this little book, so that I might be found among those who opposed such poisonous activities of the Jews who warned the Christians to be on their guard against them. I would not have believed that a Christian could be duped by the Jews into taking their exile and wretchedness upon himself. However, the devil is the god of the world, and wherever God's word is absent he has an easy task, not only with the weak but also with the strong. May God help us. Amen.
6. [Jews] are dogs, stiff-necked, gluttonous, drunkards. They are beasts unfit for work… fit for killing, for slaughter. There is no difference between the theatre and the synagogue…The synagogue is a dwelling of demons…a place of idolatry… Is it not strange that those who worship the Crucified keep common festival with those who crucified him? With those who shouted ‘Crucify him, Crucify him’ and ‘His blood be upon us and upon our children?’ All Jews are demons and all are guilty.
7. "You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies. But, because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. Which of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? He who is of God hears the words of God; the reason why you do not hear them is you are not of God."
8. It certainly seems amazing that on a single day in many different places, moved in unison by a violent inspiration, such massacres should have taken place, despite their widespread disapproval and their condemnation as contrary to religion. But we know that they could not have been avoided since they occurred in the face of excommunication imposed by numerous clergymen, and of the threat of punishment on the part of many princes.
9. My political friends do not hold the view that we fight the Jews because of their religion… We would not dream of waging a political struggle against anyone because of his religion… We hold the view that the Jews are a different race, a different people with entirely different character traits.
10. Agimet took this package full of poison and carried it with him to Venice, and when he came there he threw and scattered a portion of it into the well or cistern of fresh water which was there near the German House, in order to poison the people who use the water of that cistern. And he says that this is the only cistern of sweet water in the city. He also says that the mentioned Rabbi Peyret promised to give him whatever he wanted for his troubles in this business. Of his own accord Agimet confessed further that after this had been done he left at once in order that he should not be captured by the citizens or others, and that he went personally to Calabria and Apulia and threw the above mentioned poison into many wells. He confesses also that he put some of this same poison in the well of the streets of the city of Ballet.

**Match the correct primary source quotations on the front of the handout with the accompanying descriptions and writers below.**

1. [*Gospel of Matthew* 27: 22-25](http://www.levitt.com/essays/bloodlibel.html) (ca. 80-90 A.D.) These verses describe part of the trial of Jesus in which the Roman official absolves himself of guilt. Interpreted by Christians for centuries as the Jews accepting collective guilt for the death of Jesus and therefore labeling Jews as ‘Christ killers.’
2. [*The Confession of Agimet of Geneva*](http://deathblack.wordpress.com/category/church/) (October, 1348)During the worst pandemic of bubonic plague called the Black Death (mid 14th century A.D.) many Europeans scrambled for explanations. Christians frequently blamed Jews, claiming that they were poisoning the water supply. Confessions like this one from a tortured Jew in Switzerland would lead to massacres of many Jews.
3. [*Fourth Lateran Council*, Canon 67](http://www.ewtn.com/library/councils/lateran4.htm#67) (1215) Excerpt from the medieval Catholic council convened by Pope Innocent III to reform the Catholic Church; several provisions dealt with tiny minority populations of Jews & Muslims living within Christendom, including this one dealing with the charging of interest on loans or usury (a sin according to Catholic doctrine).
4. [*Homilies Against the Jews*](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/chrysostom-jews6.asp) by St. John Chrysostom (ca. late 4th c. A.D.) This excerpt from an early Greek Church Father demonizes all Jews and makes direct reference to the *Gospel of Matthew* 27:25 for the Jews’ collective guilt in murdering Christ.
5. [*The International Jew*](http://www.iamthewitness.com/books/Henry.Ford/The.International.Jew/ij01.html)*: The World’s Foremost Problem* by Henry Ford (1920) American automobile manufacturer published several anti-Semitic booklets around time of the formation of the Nazi Party in Germany. Ford repeats claims of a global Jewish-controlled financial & political conspiracy, despite being the Jews being small in numbers & living with legal discrimination.
6. In this excerpt a medieval chronicler & Benedictine monk, [Hugh of Flavigny](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hugh_of_Flavigny), describes pogroms that occurred during the First Crusade in 1096. Though opposed by the Church hierarchy, bands of crusaders massacred thousands of Jews in Germany and suffered no punishment for their crimes.
7. [*Gospel of John* 8: 44-47](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john%208:44-8:47&version=NIV) (ca. 90-100 A.D.) The latest of the four canonical Gospels, *John* is also the most anti-Jewish. In several passages, Jesus himself associates “the Jews” with darkness thereby laying the groundwork for centuries of associating Jews with the devil.
8. [*On the Jews & Their Lies*](http://jdstone.org/cr/files/martin_luther/onthejewsandtheirlies01.html) by Martin Luther (1543) In this excerpt, the German leader of the Reformation refers to Jews as an accursed & miserable people whose poisonous activities trick the Christians. Nazis used his words four centuries later as anti-Semitic propaganda.
9. Hermann Ahlwardt, speech to the Reichstag (March 6, 1895) This late-19th century German politician illustrates the primary difference between traditional anti-Judaism based on religion and modern ant-Semitism based on the idea that the Jews were an inferior race.
10. [Eusebius*, Life of Constantine*, Book 3, Chapter 18](http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/25023.htm) (mid 4th c. A.D.) Constantine, the first Roman emperor to convert to Christianity, supported unifying reforms in the early Church. These included separating the celebration of Easter from the Passover because of his negative views about the Jews.