Brienna DiPietro

REL-252

1/17/19

Participation Paper 1

My name is Brie DiPietro. Originally, I am from Saratoga in Upstate New York, but moved to Charlotte, NC November of my freshman year of high school. I am honestly a Northerner at heart. I am second year student at Furman but have enough credits to be considered a junior and will graduate with the class of 2020. I am majoring in religion with a focus on Christianity and Judaism. I have a second major in classics, but I have specialized it in a weird way. Classics to me is based around language rather than any course really labeled “CLS.” I think I still technically have a minor in Ancient Greek and Roman Studies, but I’m sure Furman won’t be okay with that and the classics major.

I’m fairly involved on Furman’s campus, but wouldn’t consider myself to be one of the “Furman Famous” by any means. I work as a resident assistant for a freshman engaged living hall of 18 girls. It’s by far the most fulfilling job I’ve ever worked. I’m also in the Manuscripts Club but am not very active due to time restraints. I am continuing work on some research I did over the summer as well working with the daily journal of a Furman alum that graduated in 1860.

I have read the New Testament cover to cover and would love to say that I could talk about any book, but I couldn’t. I’ve also read a decent amount of the Old Testament and the same goes there. The only book I consider myself really good at is Genesis. All of that said, I’ve had a bunch of religion courses talking about these texts and the time period: Genesis, The Torah, Paul’s Life and Thought, Christianity to 600 CE, and (currently) OT Prophets. Because of my experience in Christianity to 600 CE with Dr. Fink, I know more than the average person about Judaism in the time of Jesus. We spent a lot of time talking about the Jewish basis of Christianity and where the “split” happened. I’ve also read some of the authors we’ll be looking at (Josephus stands out for sure).

1. How did the Jewish authors see their writing (legalistic, apologetic, etc.)?
2. How did the traditional sacrifice/burnt offering change over time?
3. Where do the angels and devils come from? Why do they seem to pop up in this specific time?