

Guiding Questions

Document B: Tacitus

- 1) (Sourcing) Who is Tacitus? When did he write this?
- 2) (Close Reading) According to this account, why did the Roman Empire persecute Christians?
- 3) Do you think this is a trustworthy document for trying to figure out why the Roman Empire persecuted Christians? Why or why not?

Document C: Journal Article

1. (Sourcing) Who wrote this document? When was it written?
2. (Close Reading) According to the author, what are the “strange complaints” Roman critics had of Christians?
3. (Close Reading) According to the author, what are some of the reasons why the Romans thought these things about Christians? List two to three.
4. (Corroboration) How does this document’s description of what Romans thought of Christians compare to Tacitus’s account?
5. Do you think this is a trustworthy document for trying to figure out why the Roman Empire persecuted Christians? Why or why not?