

One thing that promoted it was the development of the Roman Empire. Because in the Roman Empire, the Romans when they conquered another country, instead of doing as most others had done when they conquered another country, in trying to force them to adopt their religion, the Romans simply said, we'll say that their gods are the same as ours. So when they conquered Athens, they said "you call him Zeus, we call him Jupiter but he is the same god!" So they said, "you worship your god because it's the same religion as ours anyway". Then when they conquered other areas, they said "we will permit you - you carry on law and order under our direction, take the taxes we want from you, and so on and you can keep your own religion". They got on fine until they conquered the Jews, then they said "these Jews don't believe in anything about our gods, what can we do with them?" So the Romans made the exception that the Jewish was a queer religion, very queer religion but it would be permitted with the national religion. So these national religions were permitted in the Roman empire and the people traveled through the empire and soon you had all these going on at Rome. Thus you got a large measure of -----14 but officially the Roman State believed in the old Roman religion. Everyone who had a position in the Roman government was supposed to sacrifice to the Roman gods. Then when Christianity began the conflict with the Romans and Christianity wasn't that you have to follow our religion rather than yours but this is not a religion of any one of the states we have conquered which we have given permission to be a permitted religion. Consequently it is a new thing which has no right to exist. Then when the Christians ~~said~~ ^{didn't merely say} "we have a religion as good as yours, you should permit us to exist- they said we've got the only true religion and yours are all false and wicked, the Romans were determined to get rid of them. But this present idea is one which has come within the last two or three centuries until now we find groups that say it is wrong to even mention God in school or class and I don't see how any Christian can go along with that. We feel it is our duty to present our views with moral persuasion rather than force.

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