



C.S. LEWIS
INSTITUTE

Discipleship of Heart and Mind

The Passion of Christ

Live Online Class with Jim Martin

INTRODUCTION: Background and Context of the Raising of Lazarus (John 11)

1. The pathway to truth is not based on opinion or personal feeling but on evidence. Therefore, our discussions will be based on evidence (e.g.; ancient written sources, archaeology, geography) .
2. Development and transition of the **DEFINITIONS** of terms.
 - a. Sadducees - The Jerusalem Temple
 1. History of the Temple building – 1st Temple; 1st Temple Destruction; Rebuilding 2nd Temple; Herodion Temple.
 2. History of the Priests; Legitimate Aaronic (High Priests); Levitical Priests; Appointed High Priests: Antiochus IV (Greek) and Roman Appointments (e.g. Annas, Caiaphas, John, Alexander, Ananias – Acts 4:6; Gal 1:14)
 3. Biblical Authority: Torah (anti-Oral Law) No Prophets; No Writings; No Resurrection; No Spirits; No Afterlife; No Eternal Judgement; No Messiah; No Synagogue; No Oral Law i.e., “Traditions (handed down) of the Elders” e.g.; Mt 15:2, 3; Gal 1:14)
 4. Legal and Political Authority: Sanhedrin; Roman appointment; Priestly Aristocracy.
 5. Hellenized (Greek) (vs Observant Judaism); Collaborators
 - b. Essenes (vs Sadducees): Ezekiel – “bene Zadok;” “Hassidim” (the Pious)
 1. Temple oriented but anti-Hasmonean and anti-Sadducaical; Pro-ritual purity, Focus on End Times.
 2. Biblical Authority – Torah (5 books of Moses), Neviim (Prophets), Ketuvim (Writings), extra-biblical literature (apocalyptic)
 3. Legal and Political Authority – None
 4. Exclusive and Highly Observant
 - c. Pharisees (“Perushim” - separatist) – The Synagogues
 1. Leadership – Rabbi (i.e., judges); Rabbi Shimon (Simon the . . . Just, Righteous, Pious)
 2. Educated Class: “Talmidim” (disciples) vs “Am Ha-aretz” (peasants / non-educated)

3. Proponents of the Oral Law – “Mishnah” (ca. 250 B.C.- AD 200); Talmud (AD 300-500)
4. Sectarian groups and Beliefs:
 - i. School: Hillel
 - ii. School: Shammai
 - iii. School: Zealots
 - iv. School: Apocalyptic (gr. *hairesis* - sect)
 - v. School: Pharisee “Hasidim” (Pious, ultra-righteous) – Yehoshua (Jesus of Nazareth); R. Ben Dosa; etc