

Bethel Bible Series

The Word Became Flesh

New Testament Week 2

Welcome & Announcements

Opening - How was the time when God sent His Son the *Fullness of Time*?
Pay \$30 for New Testament materials if you didn't last week

Prayer Requests and Opening Prayer

Review of Last Weeks

Review of Last Week - *In the Fullness of Time*

Apocrypha & Pseudepigrapha

Non-canonical books written and circulated in 200 BC - 100 AD
Good for historical and ethical reading, not for doctrinal teaching
Apocrypha - Greek for *hidden*
Pseudepigrapha - Greek for *false authorship*

The Intertestamental Period

Persian Period (539-333 BC)

Exiles returned, Jerusalem rebuilt, God Law reinstated

Greek Period (333-63 BC)

Alexander the Great built the Greek Empire by eastern conquests
Greeks promoted Hellenism (Greek thought, culture, lifestyle)
Greek became world-wide language, OT translated into Greek (Septuagint)
Sabbath squelched, temple desecrated, circumcision banned by Antiochus

Maccabean & Hasmonean Periods (165-63 BC)

Family of priests led revolt and won independence for Jews
Temple was cleansed and rededicated (celebrated at Hanukkah)
Pharisees, Sadducees and other groups emerged
Rome intervened when two brothers fought for leadership

Roman Period (63 BC -)

Herod the Great was appointed governor of Galilee and *King of the Jews*
Herod's paranoia led to deaths of royal family and innocent babies
Territory was divided between Herod's sons, Judea later had procurators

In the Fullness of Time

Hour Glass

Sword

Greek Pillar

Greek Letters

Golden Eagle

White Flag

Roads to Coliseum

Manuscript

Clasped Hands

Bowed Head

Upraised Arms

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Lesson - *The Word Became Flesh*

First Century Jewish Worship Centers - The Temple

Why did Solomon build the original temple?

1 Kings 8:17-21

Was it designed as God's actual dwelling place?

1 Kings 8:27, 29-30

Was the temple used mainly for worship, study & fellowship like the church is today?

Hebrews 9:1, 6-7

What happened to Solomon's temple?

2 Chronicles 36:18-19

How could God permit the pagan Babylonians destroy His temple?

Jeremiah 7:4, 9-15

When and how was the second temple built?

Ezra 1:2, 7

A third temple was built by Herod the Great, Huge and ornate

Construction began 19 BC, Complete 63 AD, Destroyed by Romans 70 AD

First Century Jewish Worship Centers - The Synagogue

Local gathering place for worship, Bible Study, public meetings

No sacrificial rituals, they were reserved for the temple

Worship & study led by lay members, priests weren't needed

Originated during Babylonian captivity when there was no temple

What part did the synagogue play in Jesus' ministry?

Matthew 9:35

What part did the synagogue play in Paul's ministry?

Acts 17:1-2

First Century Jewish Movements - Pharisees

Why had the people of Judah been exiled to Babylon?

Nehemiah 9:29-30

What did the returned exiles do to show their commitment to God's law?

Nehemiah 9:38; 10:29

What sect evolved that worked to make sure people didn't disobey the law, even accidentally?

Acts 26:5

Lay movement concerned entirely with keeping of the Law

Defined minute details of *Oral Law* to keep from accidental disobedience

Had 613 Law code headings; 39 definitions for what constituted *work* on the Sabbath

How did Jesus respond to the Pharisees' complaints that He didn't follow their rules?

Mark 7:5-8 (Matthew 23)

Accepted all Old Testament books as having authority

Believed righteous dead would return to life when Messiah came

Relatively small group (~4000) with considerable influence, led synagogues

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First Century Jewish Movements - Sadducees

Small group of influential priests and nobility (rudely snobbish)
Rejected Pharisee law because interpretation was for the priests
Sacrificial worship life was the center of the Law's teaching
Accepted only the first 5 OT books (Pentateuch) as having authority
Denied existence of afterlife, angels, spirits, resurrection of the body

How did the Sadducees try to catch Jesus with a trick question?

Mark 12:18-23

Did Jesus realize they were just trying to trick Him?

Mark 12:24-27

How did Paul use his understanding of the Sadducees to change a topic?

Acts 23:6-8

First Century Jewish Movements - Zealots

Group who used force to oppose foreign domination (used Maccabees as examples)
Treason to pay taxes to a pagan emperor, God alone was the true King
Began in 6 AD, revolt against Rome in 70 AD, fell at Masada in 73 AD

How did the Zealots get their name from and fashion their ideal around Phinehas?

Numbers 25:11 (6-13)

Did Jesus associate with any Zealots?

Luke 6:13, 15b

First Century Jewish Movements - Scribes

Experts in the study of the Law, Many belonged to Pharisee party
Served as judges in the Sanhedrin
Taught the Law to others, expected students to pass on at no charge
Evolved into rabbis of today (rabbi means *master, teacher*)

What question did the scribes use to try to trick Jesus?

Matthew 22:35-36

What important answer did Jesus give that also silenced the scribes?

Matthew 22:37-40

First Century Jewish Movements - Essenes

A strict sect that stayed separate from others to remain pious
Celibate (adopted babies), lived communally, objected to temple & sacrifices
Dead Sea Scrolls came from Essene settlement at Khirbet Qumran
Evolved around 150 BC, disappeared after Romans destroyed Jerusalem in 70 AD

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What Names Did Others Give Jesus?

Jesus
Carpenter's son
Son of Joseph
Son of the Living God
Teacher
Whom Moses wrote about
King who comes in ...
Christ the Lord
Immanuel

Jesus of Galilee
Mary's son
Son of Man
Son of the Blessed One
Rabbi
Whom prophets wrote
King of Israel
Christ
Savior

Jesus of Nazareth
Brother of ...
Son of David
My Son
Great Prophet
Lord
King of the Jews
Messiah
Lamb of God

What Names Did Jesus Give to Himself in John's Gospel?

Bread of Life
Good Shepherd
The Way

Light of the World
Door of the Sheep
The Truth

The True Vine
The Resurrection
The Life

What Claims Did Jesus Make That Brought Strong Opposition?

Luke 4:21, 24, 28-29
Mark 2:5-7
John 8:58-59
Exodus 3:13-14
John 10:30-33
Matthew 26:63-66

How Did His Followers Describe Him?

Matthew 16:13-16
John 20:28
Colossians 1:15-20
Hebrews 1:3

Who Was Jesus?

John 1:1-3
John 1:14a
John 14:9

Closing Prayer

Distribute Materials

Next Week - *Jesus the Man*