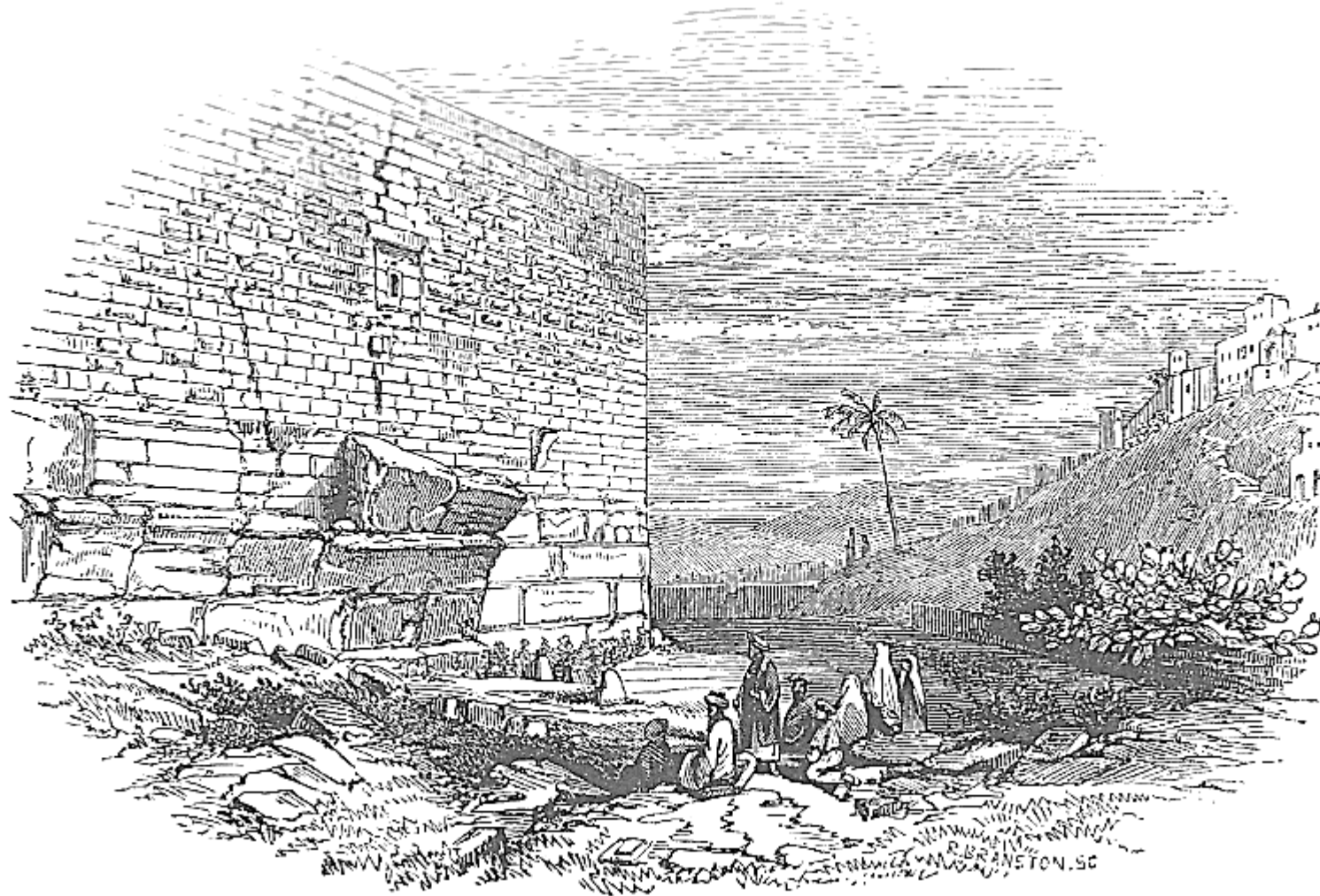


# “Foundations of the Faith”

## Examination of the Nasaraeans



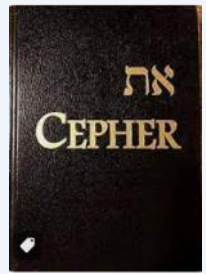
# “Foundations of the Faith”



- **Part 0 – Overview of the problem why we need to rewind back from the Council of Nicaea**
- **Part 1 – The History of Yasharel (country) - Why are there so many groups of people, sects and alternative Jewish beliefs**
- **Part 2 - The Doctrines of the Early Faith - Who are the people and what specifically are their beliefs**
- **Part 3 The followers of “the way” Hunted**
- **Part 4 The followers of “the way” The Nasaraeans**
- **TBD..**



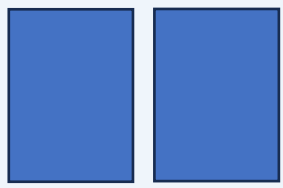
# Main Books referenced



Extra Books: Tobit  
Esther  
Jasher  
etc  
Names  
Bachrites  
Tahanites  
etc

<https://www.cepher.net/>

1. THE ANTIQUITIES OF THE JEWS  
2. The Wars of the Jews  
Flavius Josephus



These historic books are available online via Amazon etc and also publicly available on various online archives and PDF.

[https://archive.org/details/theAntiquitiesOfTheJews\\_507](https://archive.org/details/theAntiquitiesOfTheJews_507)  
<https://archive.org/details/theWarsOfTheJews>

Refutation of all Heresies  
Hippolytus



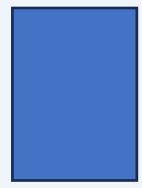
<https://archive.org/details/pilosophumenaor01hippuoft/page/n5/mode/2up>

Against Heresies  
Irenaeus



<https://archive.org/details/ails/SaintIrenaeusAgainstHeresiesComplete>

Eusebius  
Church History

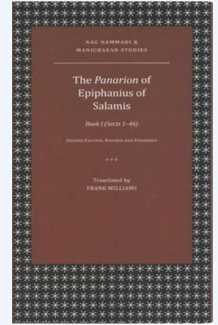


[https://archive.org/details/eusebiusecclesia0000euse\\_v9k8](https://archive.org/details/eusebiusecclesia0000euse_v9k8)

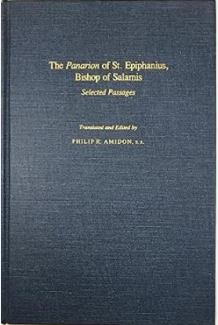
Philo  
Loeb publishers  
Volume 9



The Panarion of St. Epiphanius,  
Bishop of Salamis



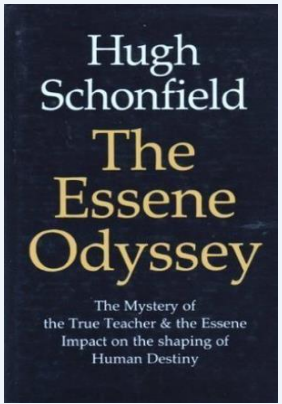
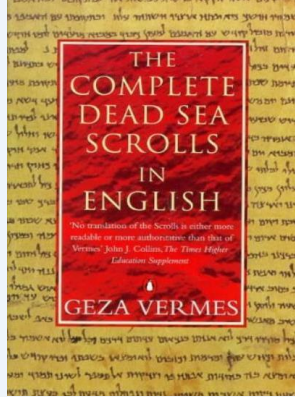
Frank Williams  
Translation



Philip R. Amidon  
Translation

Used for reference, original text clearly not in copyright however the translations are..!  
Hence will be paraphrasing from these editions.  
Available online via Amazon etc and also publicly available on various online archives and PDF.  
First translated into English in 1987.

The Complete Dead  
Sea Scrolls in English  
Geza Vermes



**This presentation is for teaching and educational purposes only, not for profit and not for sale.**  
**All articles are clearly referenced.**



## References – Key People

Person	Date	Area of interest	Key elements of interest
<b>Josephus</b>	37-100AD	Knowledge of early Jewish Sects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Roman–Jewish historian and military leader, wrote <b>Wars of the Jews</b>, <b>Antiquities of the Jews</b>, <b>The Life of Flavius Josephus</b></li></ul>
<b>Irenaeus</b> Greek Bishop based in France	~180AD	Document Heretical groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>“Against Heresies”</b> – book detailing Heresies against the proto-orthodox Christian faith.</li></ul>
<b>Hippolytus</b> Christian theologian – French taught	~220	Document Heretical groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>“Refutation of all Heresies”</b> – book detailing Heresies against the proto-orthodox Christian faith.</li></ul>
<b>Epiphanius of Salamis</b> “Bishop” of an Island near Corinth, opposed to many of their doctrines.	310–320 – 403	Document Heretical groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>“Panarion”</b> – essential book showing all the Sects of the Jews and other beliefs</li></ul>
<b>EUSEBIUS</b>	260/265 – 339	Constantine’s Archbishop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Overseeing the Nicene Council.</b></li><li><b>Writing of the “Church History”</b> documenting the earlier church writings</li></ul>
<b>Filo of Alexandria</b>	20 BCE – c. 50 CE	Jewish customs and practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Writings of home country and customs written with detail and sympathy</li></ul>



### **Statement on the Essenes by an expert on the Dead-Sea-Scrolls**

“It is clear from this literature that the sectaries **regarded themselves as the true Israel,** the repository of the authentic traditions of the religious body from which they had seceded

*Chapter 2 the complete dead sea scrolls in English*



“The most effective way to destroy people is to deny and obliterate their own understanding of their history.”

Mis-quote from George Orwell – 1984

Qumran (Damascus) – Essene centre Israel  
Location of the Dead sea Scrolls



[https://easyscienceforkids.com/israel-worksheet-free-online-printable-geography-word-search-puzzles/#google\\_vignette](https://easyscienceforkids.com/israel-worksheet-free-online-printable-geography-word-search-puzzles/#google_vignette)

“Do you realize that the past , starting from yesterday has been abolished ?....  
Every record has been destroyed or falsified, every book has been re-written, every picture has been repainted, every statue and street and building renamed.  
And the process is continuing minute by minute. History has stopped. Nothing exists but the endless present in which the party is always right”

George Orwell – 1984

Suspicious – destruction and over-write..!

- Its Crazy looking at the around at the Serpent cults, Essene Masters, Naasseni, Nasaraean, Essene Angelic communions, “past life memory” specialists and other media – we don’t need to read speculation or use bible-codes, it written by themselves and their contemporaries as we will see – **make up your own mind !**
- Complete obliteration of Qumran
- 75% of the 800 manuscripts have not been released
- Heavy copywrite around the released scrolls (Qimron v Shanks)
- Mystics and new age supporters usurping the “Essenes” to their own agendas..

### Book “The Dead Sea Scrolls Deception”

Working with Eisenman, an expert in biblical archaeology and scholarship, Baigent and Leigh succeeded in uncovering the story of how and why up to 75 per cent of the 800 ancient Hebrew and Aramaic manuscripts, hidden for some 19 centuries, still remain concealed from the world today.



# The Documents – saved for a far-away time in the future – the end of days (us !)

## Escape the Greek & Roman burnings

And now I declare unto you that the time of the years of my life is fulfilled and I am passing away to sleep with my fathers even in the presence of all the people **And receive this writing that you may know how to preserve the books which I shall deliver unto you:** and you shall set these in order and anoint them with oil of cedar and **put them away in earthen vessels** in the place which He made from the beginning of the creation of the world, that His name should be called upon until the day of repentance in the visitation **wherewith the Lord will visit them in the consummation of the end of the days.**

*The Assumption of Moses ii*

<p><i>Hauran Hoard</i> <i>818AD</i></p> <p>Jars</p>	<p>Timotheus metropolitan of Seleucia Letter 819AD, Jews found a hoard of Hebrew manuscripts near to Jericho 10 years previously.</p> <p><i>The Essene Odyssey P47</i></p>	<p>Manuscripts emerging after this date</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Book of Medicines</li> <li>• The Book of Shem</li> </ul> <p><i>The Essene Odyssey P51 &amp; P54</i></p>
<p><i>Dead Sea Scrolls</i> <i>Qumran</i> <i>1946-1956AD</i></p> <p>Jars</p>	<p>15,000 scrolls and scroll fragments are held in the Shrine of the Book at the Israel Museum, located in the city of Jerusalem.</p> <p><a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dead_Sea_Scrolls">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dead_Sea_Scrolls</a></p>	<p>Example manuscripts emerging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Book of Jubilees</li> <li>• The Book of Isaiah</li> <li>• Messianic Rule scroll</li> <li>• the Damascus Document</li> <li>• The Community Rule</li> <li>• The Temple Scroll</li> </ul>
<p><i>Nag Hammadi library</i> <i>1945AD</i></p> <p>Jars</p>	<p>Thirteen leather-bound papyrus codices buried in a sealed jar were found. The writings in these codices comprise 52 mostly Gnostic treatises.</p> <p><a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nag_Hammadi_library">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nag_Hammadi_library</a></p>	<p>Example manuscripts emerging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Gospel of Truth</li> <li>• The Book of Thomas</li> <li>• The Revelation(s) of James</li> <li>• The act of Peter</li> <li>• The Gospel of Phillip</li> <li>• Melchizedek</li> </ul>
<p><i>Clementines</i> <i>40-250AD</i></p> <p>Scrolls</p>	<p>Written in ancient Greek and this places it away from Rome, perhaps in the region of Pella early AD. The Ebionites used these as part of their teachings.</p> <p><i>Epiphanius the Panarion 30.16.7 &amp; 30.15.1</i></p>	<p>Example manuscripts emerging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Ascents of James</li> <li>• The Recognitions</li> <li>• The Homilies (20 small books)</li> </ul>



**Quick Recap on where we left off..  
The different Jewish Sects**



# The "Followers of the Way" – the remnant groups after the Roman wars and Temple destruction



Note:  
a RED X or ✓  
means assumed  
from the text or  
external sources

Sect	Samaria ?	Torah	Tanach	Sabbath	Jerusalem Temple	Feasts ?	Circumcision	Animal Sacrifices	Abhor the Dead	Verbal/other Traditions	Celibate or Continenence	Ruach Ha'Qodesh	Angels	Fasting	Vegetarian	Resurrection	Astrology	Regular Bathing	Tsitsith or fringes or phylacteries	Final Judgement	Mashiach
Samaritans	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X		X		X
Sebuaeans	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X		X		X
Gorothenes	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X		X		X
Dositheans	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	?	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X		X		X
Sadducees	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	?	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X
Scribes	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X*NV	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		✓		
Pharisees	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X*NV	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓		✓	✓	X
Hemerobaptists	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X*NV	X	?	X	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	?	X	X
Herodians	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X*NV	X	X				X		X				✓ Herod
Ossaeans	X	✓X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	?*NV	X	X				✓		X				✓ By title
Nasaraeans	X	✓X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	?*NV	X	✓				✓		X				
Essenes	X	?	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	X	?*NV						✓					✓	
<i>War with Romans and Temple Destruction - 66-73AD (Followers of "the Way" and Maschiach escape to Pella and other cities) - names change</i>																					
Nazoraean	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	?*NV	✓	✓			✓		✓					✓ Yahusha
Ebionites	X	✓X	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	?*NV	✓**	X				✓			✓			

Naasseni\*

Became

\*Hippolytus Refutation against All Heresies – Book 5 Chapter 2  
\*NV Nazirite Vow Numbers 6:6

\*\*The Itinerary of Peter, updating some and leaving some that is true (Clement) – Panarion 30.15.1  
They use the "Ascents of James" - Panarion 30.16.7



# Only 2 Sects claim direct descendancy to the original tribes.

	Sect	Chapter	
	Sadducees	14	The Nasaraeans are Jews by nationality, from Gileaditis, Bashanitis and the Transjordan as I have been told, but <b>descendants of Israel himself.</b>
	Scribes	15	
	Pharisees	16	
<b>Judaism</b>  Naasseni ?**	Hemerobaptists	17	Epiphanius – The Panarion Chapter 18  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>Descent from Jacob (Ya`aqov)</b>  <b>Gen 32:28 renamed Israel (Yashar`el)</b> </div> Josephus – The Wars of the Jews, Chapter 8 verse 2
	<b>Nasaraeans</b>	18	
	Ossaeans	19	
	Herodians	20	
	<b>Essenes</b>	12 (10)	
Samaritans	Gorothenes	10 (12)	For there are three philosophical sects among the Jews. The followers of the first of which are the Pharisees; of the second, the Sadducees; and the third sect, which pretends to a severer discipline, are called Essens. These last are <b>Jews by birth,</b>
	Sebuaeans	11	
	Dositheans	13	

Logically Joseph of Arimathea, James the Just, Yahusha, John the Baptist etc would have needed to belong to one of these two Sects.

Some argue that the Essenes are not mentioned in scripture because they were the ones writing scripture..!

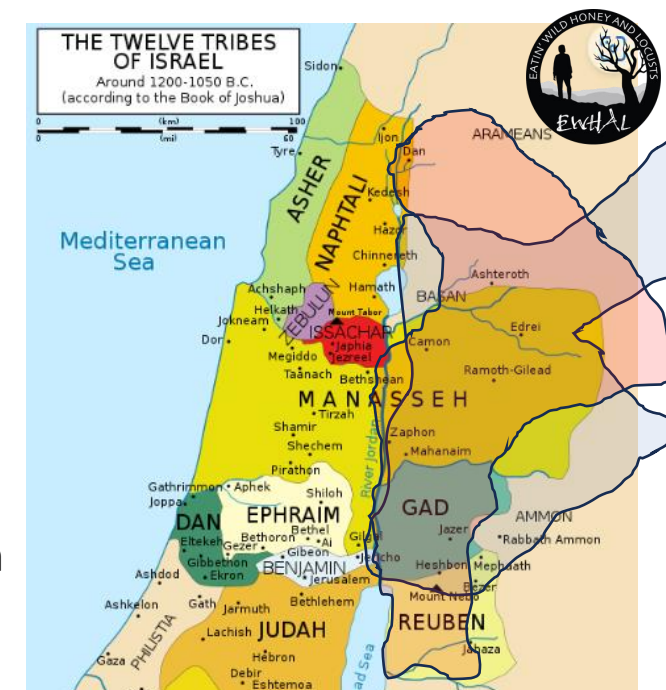
Mat 10:4 “Simon the Zealot” – Zealots are documented to be a name for a subset of Essenes (who carried knives)\*

\* Hippolytus, *The Refutation of All Heresies*, Book IX part 22

\*\*Hippolytus *Refutation against All Heresies* – Book 5 Chapter 2

The Nasaraeans are Jews by nationality, from Gileaditis, Bashanitis and the Transjordan as I have been told, but descendants of Israel himself.

*Note that this 'may' align to the original tribes (Manasseh, Gad, Reuben) in the map, or be later settlements...*



Legend:  
 Gilead  
 Bashan

	Sect	Chapter
Judaism	Sadducees	14
	Scribes	15
	Pharisees	16
	Hemerobaptists	17
	Nasaraeans	18

This sect practices Judaism in all respects

- keeping the same observances, festivals, circumcision, the Sabbath etc
- recognized as fathers the persons in the Pentateuch from Adam to Moses who were illustrious for the excellence of their piety.

**Differences:**

- No Fate
- No Astrology Area of focus for this session
- Would not accept the Pentateuch itself. It acknowledged Moses and believed that he had received legislation (set of laws)—not these but some other. And so, though they were Jews who kept all the Jewish observances, they would not offer sacrifice or eat meat. In their eyes it was unlawful to eat meat or make sacrifices with it. They claimed that these books are forgeries (fabrications) and that none of these customs were instituted by the fathers.



## Is there any evidence to a possible corruption to the Torah ?

Zephaniah suggests that there is and that this was before the Babylonian Captivity..!

Josiah or **Yoshiyahu** was the 16th King of Judah (c. **640–609 BCE**). According to the Hebrew Bible, he instituted major religious reforms by removing official worship of gods other than YHWH.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Josiah>

**Zep 1:1** THE Word of **Yahuah** which came unto Tsephanyahu the son of Kushiy, the son of Gadolyahu, the son of Amaryahu, the son of Yechizqiyahu, **in the days of Yo'shiyahu** the son of Amon, king of Yahudah.

### Judgment on Jerusalem and the Nations

**Zep 3:1** **WOE** to her that is filthy and polluted, to the oppressing city!

**Zep 3:2** She obeyed not the voice; she received not correction; she trusted not in **Yahuah**; she drew not near to her **Elohiym**.

**Zep 3:3** Her princes within her *are* roaring lions; her judges *are* evening wolves; they gnaw not the bones till the morrow.

**Zep 3:4** Her prophets *are* light *and* treacherous persons: her priests have polluted the sanctuary, **they have done violence to the Torah.**



# The Essenes & Nasaraeans

It can be confusing reading about these sects, history has not been kind to their heritage, the Essenes and Nasaraeans are talked about freely as the same entity at times, later being conflated into “Naasseni”\*\* under James.

We do have two clear paths however showing two sides of the same community and reflected by the following evidences

- **Damascus Document** – Dead Sea Scrolls & Other – Village\* “lay existence” which would appear to comport to the Nasaraeans, which are then described in detail by Philo (who confusingly classes them as Essenes).
- **Community Rule Document** – Dead Sea Scrolls & Other - ascetics living in a kind of ‘monastic’ society\*, the Essenes which are then described in detail by Josephus.

This train of thought has some substance based on the below article:

*“The Essenes were a Jewish “sect” or school of philosophy with two branches: some were celibate, disdained marriage and adopted children; others believed that marriage and procreation were needed if the group was to continue and not disappear.”*

Timothy H. Lim Professor of Hebrew Bible & Second Temple Judaism, University of Edinburgh. <https://blog.oup.com/2021/01/essenes-in-judaeen-society-the-sectarians-of-the-dead-sea-scrolls>

Same Torah  
& core belief  
systems  
Different  
modes of  
execution

## Nasaraeans

*Philo  
best discourse*

The statutes of the **Damascus Document** for an ordinary lay existence

- Village based community which would hold the same law and tenets as the Essenes, but would have family life and be open to all peoples with Hebrew lineage & same Torah understanding

## Essenes

*Josephus  
best discourse*

The **Community Rule** legislates for ascetics living in a kind of ‘monastic’ society

- Religious sect, based in village communities and also throughout Yasharel.
- Require a 2 years induction to become a member
- Strictly men only with celibacy or continence as a virtue
- Adopt young children

\*The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls in English P 59 & P49

\*\*Hippolytus Refutation against All Heresies – Book 5 Chapter 2

# Timeline of the Prophets

Please note that all dates are pure estimations based on quick analysis and should not be used outside the purpose of this discussion



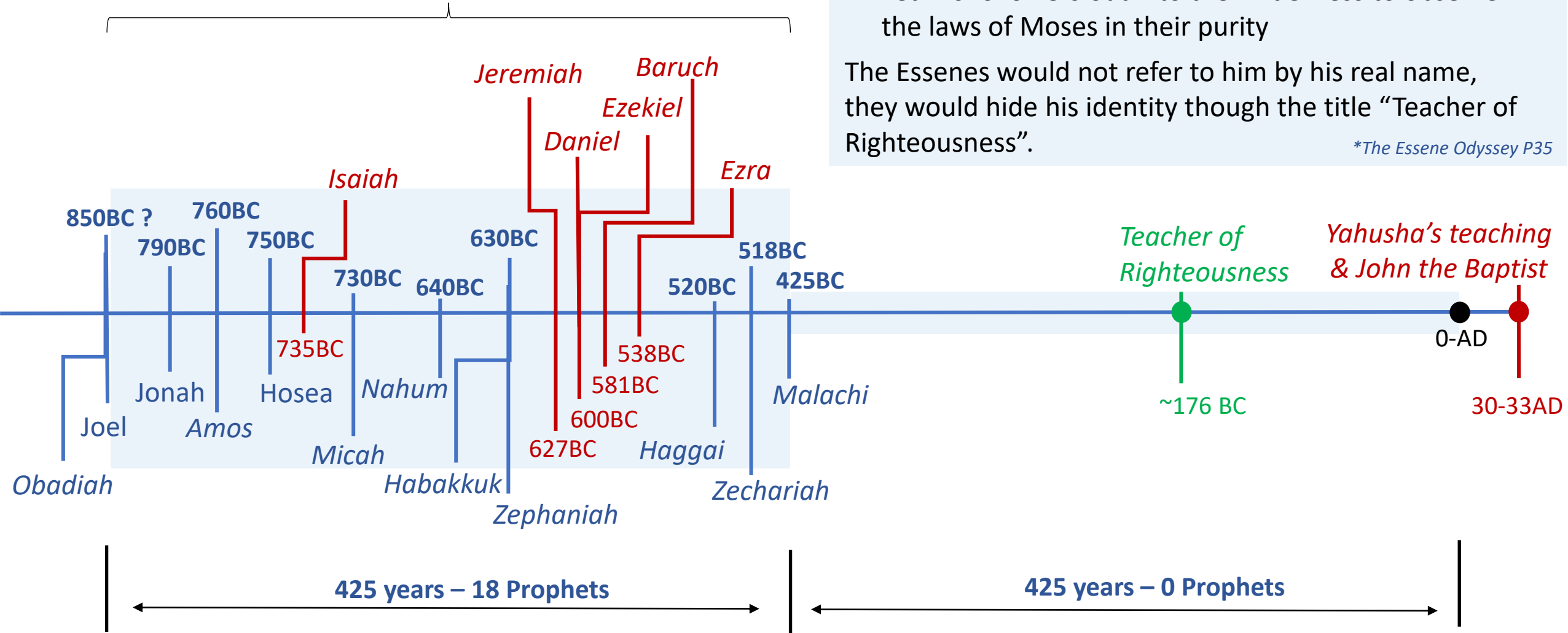
## “The True Teacher” – breakdown (Hugh Schonfield)

- Outspoken champion of the Divine Laws
- Detested by the “Wicked Priest” of his day
- To whom God made known all the mysteries of the words of his servants the Prophets.
- Led his followers out into the wilderness to observe the laws of Moses in their purity

The Essenes would not refer to him by his real name, they would hide his identity though the title “Teacher of Righteousness”.

*\*The Essene Odyssey P35*

## Age of the Prophets





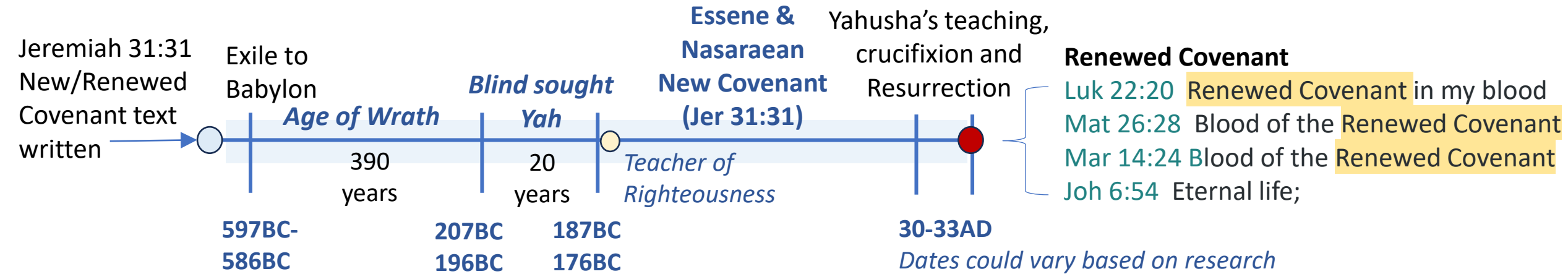


# Timeline detail

## The Exhortation *Excerpt from The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls in English*

Listen now all you who know righteousness, and consider the works of God; for He has a dispute with all flesh and will condemn all those who despise Him. For when they were unfaithful and forsook Him, He hid His face from Israel and His Sanctuary and delivered them up to the sword. But remembering the Covenant of the forefathers, He left a remnant to Israel and did not deliver it up to be destroyed. And in the age of wrath, **three hundred and ninety years** after He had given them into the hand of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, He visited them, and He caused a plant root to spring from Israel and Aaron to inherit His Land and to prosper on the good things of His earth. And they perceived their iniquity and recognized that they were guilty men, yet for **twenty years** they were like blind men groping for the way. And God observed their deeds, that they sought Him with a whole heart, and He raised for them a **Teacher of Righteousness** to guide them **in the way of His heart**.

**Re-aligned Torah\* \*\*** →



Hear now, **all you who enter the Covenant**, and I will unstop your ears concerning the ways of the wicked. God loves knowledge. Wisdom and understanding He has set before Him, and prudence and knowledge serve Him. Patience and much forgiveness are with Him towards those who turn from transgression; but power, might, and great flaming wrath by the hand of all the Angels of Destruction towards those who depart from the way and abhor the Precept.

\*Epiphanius – The Panarion chapter 18 \*\* Philo – Every Good Man is Free (Loeb Volume 9)



## The New Covenant/Renewed Covenant

**Jer 31:31 (31-40)** Behold, the days come, says **Yahuah**, that I will cut a **Renewed Covenant** with the house of Yashar'el, and with the house of Yahudah:

**Jer 31:32** Not according to the covenant that I cut with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Mitsrayim; which my covenant they broke, although I was a husband unto them, says **Yahuah**:

**Jer 31:33** But this *shall be* the covenant that I will cut with the house of Yashar'el; After those days, says **Yahuah**, I will put my Torah in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their **Elohiym**, and they shall be my people.

**Jer 31:34** And they shall teach no more every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know **Yahuah**: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, says **Yahuah**: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.



## Dead Sea Scrolls Ad-hoc notes of doctrinal alignment : *Excerpt from The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls in English*

### On Circumcision of the heart (*in equivalence to Romans 2:29*)

#### 4Q434, fr. I

Bless, my soul, the Lord for all His marvels for ever

...REDACTED....

He has circumcised the foreskin of their heart, and has delivered them because of His kindness, and has directed their feet towards the way.

### On Sacrifice

*(not counting the Temple Scrolls – which record the traditional worship in the temple at Jerusalem)*

### Talking of the Songs of David (within the section of Psalms)

YHWH gave him an intelligent and brilliant spirit, and he wrote 3,600 psalms

and 364 songs to sing before the altar for the daily perpetual sacrifice, for all the days of the year; and 52 songs for the Sabbath offerings; and 30 songs for the New Moons, for Feast-days and for the Day of Atonement.

... REDACTED.... 4 songs to make music on behalf of those stricken (by evil spirits). In all, they were 4,050.

All these he uttered through prophecy which was given him from before the Most High.

### On Repentance

But all those who hold fast to these precepts, going and coming in accordance with the Law, who heed the voice of the Teacher and confess before God, (saying), 'Truly we have sinned, we and our fathers, by walking counter to the precepts of the Covenant,

..... REDACTED .....

God will forgive them and they shall see His salvation because they took refuge in His holy Name



# Looking at their Society - This is the Rule for the Guardian of the camp (Village Chief)

*Excerpt from The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls in English*

- He shall instruct the Congregation in the works of God. He shall cause them to consider His mighty deeds and shall recount all the happenings of eternity .....REDACTED.....
- He shall love them as a father loves his children, and shall carry them in all their distress like a shepherd his sheep.
- He shall loosen all the fetters which bind them that in his Congregation ..... REDACTED .....
- He shall examine every man entering his Congregation with regard to his deeds, understanding, strength, ability and possessions, and shall inscribe him in his place according to his rank in the lot of L[ight].  
..... REDACTED .....
- No member of the Covenant of God shall give or receive anything from the sons of Dawn (shahar) [or: of the Pit (shahat)] except for payment.  
..... REDACTED .....
- Likewise he who marri[es]} ..... REDACTED ..... advice. Likewise he who divorces (his wife). And he (the Guardian) shall instruct {their sons [and their daughters in a spiri]t} (4Q266, fr. 9 ii, 6-7) of humility and in loving-kindness  
..... REDACTED .....



# Looking at their Society - The Messianic Rule scroll (Excerpt)

*Excerpt from The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls in English*

This is the Rule for all the congregation of Israel in the last days, when they shall join [the Community to walk according to the law of the sons of Zadok the Priests and of the men of their Covenant who have turned aside [from the] way of the people, the men of His Council who keep His Covenant in the midst of iniquity, offering expiation [for the Land]

- From [his] youth they shall instruct him in the Book of Meditation and shall teach him, --- REDACTED--- the precepts of the Covenant. .... REDACTED.....for ten years...

- At the age of twenty years [he shall be] enrolled, that he may enter upon his allotted duties in the midst of his family (and) be joined to the holy congregation. He shall not [approach] a woman to know her by lying with her before he is fully twenty years old, when he shall know [good] and evil. .... REDACTED ..... REDACTED .....

Numbers 32:11,  
Deuteronomy 1:39

and shall be (allowed) to assist at the hearing of judgements.

- At the age of twenty-five years he may take his place among the foundations (i.e. the officials) of the holy congregation ..... REDACTED .....

- At the age of thirty years he may approach to participate in lawsuits and judgements, and may take his place among the chiefs of the Thousands of Israel, ..... REDACTED .....[under the authority] of the sons of [Aar]on the Priests. .... REDACTED ..... REDACTED .....

he may perform his tasks among his brethren in accordance with his understanding and the perfection of his way. According to whether this is great or little, so shall one man be honoured more than another.

- The sons of Levi shall hold office, each in his place, under the authority of the sons of Aaron. They shall cause all the congregation to go and come, each man in his rank, under the direction of the heads of family of the congregation - the leaders, Judges, and officers, according to the number ..... REDACTED .....



## The Nasaraeans

### Philo – Every Good Man is Free (Loeb Volume 9)

*Philo of Alexandria*

*Nasaraeans (Essene Damascus Document)*

(75) Moreover, Palestine and Syria are not barren of exemplary wisdom and virtue. In these countries lives no small portion of that most populous nation of the Jews. There is a portion of those people called **Essenes**, in number something more than **four thousand in my opinion**, who derive their name from their piety, though not according to an accurate form of the Greek language,

116 because they are above all especially devoted to the service of God, **not sacrificing living animals**, but **studying rather to preserve their own minds in a state of holiness and purity**.

(76) These men, in the first place, **live in villages, avoiding all cities** on account of the **habitual lawlessness of those who inhabit them**, knowing that such a moral disease is contracted from associations with wicked men, just as a real disease might be from an unhealthy atmosphere, and that this would have a deadly effect on their souls.

Of these men, some cultivating the earth and others devoting themselves to those arts which are the result of peace, benefit both themselves and all those who come in contact with them, not storing up treasures of silver and gold, nor acquiring vast sections of land out of a desire for ample revenues, but providing all things which are requisite for the natural purposes of life.

(77) For **they alone of almost all men have become poor and destitute by deliberate action** rather than by any real deficiency of good fortune, but are nevertheless accounted very rich, judging contentment and frugality to be great abundance, as in truth they are.





(78) Among those men you will find no makers of arrows, javelins, swords, helmets, breastplates, shields; no makers of arms or of military engines; no one, in short, attending to any employment whatever connected with war, or even to any of those occupations even in peace which are easily perverted to wicked purposes.

For they are utterly ignorant of all business and of all commercial dealings, and of all sea trade, but they repudiate and keep aloof from everything which can possibly afford any inducement to covetousness.

(79) There is not a single slave among them, but they are all free, aiding one another with a reciprocal interchange of services. They condemn the owner of slaves not only as unjust, inasmuch as they corrupt the very principles of equality, but likewise as impious, because they annul the ordinances of nature which created them all equally and brought them up like a mother, as if they were all legitimate brethren, not in name only, but in reality and truth.

But in their view this natural relationship of all men to one another has been thrown into disorder by scheming covetousness, continually wishing to surpass others in good fortune, which has therefore engendered alienation instead of affection, and hatred instead of friendship.

(81) Now these laws they are taught at other times, indeed, but most especially on the seventh day, for the seventh day is accounted sacred, on which they abstain from all other work and frequent the sacred places which are called synagogues. There they sit according to their age in classes, the younger sitting below the elder and listening with eager attention.

(82) Then one, indeed, takes up the books and reads them, and another of the men of the greatest experience comes forward and explains what is not very intelligible, for a great many precepts are delivered in enigmatic modes of expression, and allegorically, as the old fashion was.

(83) Thus the people are taught piety, holiness, justice, economy, the science of regulating the state, and the knowledge of such things as are naturally good, bad, or indifferent, and to choose what is right and to avoid what is wrong, using a threefold variety of definitions, rules, and criteria, namely, the love of God, the love of virtue, and the love of mankind.



(84) Accordingly, they present a multitude of proofs of their love of God, and of a continued and uninterrupted purity throughout the whole of life, of a careful avoidance of oaths and of falsehood, and of a strict adherence to the principle of looking on the Deity as the cause of everything which is good and of nothing which is evil. They also furnish us with many proofs of a love of virtue, such as abstinence from all covetousness of money, from ambition, from indulgence in pleasures, temperance, endurance, and also moderation, simplicity, good temper, the absence of pride, obedience to the laws, steadiness, and everything of that kind. Lastly, they bring forward as proofs of the love of mankind good-will, equality beyond all power of description, and fellowship, about which it is not unreasonable to say a few words.

(85) In the first place, then, there is no one who has a house so absolutely his own private property that it does not in some sense also belong to everyone. For besides the fact that they all dwell together in communities, the house is open to all those of the same convictions who come to them from elsewhere.

(86) Then there is one treasury among them all, and their expenses are all in common. Their garments belong to them all in common, and their food is common through the institution of public meals. For there is no other people among which you can find common use of the same house, common adoption of one mode of living, and common use of the same table more thoroughly established in fact than among this tribe. And is this not very natural? For whatever they receive for their wages after having been working during the day, they do not retain as their own, but bring it into the common stock and give any advantage that is to be derived from it to all who desire to avail themselves of it.

(87) Those who are sick are not neglected because they are unable to contribute to the common stock, inasmuch as the tribe has in their public stock the means for supplying their necessities and treating their weakness, so that from their ample means they support them liberally and abundantly. They give respect to their elders, honor them and care for them, just as parents are honored and cared for by their lawful children, being supported by them in all abundance both by their personal efforts and by generous maintenance.



# Naasseni Hymn – Hippolytus the Refutation of all Heresies Book 5 Chapter 5

The world's producing law was Primal Mind,  
And next was First-born's outpoured Chaos;  
And third, the soul received its law of toil:  
Encircl'd, therefore, with an aqueous form,

The primordial world.

With care o'erpowered it succumbs to death.  
Now holding sway, it eyes the light,  
And now it weeps on misery flung;  
Now it mourns, now it thrills with joy;  
Now it wails, now it hears its doom;  
Now it hears its doom, now it dies,  
And now it leaves us, never to return.  
It, hapless straying, treads the maze of ills.

Circle of life and death  
with no way out

But Jesus said, Father, behold,  
A strife of ills across the earth  
Wanders from your breath (of wrath);  
But bitter Chaos (man) seeks to shun,  
And knows not how to pass it through.

Man born into chaos and  
needs knowledge of the  
true path of righteousness

On this account, O Father, send me;  
Bearing seals, I shall descend;  
Through ages whole I'll sweep,  
All mysteries I'll unravel,  
And forms of Gods I'll show;  
And secrets of the saintly path,  
Styled Gnosis, I'll impart.

The unravelling of the  
world systems and gift of  
knowledge of the truth.



**End of Session**

# The Covenants



**Noah's Covenant** (Gen 9 1-17) – not eat animal flesh with life which is in the blood, not shed mans blood, Yah will never to destroy the Earth by flood again

Gen 9:16 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between **Elohiym** and every living creature of all flesh that *is* upon the earth.

**Abrahamic Covenant** (Gen 17 1-14) Promises for seed & Circumcision

Gen 17:10 This *is* my covenant, which ye shall guard, between me and you and your seed after you; Every male child among you shall be circumcised.

**Mosaic Covenant** (Exo 14 5 & 20) Perculiar people, Kingdom of priests and holly nation, Torah to be the center of truth

Exo 19:5 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and guard my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth *is* mine:

Exo 19:6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These *are* the words which you shall speak unto the children of Yashar'el.

Exo 24:8 And Mosheh took the blood, and sprinkled *it* on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which **Yahuah** has cut with you concerning all these words.

**Davidic Covenant** (2 Sam 7) Throne established forever

2Sa 7:16 And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you: your throne shall be established forever.