

1st Century Jewish Groups in Palestine:

Sadducees: **landowners, controlled priesthood**, “righteous ones”; High Priest Caiaphas (condemned Jesus) **keep civil order, literalists on Torah (only); narrow focus on temple cult**

Pharisees (and Scribes, their lawyers); “the separated ones”, Torah AND oral laws and interpretations: progressive interpretations and education; non-temple religion about Sabbath, diet, alms, prayer; **believed in coming judgment, resurrection, angels, demons, prophets and apocrypha**

Mishnah Pharisee interpretations compiled by 200ce

Rabbi scholar/teacher

Talmud Jerusalem one by 400ce, Babylonian one by 500ce

Rabbis Hillel and Shammai (Jesus asked about their pronouncements on divorce)

Gamaliel the Elder (gəmə'lēəl), or Rabbi **Gamaliel I**, was a leading authority in the Sanhedrin in the mid first century, Paul’s teacher

Academy of Jamnia (post 70ce Pharisee gathering)

Samaritans Northern Israel, discriminated against for intermarried among those “foreigners” who occupied their land

Essenes **Dead Sea Scrolls; Qumran monastic commune, scrolls found in 1947;** believed in (2) priest & king messiahs; believed prophets fulfilled in their time (like Christians) – **John the Baptist?**

Zealots **patriots, farmers: who wanted to get rid of the Roman occupying forces**

Sicarii “daggers” **urban terrorists** (but not mentioned in the NT)

Messiah Concepts **Jews: political, David the prototype,** political

Psalm of Solomon 17: (60bce): messiah over Jews & Gentiles, rules by spirit & wisdom, not military

Christians: composite of prophet, priest and king: for all peoples: paradoxically dies and rises to serve, conquers evil, universal savior

Only the Pharisees & Samaritans survived post 70ce whereas the other Jewish Palistinian sects were wiped out by the Roman invasion at 70ce.