

The Religious Climate of Jesus' Time

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Understanding the Jewish Religious Groups

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer the following questions based on the lesson about the religious climate during Jesus' birth.

- Which group of religious leaders were known for their strict interpretation of God's law?
 - Sadducees
 - Pharisees
 - Zealots
- The ____ were wealthy priests who controlled the temple and did not believe in the supernatural.
- What were the main differences in expectations about the Messiah among the Pharisees, Sadducees, and Zealots?

- The Zealots were known for their peaceful approach to the Roman authorities.

True False

- What did the Pharisees emphasize in their religious practice?

- Wealth and power
- Following God's law
- Political revolution

- Jesus challenged the religious leaders because they often misinterpreted God's ____ and the purpose of the law.

- Why do you think understanding the religious climate is important for appreciating Jesus' ministry?

- The Sadducees believed in the resurrection of the dead.

True False

- What was one characteristic of the Zealots?

- They were scholars of the law
- They sought to overthrow the Roman government
- They were temple priests

- In Galatians 4:4-5, it states that God sent his Son to redeem those under the law, so that we might receive ____ to sonship.

Answer Key

1. Pharisees 2. Sadducees 3. The Pharisees expected a teacher of the law, the Sadducees did not believe in a Messiah, and the Zealots wanted a military leader to overthrow Rome. 4. False 5. Following God's law 6. plan 7. Understanding the religious climate helps us see why Jesus faced opposition and how His teachings were revolutionary compared to the established norms. 8. False 9. They sought to overthrow the Roman government 10. adoption