

THE PHARISEES VIEWS ON THE MESSIAH

The Sadducees had no views on the Messiah. They did not believe in a national Messiah.

'Pharisee' means separated. Their superior 'piety' established this separation.

The Scribes were the men whose work it was to interpret the law. The Pharisees were the men whose chief business was to embody the law in conduct.

Zealots were originally a group of Pharisees which eventually emerged as a distinct group.

The study of the messianic expectation is found in the Talmud. The Jerusalem Talmud was written down in the 4th century CE in Galilee. The Babylonian Talmud was written down around 500CE, but continued to be edited.

Their views on the Messiah were as follows:

1. The Messiah was pre-existent.
2. He had been born into the world, but hidden. He would come as a thief in the night and would be of the lineage of David.
3. The Messiah is a king appointed by God, subject unto God, sustained and glorified by the power of God.
4. The work of the Messiah is the redemption of Israel, a second Moses.
5. The doctrine of the resurrection is connected with the redemption of Israel. Those Israelis in their graves will be

raised to behold the triumph of righteous Israel and witness the judgement of the oppressors.

6. His coming is to be attended by great signs and wonders.
7. There will be many blessings from the Messiah's reign. The earth will yield its fruit ten thousand fold.
8. In Christ's time it was viewed that the Messiah would displace the Roman Empire in world rule.
9. The princes of the heathen world will gather their forces for a final battle against Jehovah and His Messiah.
10. The Messiah will expel and replace the Sadducees from the high priesthood.