

Religious Sects and Political Groups in Jesus' Day

Determine which group each statement most accurately identifies and mark it as follows:

Pharisees—P; Sadducees—S; Essenes—E; Zealots—Z; Scribes—Sc

Note: Statement 4 refers to more than one group.

1. ___ Their rebellion led to the eventual destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the Jewish nation in AD 70.
2. ___ This priestly group was more political than religious.
3. ___ Their name means "separated ones."
4. ___ These groups originated during the intertestamental period.
5. ___ They withdrew from society and lived in the wilderness with the purpose of developing purity and serving each other.
6. ___ They believed the Jews' true king was God, so they must resist other nations' rule.
7. ___ They appeared to forsake society and lived in a separate community.
8. ___ This group was the oldest of the groups, originating in Old Testament times.
9. ___ They likely descended from the Hasidim.
10. ___ These people were staunch defenders of Judaism against Hellenism.
11. ___ This group saw themselves like Phinehas (Numbers 25:7–13), defending God's honor.
12. ___ They were "lawyers," or teachers of the Law.
13. ___ Neither a religious sect nor a political party, this was a professional group who copied, preserved, and interpreted the Law.
14. ___ They were from the wealthy, aristocratic class.
15. ___ This group embraced Hellenism and Roman authority.
16. ___ Adherents of this group were Jewish, middle-class tradesmen or businessmen.
17. ___ They shared all their property.
18. ___ Membership with them was based on merit, not heredity. Worthy candidates were recruited, converted, and proselytized.
19. ___ They were a hereditary order.
20. ___ This group accepted only the written books of the Law, but they rejected the books of the Prophets and the Writings and the Oral Traditions.
21. ___ They were fanatical nationalists.
22. ___ This group provided for members too old or sick to work.
23. ___ They people did not believe in angels or bodily resurrection of the dead.
24. ___ They refrained from business or military service.
25. ___ This group viewed themselves as agents of God's judgment and redemption.
26. ___ Their word on matters of the Law was final.
27. ___ Of all the groups, perhaps this one was the least popular among common Jews.
28. ___ They strongly opposed Roman rule and refused to pay taxes to a pagan emperor.
29. ___ This group valued politics more than religion.
30. ___ Their activities were centered on the temple rather than the synagogue.
31. ___ Largely responsible for the synagogues, they had no authority or role in the temple.
32. ___ Their main objective was the complete overthrow of the Roman government by any means.
33. ___ They often aligned themselves with the Pharisees because both placed great emphasis on the written Law and Oral Tradition.