

# The Dig

Until the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls (DSS) mankind was reliant wholly upon fragments and copies which at best reached back to the second century in the modern epoch.

In 1948, this changed with the discovery of what appears to be ancient manuscripts dating from the fourth through first century BC. These have come to be known as the Dead Sea Scrolls.

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While little of the past has been authoritatively ascertained, it is believed that the residents of the ancient city we now call Qumran, but then known as Damascus, was inhabited by a sect known as the Essenes. There are, however, historians, who are willing to debate this issue, including the issue of whether the authorship of these scrolls can be successfully and exclusively attributed to the Essenes. Some, for instance, believe that the Tsadoqiym – a group of Levites distinct from the practices of the Essenes – may have occupied the area prior to the monastic practices of this latter group, and may have had a hand in the crafting of specific scrolls.

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Regardless of the dispute, we see a “canon” of sorts appearing in the selection of manuscripts to be preserved in the caves of Qumran – not only safe from the Greeks and the Romans who may have sought to destroy the relics of the prior culture entirely, but also safe from the corruption which would soon come under the Makkabiym, the Hyrcanians, and the Hasmoneans. In this selection we find the remnants of multiple copies of the Cepher Chanoch and the Cepher Yovheliym – a selection which preceded the Council of Jamnia by centuries and the Council of Trent by nearly two millennium.

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Since the discovery of the DSS, we have now seen the emergence of a religious system based upon the conclusions drawn from these artifacts and manuscripts called Orthodox Essene Judaism.

This purpose of today's discussion is not an endorsement of this set of beliefs, but rather an objective dig to look at what we find. Get your shovel and pick axe. The dig is on.

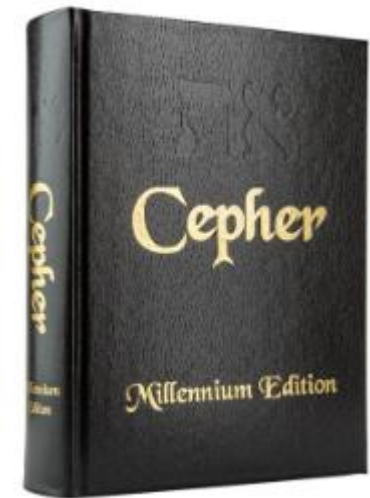


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# The Dig

The Orthodoxy  
of the Essenes

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## The Orthodoxy of the Essenes

1. We believe that all the Dead Sea Scrolls are divinely inspired holy sacred Scripture.
2. We believe that all of the Biblical Apocrypha and most of the Biblical “Pseudepigrapha” are divinely inspired holy sacred Scripture.
3. We believe that the original LXX is usually more accurate and authoritative than the Masoretic text.
4. We believe that the Samaritan Torah is always more accurate and authoritative than the Masoretic text, with rare exceptions.



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5. We believe that the Temple Scroll is the original version of the Book of Deuteronomy

6. We believe that the Great Psalms Scroll is the original version of the Book of Psalms.

7. We believe that the writings of Enoch, the Patriarchs, and Moses, are superior to and more authoritative than the Law of Moses.

8. We believe that new commands can be added and old commands can be taken away.

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9. We believe that the New Covenant has made the Old Covenant obsolete.

10. We believe that of the Law of Moses, only the Levitical laws and government laws have been partially invalidated until the time of the Gentiles is fulfilled. All other laws from the Law of Moses are in full force.

11. We believe that observance of the Sabbaths and festivals of the New Covenant, the justice laws, and the cleanliness laws are required to keep.

12. We believe that the Solar Calendar of 364 days only is the one true calendar that all believers are required to keep.

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13. We believe that, in addition to the standard holy days of our copies of the Law of Moses, the New Month Season days, the Feast of New Wine, Feast of New Oil, the six days of the Wood Offering, the four fast days of Judah, Feast of Purim, Feast of Judith, feast of deliverance, eight days of Chanukkah, and the feast of Nicanor are all holy days that Israelites are required to keep.

14. We believe that Gentiles are only required to observe the Law of Noah and the New Law of the New Covenant for salvation.

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## The Noahide Laws

The **Babylonian Talmud** listed the first six commandments as prohibitions against idolatry, blasphemy, murder, adultery, and robbery and the positive command to establish courts of justice (with all that this implies). After the Flood a seventh commandment, given to Noah, forbade the eating of flesh cut from a living animal (Gen. 9:4). Though the number of laws was later increased to 30 with the addition of prohibitions against castration, sorcery, and other practices, the “seven laws,” with minor variations, retained their original status as authoritative commandments and as the source of other laws. As basic statutes safeguarding monotheism and guaranteeing proper ethical conduct in society, these laws provided a legal framework for alien residents in Jewish territory. Maimonides thus regarded anyone who observed these laws as one “assured of a portion in the world to come.” Throughout the ages scholars have viewed the Noahide Laws as a link between Judaism and Christianity, as universal norms of ethical conduct, as a basic concept in international law, or as a guarantee of fundamental human rights for all.

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15. We believe that, with the exception of so-called “sins of ignorance”, 100% sinlessness and perfection is required for salvation.

16. We believe that we are justified by faith and works, and not faith alone.

17. We believe that we are saved by grace, and not by man’s own ability.

18. We believe that all men are born pure and innocent and perfectly capable of never sinning their entire lifetime.

19. We believe that the sin of Adam corrupted the Earth and all life in it, so that whosoever lives on the Earth will be under the influence of sin and corrupted by its power. The only man who was not under the influence of sin and corrupted by its power was Yeusuwo/Jesus Messiah/Christ.

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20. We believe that Adam's sin causes all life to die through old age.

21. We believe that, with the exception of a plentiful few, all people have sinned.

22. We believe that Yeusuwo is YHWH Elohim in the flesh.

23. We believe that Yeusuwo is the Son of God, not God Himself.

24. We believe Yeusuwo's divinity and humanity were united and entirely undivided, without distinction, without separation, and without duality, in the sense that his humanity and divinity were the same and identical nature, so that he did not have divine nature and a human nature, but rather he had a divine human nature.

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25. We believe that Yeesuwo's atoning work during His life, completed on the cross, is sufficient for forgiveness and atonement of sins for the repentant sinners who become perfectly righteous and entirely sinless.

26. We believe that anyone who willfully sins after he has truly repented from all his sins can never be saved again even if they truly repent a second time.

27. We believe water baptism in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is required for all believers.

28. We believe that all angels, stars, planets, humans, animals, insects, plants, and elements are spiritual beings which have intelligence, emotions, free will, and which are moral agents who will inherit eternal life or eternal death based on their faith and works.

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29. We believe that stars, planets, animals, insects, and plants, just like humans, can be saved from their sins if they repent and have faith in YHWH.

30. We believe that Hebrew is the language of creation and in its original form was holy, sacred, and entirely perfect. The Paleo Hebrew Alphabet is the original form of the alphabet. The original pure and perfect Hebrew died out around 500 BC.

31. We believe that YHWH has actively caused and predestined all things which have ever happened and which ever will happen.

32. We believe that sex for any purpose other than procreation is a major sin and is wicked.



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33. We believe that the practice of polygyny and polyandry are both sinful, wicked, and adultery, and they are therefore forbidden. Monogamous concubinage however is morally acceptable if done in the proper manner.

34. We believe divorce is sinful and is adultery unless the person being divorced is guilty of a sin worthy of death. If the spouse is worthy of death, you are morally obligated to divorce that spouse or else you commit a major sin yourself and you are an adulterer.

35. We believe remarriage after divorce is a major sin and is adultery unless reconciliation is morally impossible.

36. We believe anyone who is in an adulterous marriage must divorce or else they remain in sin and adultery and they have no repentance or possibility of salvation so long as they remain in that state of sin.

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37. We believe in addition to abstaining from unclean animals, we are morally obligated to abstain from animals/plants that are genetically modified, animals/plants that are unhealthy, all artificial man-made ingredients or toxic ingredients, and fruit from a tree less than four years old.

38. We believe that we are not allowed to do anything unhealthy to ourselves or others (with the exception of punishing sinners via government or self-defense, or eating animals/plants.)

39. We believe that most people are unclean and that if you touch someone you don't know sufficiently the extent of their uncleanness, you must consider yourself unclean and purify yourself as the Law commands.

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40. We believe that lying is never morally acceptable, but that deception is sometimes morally acceptable if it is done in a truthful and righteous manner or intent.
41. We believe, except when the Law requires otherwise, swearing oaths is a sin.
42. We believe that absolute communism is a moral obligation, and that capitalism is very sinful, evil, and wicked.
43. We believe that owning private property is a sin.
44. We believe that the rich cannot be saved from their sins or have eternal life unless they give or share all their riches with those in need.

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45. We believe that we are morally obligated to adopt and take care of the poor, orphaned, widowed, afflicted, sick, rejected, estranged/lost/alien, and imprisoned who deserve to be helped.

46. We believe that we are not allowed to pray with, eat with, sing with, or hang out with anyone who is not of our religion or who is excommunicated.

47. We believe anyone who sins must be excommunicated until they repent of that sin.

48. We believe excommunication requires periods of fasting and fellowship separation, the length of which corresponds to the severity of the sin.

49. We believe that spirits and souls are immortal and do not cease to exist after death.

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50. We believe that spirits and souls go to Sheol or to Paradise after they die and are in a state of consciousness.

51. We believe the vast majority of the world will inherit eternal damnation and will undergo the second death, which is eternal death and eternal torment.

52. We believe that all people will live forever and will be able to receive in some way, mercy, forgiveness, love, joy, peace, pleasure, goodness, and atonement, but in a way that does not eliminate eternal torment.

53. We believe all life will be resurrected into glorified immortal bodies, and that all beings, with the exception of some angels and the stars and planets and some of the elements, will live on the Earth forever.

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54. We believe that reincarnation does not happen and that it is sinful to believe in reincarnation.

55. We believe that after death, in Sheol, people cannot repent from their sins to escape eternal damnation, but only while someone is a mortal can they repent so as to escape eternal damnation.

56. We believe that sinners who have died who believed they were sinless and who were seeking YHWH in sincerity and purity of heart will be resurrected in the millennial kingdom and given a second chance.

57. We believe that the prayers of sinless people for the dead are sufficient to cause those whom they prayed for to be resurrected in the millennial kingdom and given a second chance.

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58. We believe that all the commandments are not allowed to be broken even to save a life, and that if you break/disobey any commandment to save someone's life, you have done evil and are a sinner.

59. We believe that anyone who sins loses their salvation if they had it.

60. We believe the Sabbath must be kept strictly, and that all the laws of the Dead Sea Scrolls for sabbath observance are binding on all believers.

61. We believe that the Oral Law and Talmud is evil and wicked.

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62. We believe Intelligent Paganism, Primitive Paganism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Pharisaic Judaism, Sadducean Judaism, Samaritanism, Reformed Judaism, Roman Catholicism, Eastern Orthodoxy, Protestantism, and Islam are all false and blasphemous religions, and anyone who is truly a member of these religions will not be saved from their sins. But if people are of those religions, but do not subscribe to those religions fully, it is possible that some of them will be saved from their sins in their ignorance.



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63. We believe that many Oriental Orthodox, Nazarenes, and Messianics are not righteous enough to be saved, and will thus not be saved; those however who are close to the Essene way will have a chance for salvation. If people are of those religions, it is certain that some of them are righteous enough to be saved and that some of them will be saved from their sins in their ignorance.

64. We believe it is immoral to make or own weapons of war in a time of peace; this includes guns and swords and other killing instruments.

65. We believe that anyone who is truly baptized is not allowed to join or participate in the army or war of sinners.

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66. We believe we are morally obligated to be at peace with all people if possible and we are to kill people who are trying to majorly injure us as a last resort.

67. We believe in the principle of an eye for an eye and we support the aspects of sharia law which agree with the Law of Moses.

68. We believe in the concept of the blood avenger, and we do not condemn the blood avenger as a murderer.

69. We are morally opposed to abortion in all cases except in regards to saving the life of the mother.

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70. We believe that all the reports of the ancient Essenes reported by the ancient witnesses and testimonies are accurate representations of what the Essenes did and believed and what we also ought to embrace as noble truths of our faith.

71. We believe in a communistic constitutional monarchy politically, and we believe it is immoral to vote for anyone who cannot be trusted to rule the nation justly and righteously.

72. We believe that philosophy and logic and rationalism are the foundational pillars of truth, and that everything YHWH does is necessarily limited by the laws of logic and nature.

73. We believe that YHWH did not create the laws of logic or the laws of morality, and that YHWH is morally obligated to obey the laws or else He sins.

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74. We believe YHWH is both male and female, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and that the Father is all knowing, all powerful, all present, entirely perfect, flawless, and all good.

75. We believe that all addictions are demons.

76. We believe Satan is a real being that is the prince of demons, and that he is evil, but that he has a good and righteous purpose and for this reason He was chosen by YHWH to be the god of this world, and to the extent that Satan does not overextend his limits and commit excessive evil, Satan does not sin in the horrible things that he does.

77. We believe that all souls and spirits preexisted before they were born and conceived; on the first day of time, all angels, all stars, all planets, all humans, all animals, all plants, and all elements already existed, being created on that day.



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