

Summary of Disputes Among the Three Parties

Sect:	Sadducees	Pharisees	Essenes
Social Class:	Priests, aristocrats	Common people	?
Figures of Authority:	Priests	"Disciples of the Wise"	"Teacher of Righteousness"
Attitude to Hellenism:	For	Selective	Against
Attitude to Hasmoneans:	Opposed usurpation of priesthood by non-Zadokites	Varied? Opposed usurpation of monarchy?	Varied? Personally opposed to Jonathan ("Wicked Priest")?
Theology: 1. Free will 2. Angels 3. Afterlife	1. Yes 2. No 3. None	1. Mostly 2. Yes 3. Resurrection	1. No 2. Unknown 3. Spiritual Survival (?)
Attitude to Bible:	Literalist	Sophisticated scholarly interpretations	"Inspired Exegesis"
Attitude to Oral Torah:	No such thing	Equal to Written Torah	"Inspired Exegesis"
Practices:	Emphasis on priestly obligations (for priests)	Application of priestly laws to non-priests (<i>tithes</i> and <i>purity</i> rules)	"Inspired Exegesis"
Calendar:	? Luni-solar (perhaps only under popular pressure?)	Luni-solar	Solar: 364-day year

Sanhedrin:	70-100 Elders from any sect. Highest Jewish Tribunal
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