

1. What was one of the consequences of Alexander's conquest?
2. What were the four major religious groups of Judaism in Palestine?
3. Who was Philo of Alexander?
4. What two things contributed to the spread of Christianity?
5. Who were the two philosophers whose teachings were influential in the development of Christian ethics?

5-Answers

1. One of the consequences of Alexander's conquest was the combination of Greek culture with the cultures of the lands he had conquered.
2. The Pharisees, the Sadducees, the Zealots, the Essenes were the four major groups of Judaism.
3. Philo of Alexander was a Hellenistic Jewish philosopher who sought to combine Greek philosophy with Judaism.
4. Political and cultural unity in the entire Mediterranean area contributed to the spread of Christianity.
5. Plato and Socrates were influential in the development of Christian ethics.

3-Definitions

1. Jewish "diaspora": Jews who lived beyond the borders of Palestine
2. Hellenism: a combination of Greek culture with the ancient cultures of the lands conquered by Alexander.
3. Stoicism: a philosophical doctrine that promoted the attainment of high moral values.

Summary: This chapter discusses some of the events and conditions in Palestine following the death of Alexander: the history of the church from its birth on the day of Pentecost, the rapid growth of the church, and the heresies that developed and were refuted by the church fathers. The persecution of the church by the Empires until it was ended by Constantine with the Edict of Milan in 313, was also an important event.