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BIB460: Dead Sea Scrolls and the New Testament

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Week 3 Lecture Summary

This week's lecture is based on the Dead Sea Scrolls. Dr Garcia starts with decoding the biblical scrolls document numbers. Starting with 11Q13 which is cave 11, Qumran and 13 being the document number. Most refer to this as 11 Q melquisedec. 1QS Serekh, which means the rule of community or community rule in English. Qumran scholars were known as a community. These Qumran community were a group known in modern times for their preservation of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Dr. Garcia shows the Table 3.1 from the text which indicates a timeline for about 6 centuries.

The Qumran is best known for its discovered Dead Sea Scrolls. It is located on the Northwestern shore. They lived in caves, tents or living on the site which was the second floor. There is a lot of evidence of caves, bowls were found. There is little information of how long people lived there. It moved from being a sectarian community based on those scholars who were Christian.

Garcia speaks about whether they had influence of the Dead Sea Scrolls ideas or input. The community the Qumran mostly identified with were the Essenes religious group that lived in isolation within the west region of the Dead Sea. They were said to have eaten communal meals, also studied scriptures through the night. They would take a daily bath and did not have

intimacy. They followed their own calendar. The Dead Sea Scrolls are not just one thing but a multitude Of information similar to a library. One of the caves was a private collection. The Qumran were destroyed by the Romans during the First Jewish- Roman War, around 73 CE. The Dead Sea Scrolls were Jewish and Hebrew religious manuscripts. When considered how the Scrolls were put together can be a bit unorganized. This seems like more of a weaving of scrolls opposed to a braid. This leaves scholars seeking more evidence and putting the pieces together till today.