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Dead Sea Scrolls and the New Testament

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### Lecture Summary Week 11

Divine determinism is a theological concept that asserts that God has predetermined the course of human events and that free will is limited or non-existent. This concept is found in both the Dead Sea Scrolls (DSS) and the Pauline Epistles.

In the DSS, divine determinism is closely linked to the concept of predestination, where God has already chosen certain individuals for salvation or damnation. This idea is expressed through the use of terms such as "the elect" and "the wicked," who are predestined to their respective fates.

Similarly, in the Pauline Epistles, divine determinism is emphasized through the concept of predestination and election. Paul teaches that God has chosen certain individuals for salvation before the foundation of the world and that their ultimate destiny is predetermined.

However, both the DSS and the Pauline Epistles also acknowledge the importance of human responsibility and decision-making. Despite the idea of divine determinism, individuals are still held accountable for their actions and choices.

Overall, divine determinism is a complex theological concept that attempts to reconcile the role of God in human events with the concept of free will. While it is found in both the DSS and the Pauline Epistles, its implications and interpretations vary among different theological traditions.

