

## Dead Sea Scrolls

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### Lecture Review Week 8

In this lecture, we explored the relationship between the Pauline Epistles and the Dead Sea Scrolls.

The Pauline Epistles, also known as the letters of Paul, are a collection of letters written by the apostle Paul to various early Christian communities. These letters are some of the most important texts in the New Testament and have been studied extensively by scholars.

The Dead Sea Scrolls, on the other hand, are a collection of Jewish texts that were discovered in the 1940s and 1950s in the vicinity of the Dead Sea. These texts were written between the second century BCE and the first century CE and provide a wealth of information about Jewish beliefs, practices, and literature during this time period.

One of the most interesting connections between the Pauline Epistles and the Dead Sea Scrolls is the way in which they both reflect a diverse range of Jewish beliefs and practices. For example, both texts reference the concept of resurrection, but they differ in their interpretation of what this means. Paul believes in a bodily resurrection, while some of the Dead Sea Scrolls suggest a spiritual resurrection.

Additionally, both the Pauline Epistles and the Dead Sea Scrolls demonstrate a deep concern with issues of sin and salvation. Paul frequently discusses the importance of faith in Jesus as a means of achieving salvation, while the Dead Sea Scrolls emphasize the need for strict adherence to Jewish laws and rituals in order to achieve righteousness.

Overall, the study of the Pauline Epistles and the Dead Sea Scrolls provides valuable insights into the diversity of Jewish beliefs and practices during the early Christian era. By comparing and contrasting these texts, scholars can gain a deeper understanding of the complex cultural and religious landscape in which early Christianity emerged.

