

# Backgrounds to the New Testament



# Kingdom & Covenants Timeline



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## Kingdom Teaching...

Adam rules with God (Gen. 1:26, 28; 2:19) → Fall of Man (Gen. 3)

Satan begins rule as god of this world (Gen. 3:15; 2 Cor. 4:4)

God covenants with Abraham to reestablish man's rule via Israel as a "kingdom of priests" (Gen. 12:1-3; Exod. 19:6)

Israel's failure to witness to nations as a kingdom of priests is judged via exile under foreign rule

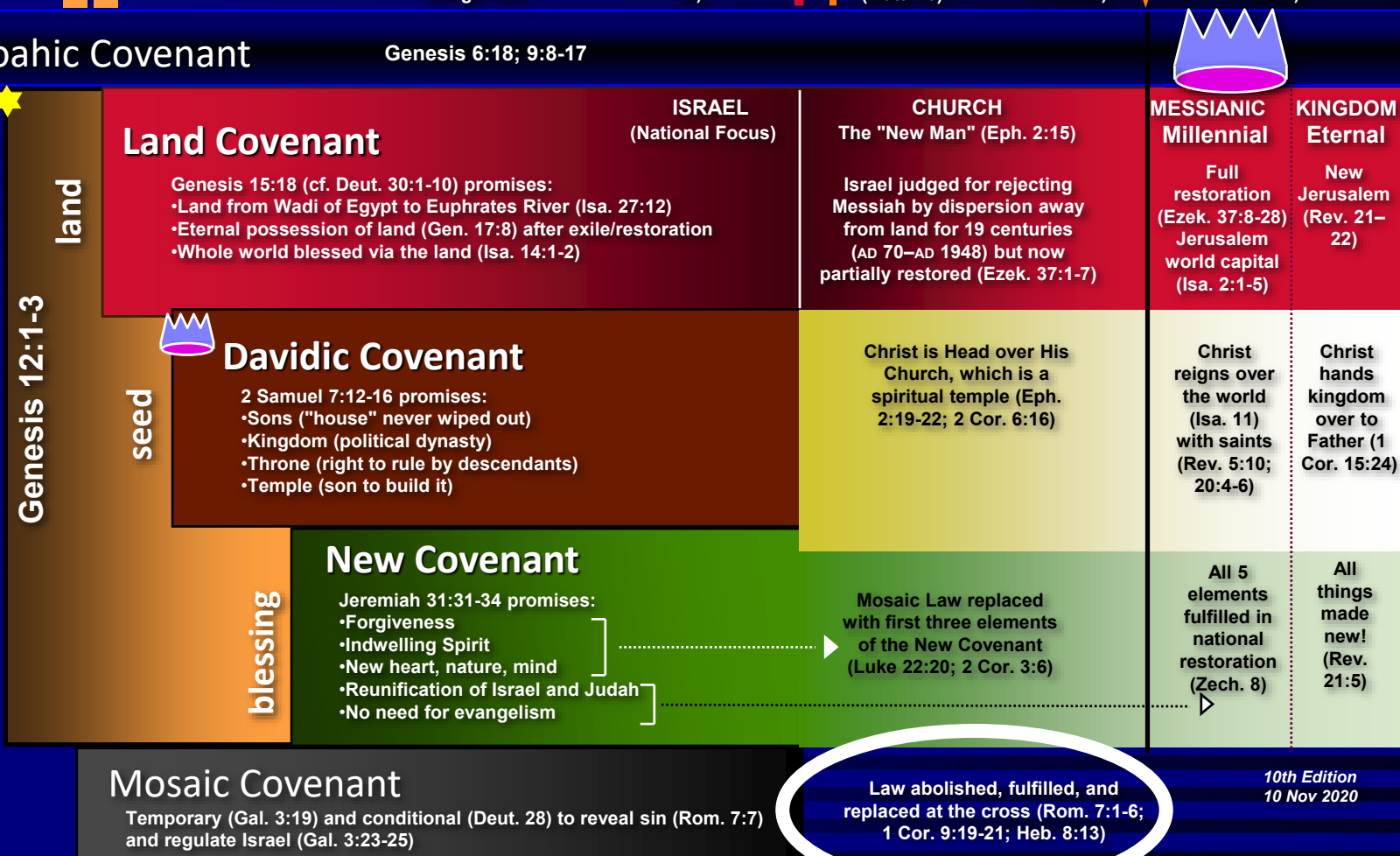
Israel rejects Messiah's offer of kingdom (Matt. 12:41-42; 23:37-39)

Jesus extends His kingdom in mystery form to the Church (Matt. 13)

Christ subdues Israel's enemies and nation believes (Rom. 11:26-27)

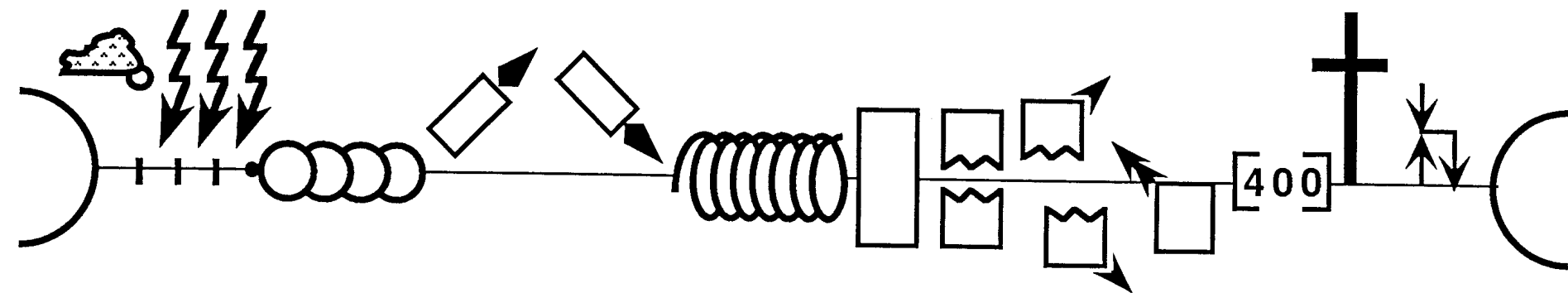
Christ rules over everything with saints (Eph. 1:9-10; Rev. 20:1-6; 22:5b)

## Abrahamic Covenant



Scripture has a dual kingdom-covenant theme. Israel's role from Abraham to Christ expands to include the Church (continuity) yet the Church never replaces the nation as the "new Israel" (discontinuity). Israel will enjoy world prominence after trusting Christ at His second coming.

# Stages of God's Plan In History



Beginnings  
Patriarchs  
Exodus  
Conquests  
Judges  
United Kingdom  
Divided Kingdom  
Captivity  
Restoration  
Silent Years  
Church  
Kingdom

# The Intertestamental Era (425 BC—5 BC)

<i>Issue / Time Period</i>	<b>Malachi (close of OT)</b>	<b>Intertestamental Era</b>	<b>Advent of Christ</b>
<i>Rulers Over Israel</i>	<b>Persia (208 yrs.)</b>	<b>Greeks (188 yrs.) Hasmoneans (80 yrs.)</b>	<b>Rome (58 yrs.)</b>
<i>Political Stability</i>	<b>Peace / autonomy</b>	<b>Many wars (Dan. 11:1-35)</b>	<b>Peace (but via Rome!)</b>
<i>Expectation of Messiah &amp; Kingdom</i>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Increasing “Two Messiahs”</b>	<b>High</b>
<i>Language in Palestine</i>	<b>Hebrew / Aramaic</b>	<b>Greek (Septuagint)</b>	<b>Aramaic / Greek / Latin</b>

# The Intertestamental Era (425 BC—5 BC)

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<b><i>Issue / Time Period</i></b>	<b>Malachi (close of OT)</b>	<b>Intertestament Era</b>	<b>Advent of Christ</b>
<b><i>Ability to Evangelize</i></b>	Limited	Increased	Extensive
<b><i>Road System</i></b>	Very Limited	Expanded	Extensive
<b><i>Places of Worship</i></b>	Temple only	Rise of Synagogues	Synagogues / Temple
<b><i>Religious Leaders</i></b>	Priests/Levite s	Rise of Jewish Sects	Pharisees / Sadducees



# The Intertestamental Era (425 BC—5 BC)

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<i>Issue / Time Period</i>	<b>Malachi (close of OT)</b>	<b>Intertestament Era</b>	<b>Advent of Christ</b>
<i>Priesthood achieved by . . .</i>	<b>Genealogy</b>	<b>Fighting illegitimate high priest</b>	<b>Bribes / Executions</b>
<i>Extent of Power</i>	<b>Local Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Rise of Sanhedrin</b>	<b>Corrupt Sanhedrin</b>
<i>Hermeneutic</i>	<b>Literal</b>	<b>Instable + Apocalyptic</b>	<b>Letterism</b>
<i>Authority</i>	<b>OT Law</b>	<b>Rise of Oral Law</b>	<b>Pharisees</b>

## *The “Kingdom Stage” is Set!*

**The time was right:**

Galatians 4:4 NIV  
“But when the time had fully come,  
God sent his Son, born of a  
woman, born under law, to redeem  
those under law, that we might  
receive the full rights of sons.”

■ Transportationally

# The Gospel of Matthew

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(probably written in the 40s)

answers the two questions *all* Jews were asking:

Q: Non-Christian Jews asked, “How do we know ***Jesus is the Messiah?***” (Matthew 1–10)

Q: Christian Jews asked, “Yes, He's Messiah, but ***where's the promised kingdom?***” (Matthew 11–28)

Answer:

- His advent (1-2) and approvals (3:1–4:11) show Jesus **fulfilled OT** Messianic prophecies
- His early ministry (4:12-25) and Sermon on Mount (5–7) reveal that he **has the prophetic office**
- He **shows messianic power** by healing (8:1–9:34) and authority by delegation (9:35-10:35)

Answer:

- **Israel rejected the kingdom** Jesus offered as Messiah so he now has authority over the church (11–16)
- **Jesus prepared the disciples for church issues** since the political kingdom is delayed (17–20)
- **Israel rejected Him as Messiah** but God sovereignly used this to pay for man's sin (21–27)
- **Christ defeated death** to show his messianic authority & ability to bring in the kingdom (28)



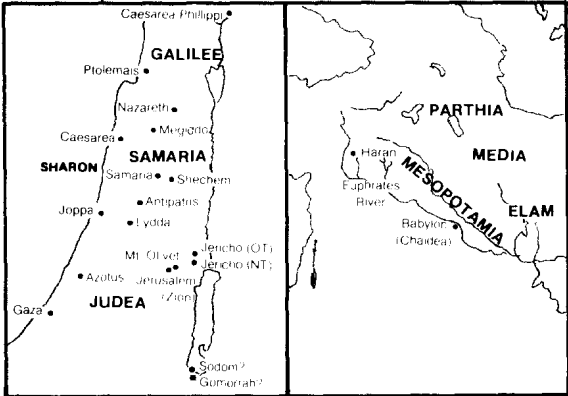
# Every Geographical Location in the Gospels



<u>From Jerusalem:</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Bethany	2
Bethlehem	6
Caesarea Philippi	105
Cana	69
Capernaum	85
Emmaus	7
Jericho	15
Jordan	21
Mediterranean	40
Sidon	130
Sychar	31
Tyre	106
Zarephath	118

<u>From Capernaum:</u>	
Bethsaida	6
Caesarea Philippi	27
Cana	16
Nain	22
Mediterranean	32
Nazareth	23
Zarephath	45
Tyre	37

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# Authors of the New Testament

Name	Nationality	Home Town	Occupation	Relationships	Chapters Written	Verses Written	Books Written
Matthew	Jew	Capernaum	Tax Collector	Apostle of Jesus Christ	28	1,071	Gospel of Matthew
Mark	Jew / Roman	Jerusalem	Missionary	Disciple of Peter	16	678	Gospel of Mark
Luke	Greek	Antioch	Physician	Disciple of Paul	52	2,158	Gospel of Luke Acts
John	Jew	Bethsaida or Capernaum	Fisherman	Apostle of Jesus Christ	50	1,414	Gospel of John 1 John 2 John 3 John Revelation

# Authors of the New Testament

Name	Nationality	Home Town	Occupation	Relationships	Chapters Written	Verses Written	Books Written
Paul	Jew	Tarsus	Tentmaker	Apostle of Jesus Christ	87 (100)*	2,033 (2,336)*	Romans 1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians Philemon 1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians 1 Timothy 2 Timothy Titus (Hebrews?)

\*Indicates total if Hebrews is assigned to Paul.

# Authors of the New Testament

Name	Nationality	Home Town	Occupation	Relationships	Chapters Written	Verses Written	Books Written
James	Jew	Nazareth	Carpenter?	Brother of Jesus Christ	5	108	James
Peter	Jew	Bethsaida	Fisherman	Apostle of Jesus Christ	8	166	1 Peter 2 Peter
Jude	Jew	Nazareth	Carpenter?	Brother of Jesus Christ	1	25	Jude





# Israel under Herod the Great



# Herod's Three Ruling Sons 80 & 89

- city
- decapolis city
- decapolis city (uncertain)
- Herodian fortress
- ▲ mountain peak
- extent of Herod's kingdom
- Decapolis



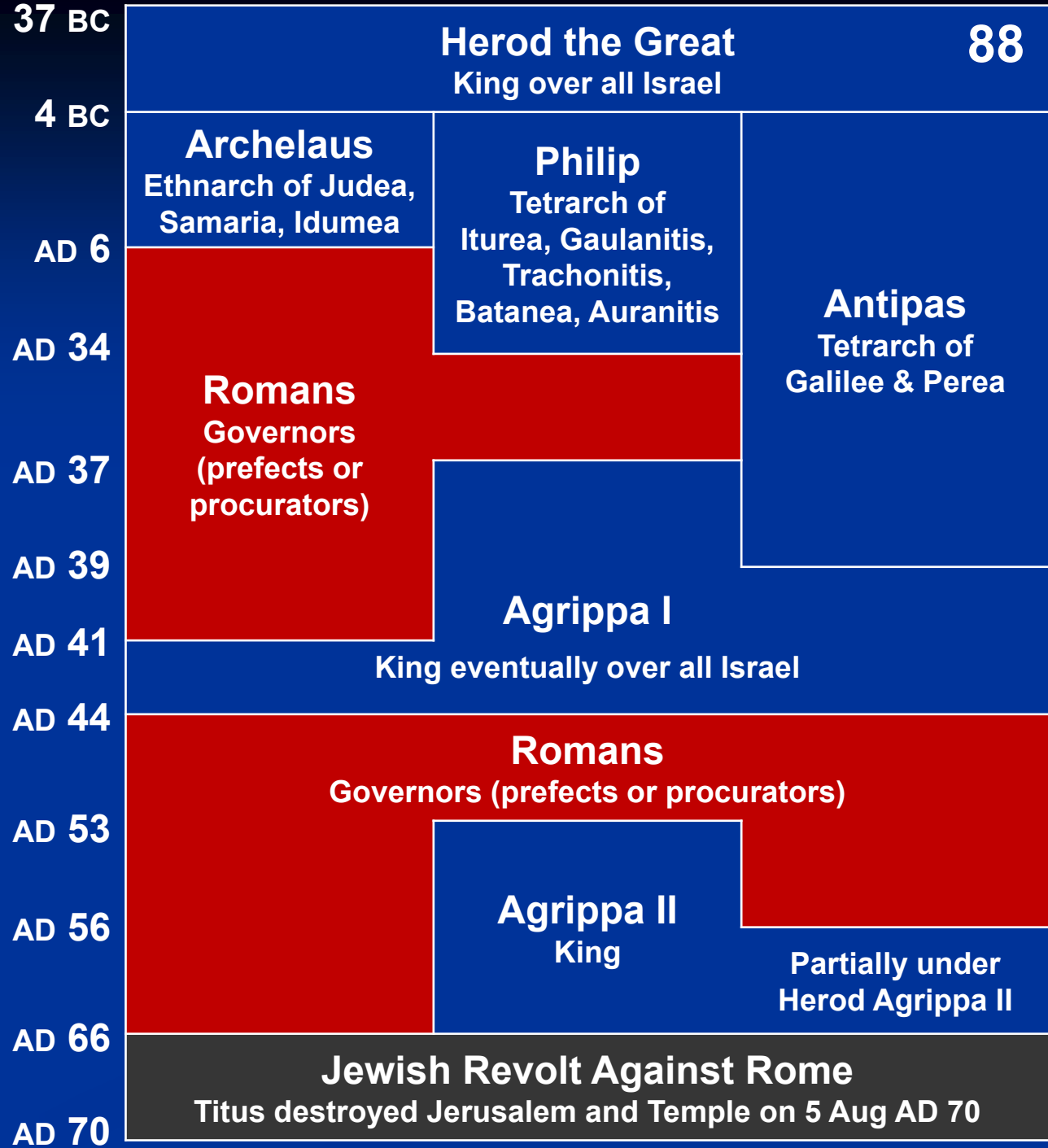
Philip

Antipas

Archelaus

# Chronology of the Herodian Dynasty (37 BC—AD 70)

*Adapted from  
John Grassmick,  
Dallas Seminary*



# Genealogical Chart of the Herodian Dynasty

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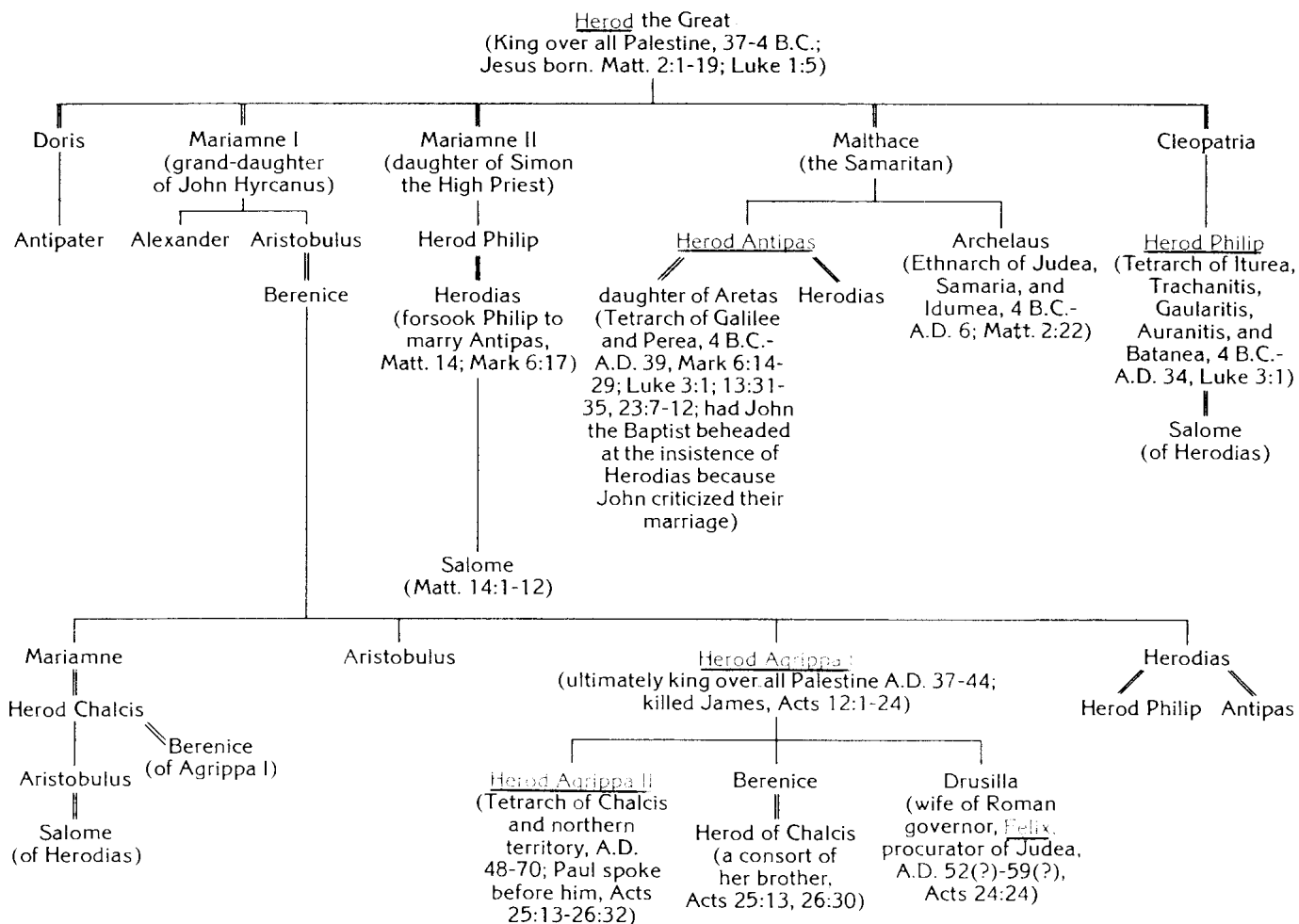
H. Wayne House

First  
Generation  
(Founder of Dynasty)

Second  
Generation

Third  
Generation

Fourth  
Generation







# The Temple





# The Temple from the East



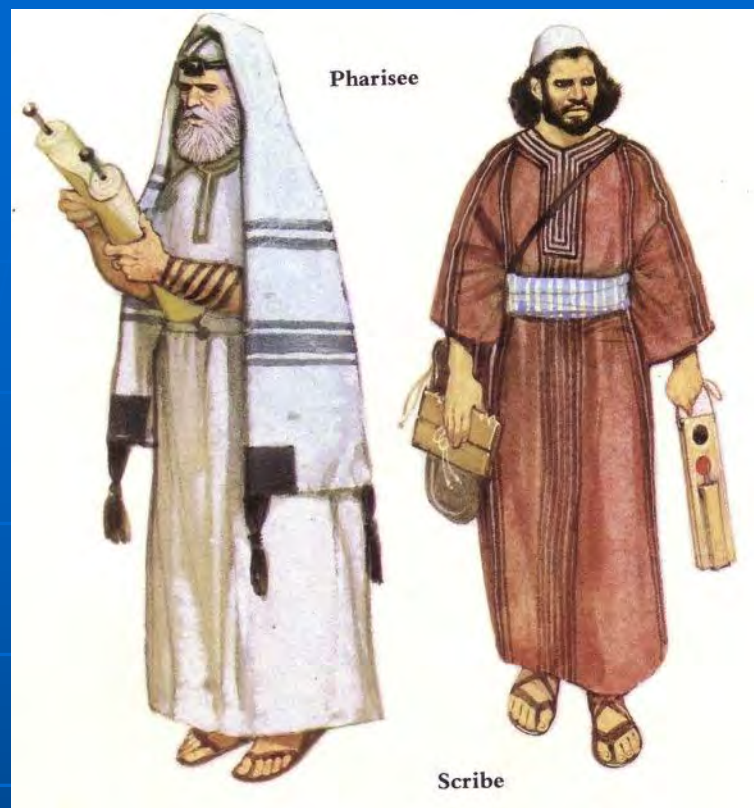
# Roman and Jewish Leaders



THE EMPERORS OF ROME, THE HIGH PRIESTS OF ISRAEL,  
THE KINGS AND GOVERNORS OF PALESTINE,  
THE LEGATES OF SYRIA

Years	Emperors	Legates of Syria	Kings and Governors of Palestine	High Priests	Historical Occurrences
45—					34 Death of Julius Caesar
40	The Triumvirate 43-36			Hananel Anstobulus III Hananel	
35			HEROD THE GREAT 37-4	Jesus	
30	OCTAVIAN AUGUSTUS -30 10 + 14			Simon	
25				Joseph Yonazar	
20		Varus 6-3	ARCHELAUS -4 10 + 6	Eleazar Jesus	4 Revolt 6 Census
15			Coponius 6-9 Ambibulus 9-12 Rufus 12-15	Annas 6-15	
10		Quirinius 6-11	V. Gratus 15-26	Caiaaphas 18-36	
5			P. Pilate 26-37		33 Crucifixion of Jesus
0			HEROD ANTIPAS -4 10 + 10	Jonathan 36-37	
5	TIBERIUS 14-37		Marcellus 30-37 Marullus 37-41	Theophilus 37-41	42 Martyrdom of James
10		Vitellius 35-39 Petronius 39-42 Marsus 42-44	AGRIPPA I 41-44 C. Fadus 44-46 T. Alexander 46-48 V. Cumanus 48-52	Simeon 41-44 Matthias Elionaios	45 Theudas 46 Famine
15		Longinus 44-50		Ananias 48-58	
20		Quadratus 50-60	A. Felix 52-60		
25			P. Festus 60-62 L. Albinus 62-64 G. Florus 64-66	Ishmael Joseph Annas II Jesus Joshua Matthias Pinhas	66 Jewish Revolt 70 Fall of Jerusalem
30		Corbulo 60-63 Gallus 63-66	Titus		
35	CALIGULA 37-41				
40					
45	CLAUDIUS 41-54				
50					
55					
60	NERO 54-68				
65					
70					

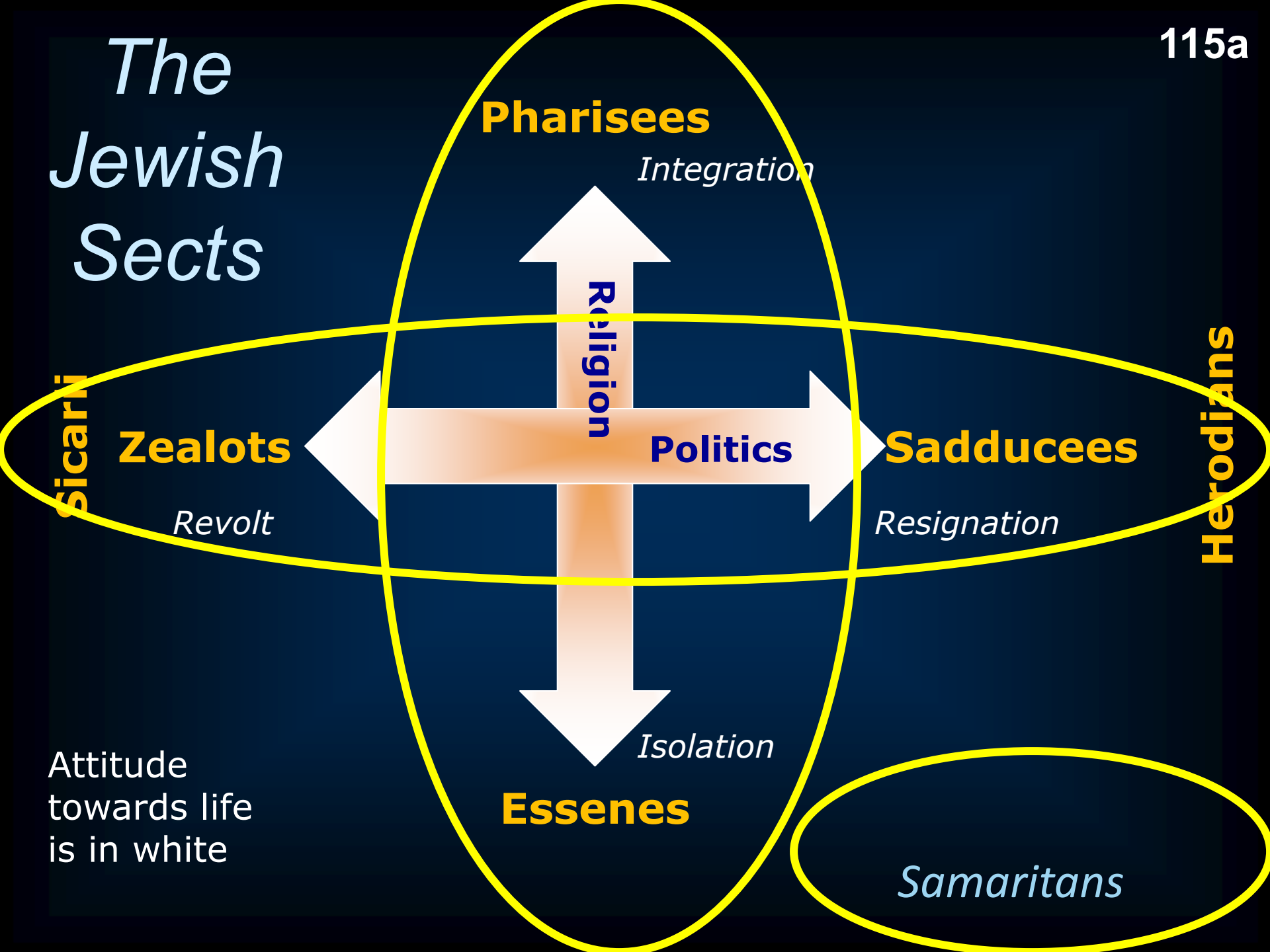
—X. Léon-Dufour, Dictionary of NT, p. 31



# Jewish Sects

**Influential Subgroups  
in First Century Israel**

# The Jewish Sects



# The Jewish Sects

**Sicarii**

**Zealots**

*Revolt*

**Pharisees**

*Integration*

**Religion**

**Politics**

**Sadducees**

*Resignation*

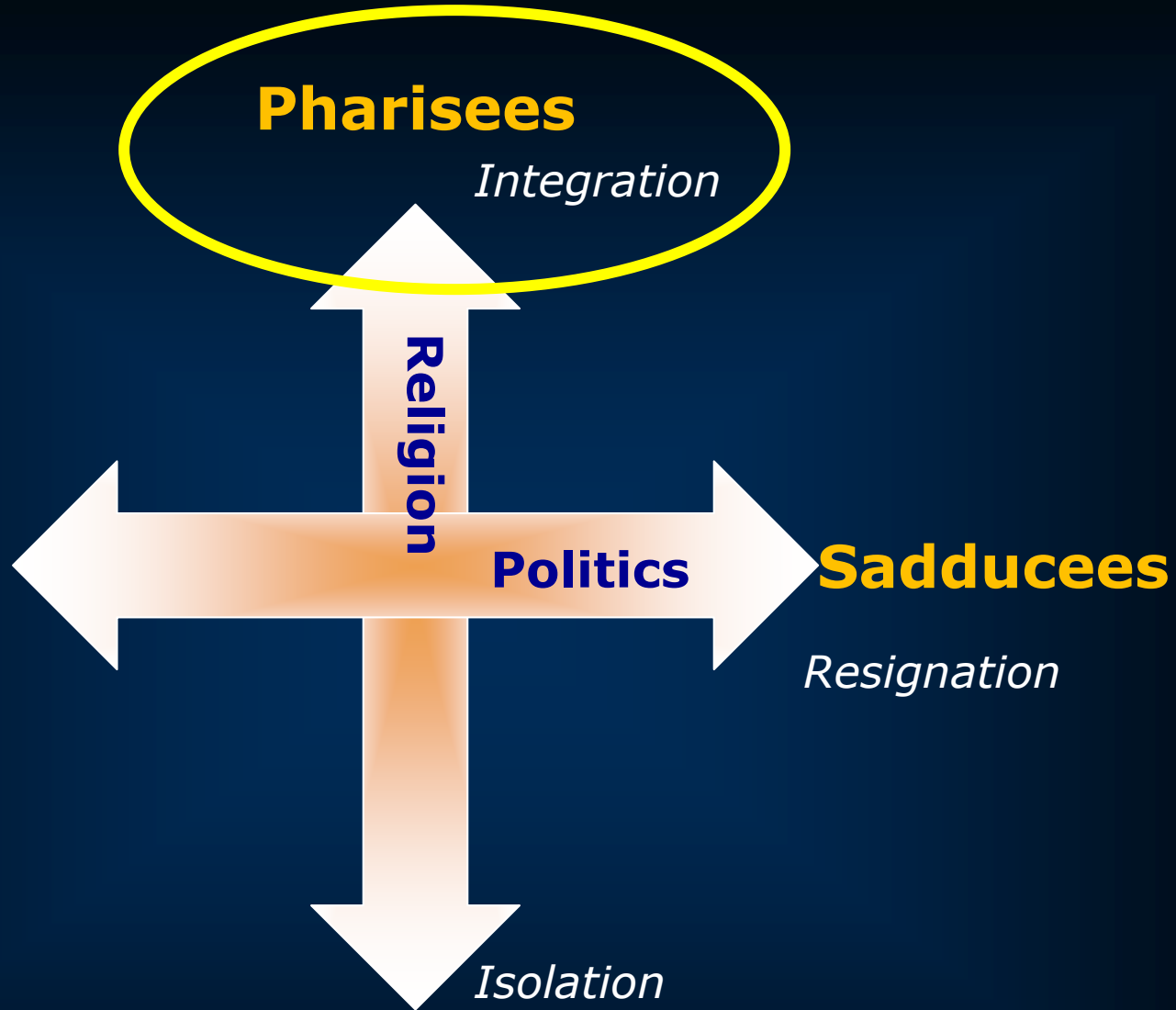
**Herodians**

Attitude  
towards life  
is in white

**Essenes**

*Isolation*

*Samaritans*





# Pharisees

Roots: Hasidim (2nd cent. BC)

Pharisee



1. They accepted as equally inspired and authoritative all 39 OT books and the oral tradition.
2. They held to a mediating view that made it impossible for either free will or the sovereignty of God to cancel out the other.
3. They accepted a rather developed hierarchy of angels and demons.

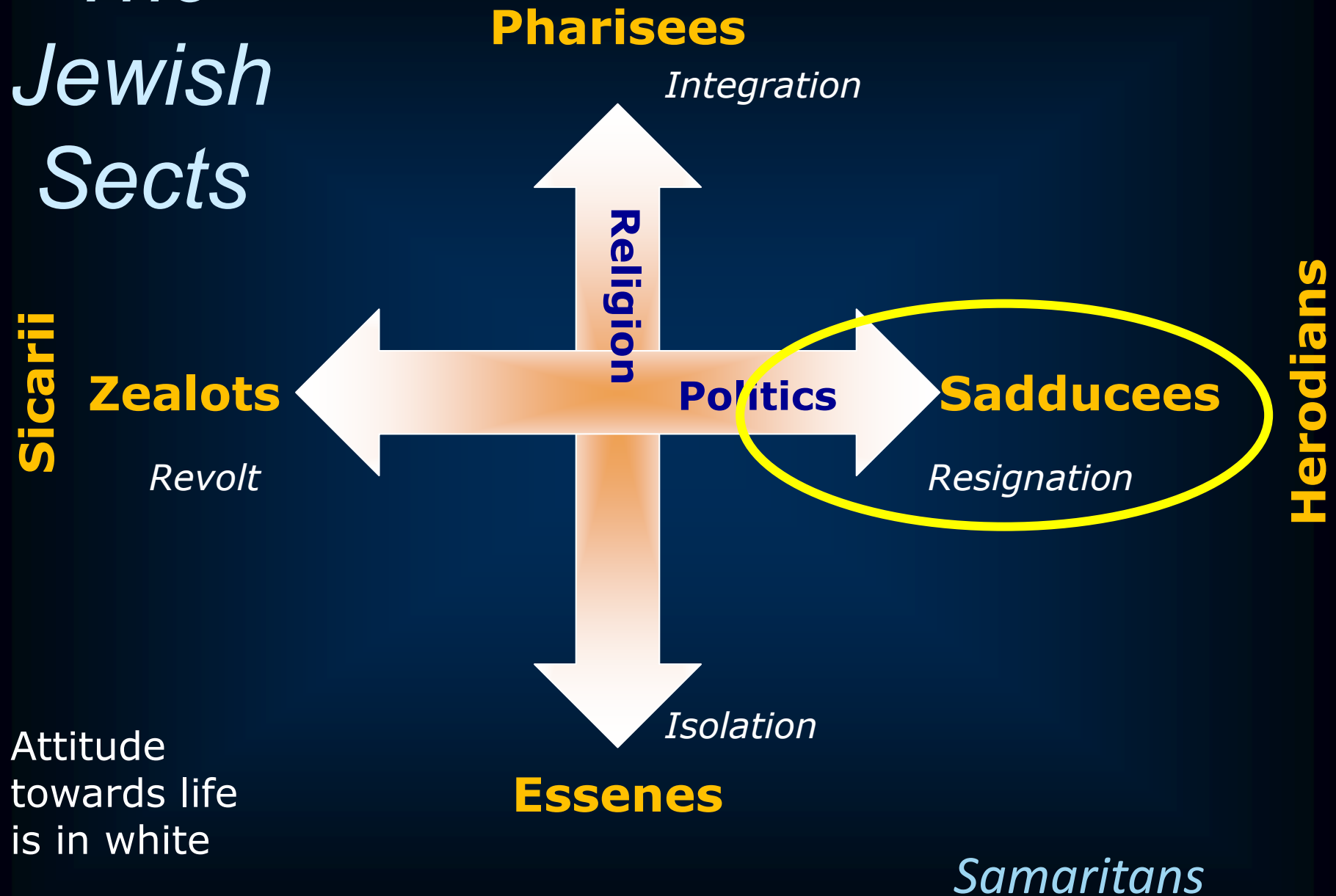
# Pharisees & Phylacteries

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- 4. They taught that there was a future for the dead.
- 5. They believed in the immortality of the soul and in reward and retribution after death.
- 6. They were champions of human equality.
- 7. The emphasis of their teaching was ethical rather than theological.



# The Jewish Sects



# Sadducees

They probably began during the Hasmonean period (166 – 63 BC). They ended c. A.D. 70 with the fall of Jerusalem.

1. They denied that the oral law was authoritative and binding.
2. They interpreted Mosaic law more literally than did the Pharisees.
3. They were very exacting in Levitical purity.
4. They attributed all to free will.



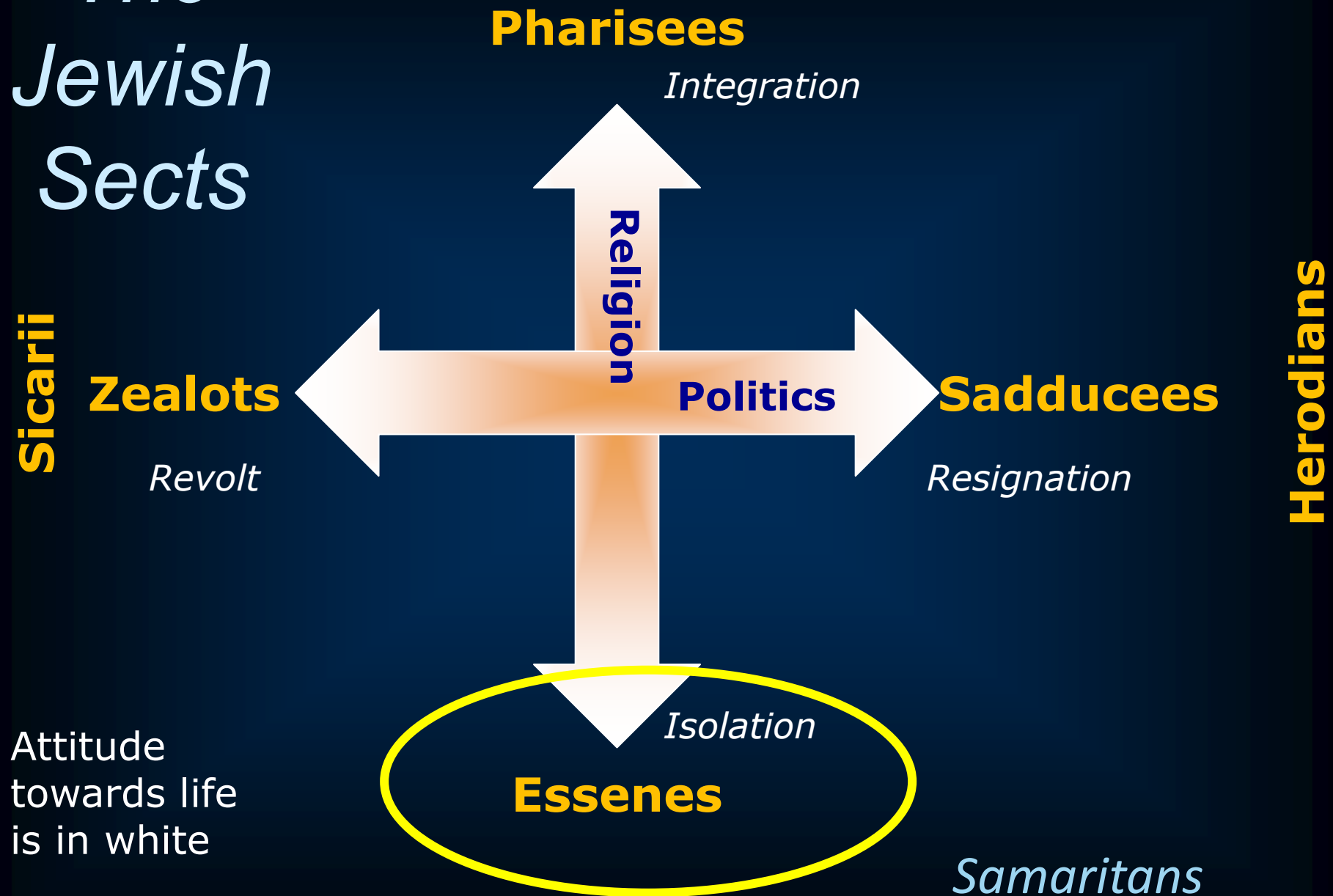


# Sadducees went through any door into Jerusalem!

5. They argued there is neither resurrection of the dead nor a future life.
6. They rejected a belief in angels and demons.
7. They rejected the idea of a spiritual world.
8. Only the books of Moses were canonical.



# The Jewish Sects



# Essenes

They probably came from the Hasidim, along with the Pharisees, from whom they later separated (1 Macc. 2:42; 7:13). These strict and zealous Jews took part with the Maccabees in a revolt against the Syrians around 165-155 BC.

1. They strictly observed the purity laws of the Torah.
2. They were notable for their communal ownership of property.
3. They had a strong sense of mutual responsibility.
4. Daily worship was an important feature along with a daily study of their sacred scriptures.

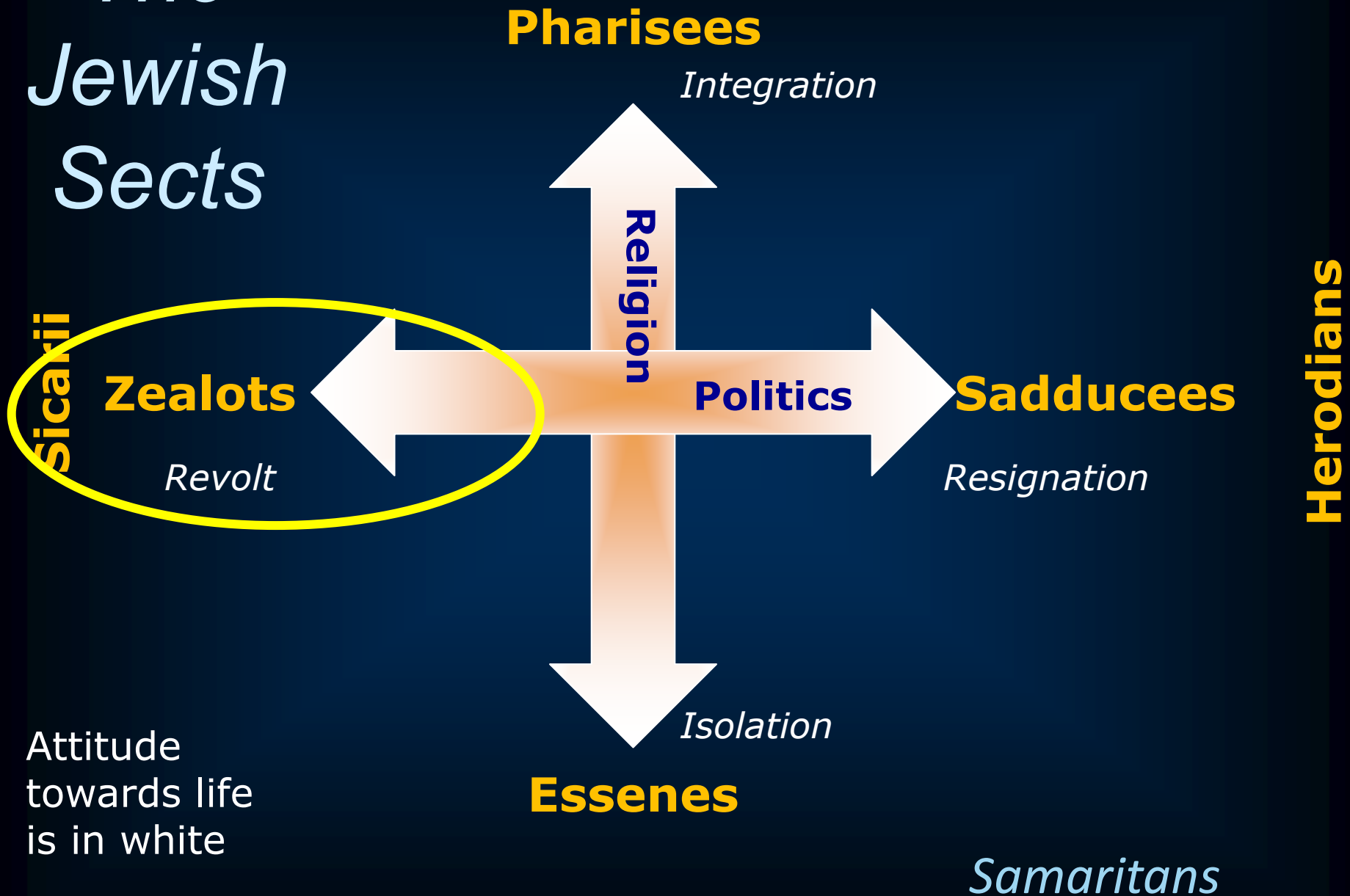
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## Jewish Sects

- 5. They required solemn oaths of piety and obedience.**
- 6. They sacrificed on holy days and in sacred seasons.**
- 7. Marriage was not condemned in principle but was avoided.**
- 8. They attributed all that happened to fate.**

# The Jewish Sects





# Zealots



A detailed map of the region around Jerusalem and the Dead Sea. A black starburst label 'Jerusalem' is at the top left, with a red arrow pointing down to a red starburst label 'Masada' at the bottom left. The map shows the city of Jerusalem, the Jordan River, the Dead Sea, and various towns and roads. A red line traces a path from Jerusalem down to Masada.

**Jerusalem****Masada**

They originated in the time of Herod the Great ca. 6 BC. but ceased to exist in AD 73 after leaving Jerusalem for their last stand at Masada.

1. They opposed payment of tribute for taxes to a pagan emperor, saying that allegiance was due only to God.
2. They held a fierce loyalty to the Jewish traditions.
3. They were opposed to the use of the Greek language in Palestine.
4. They prophesied the coming of the time of salvation.





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