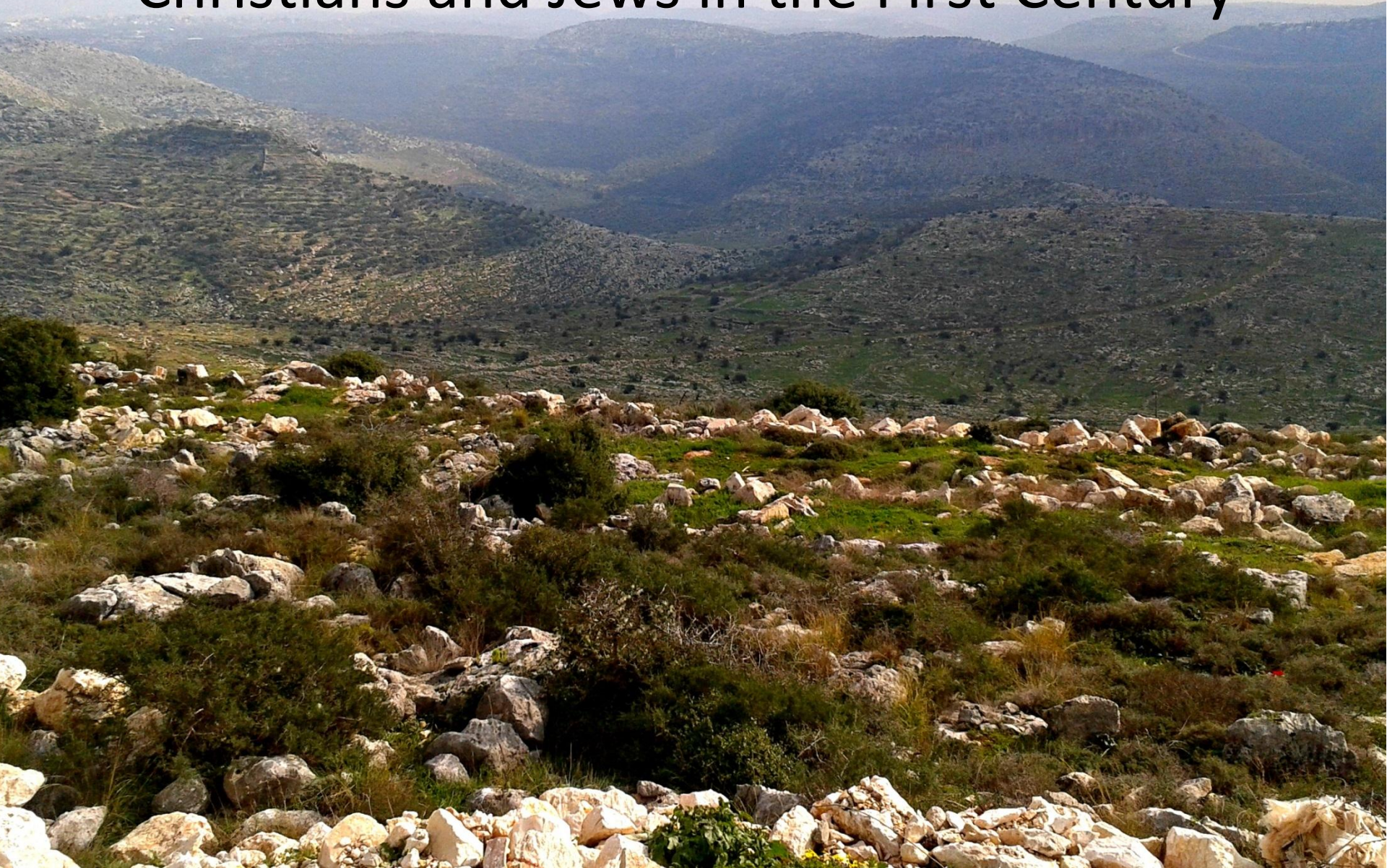


Divergent Paths: Christians and Jews in the First Century



Blessed are the **poor** in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven...

Blessed are the **meek**, for they will inherit the earth.

- Matthew 5:3-5

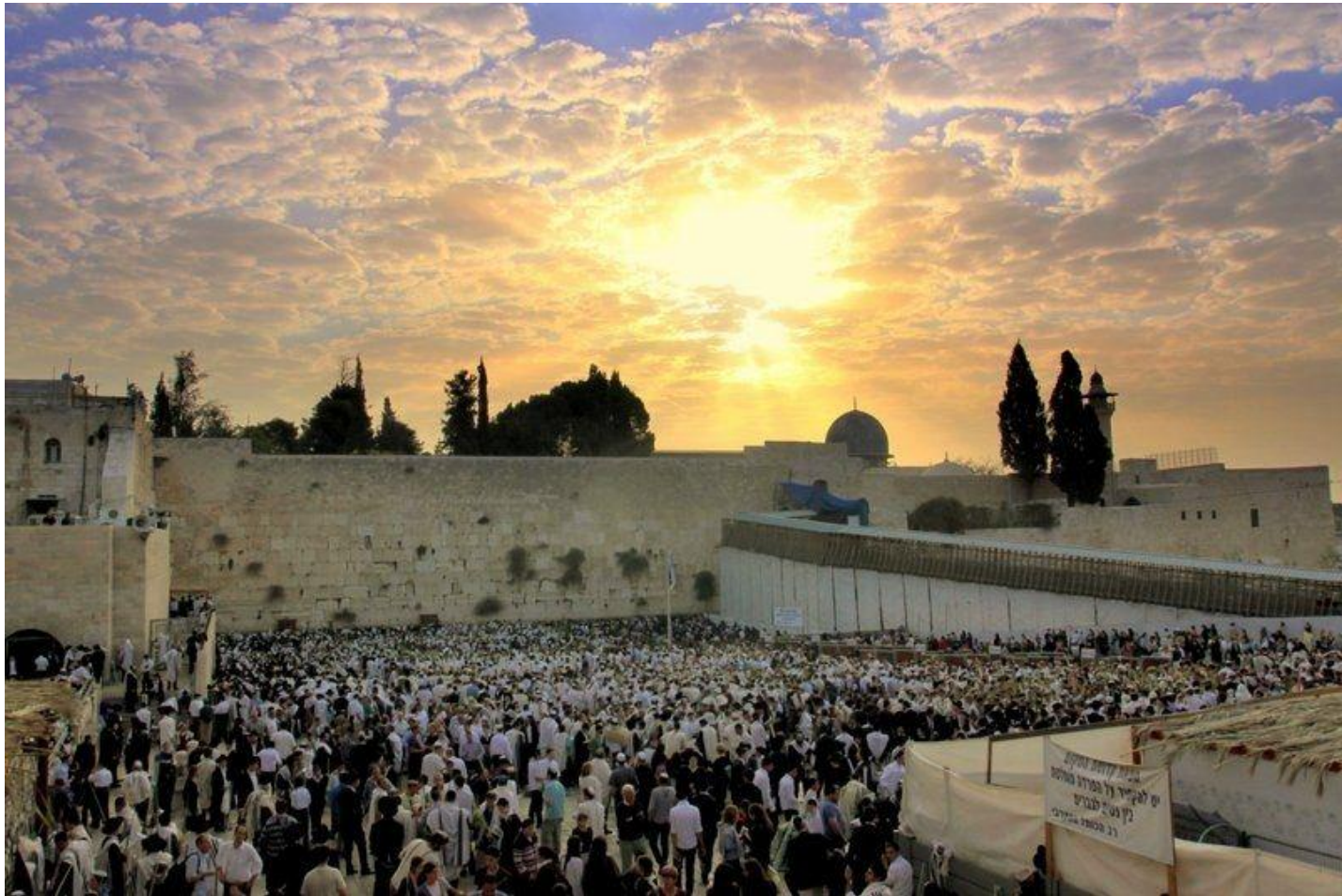
עני
עני
עני

All Israel has a portion in the **world to come**, as it says: “Your people are all righteous, they will **inherit the land** forever” (Isaiah 60:21).

- Mishna, Sanhedrin 10:1

Let's Talk About Sects

1. The Pharisees – *perushim*, “separatists”
 - strict with tithing and purity law;
2. The Sadducees – *tzedukkim*, “Tzaddokites”
 - aristocracy, priesthood;
3. The Essenes...?





“Whoever has not seen Herod’s building has not seen a beautiful building in his life.”

- Babylonian Talmud

The Sanhedrin



- Luke 2:21-24

After eight days had passed, it was time to **circumcise** the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”



“Brit Milah”: The Covenant of Circumcision

“On the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised.”

- Leviticus 12:3

- Luke 2:21-24

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. When the time came for their **purification** according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”



“Mikveh”: Body of Water

“Her time of blood purity shall be thirty-three days; she shall not touch any holy thing, or come into the sanctuary, until the days of her purification are completed.”

- Leviticus 12:4

- Luke 2:21-24

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to **present him to the Lord** (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”



“Pidyon haBen”: Redemption of the Son

“... but the firstborn of human beings you shall redeem... Their redemption price, reckoned from one month of age, you shall fix at five shekels of silver, according to the shekel of the sanctuary...”

- Numbers 18:15-16

- Luke 2:21-24

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a **sacrifice** according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”



“Korbanot”: Sacrifices

“If she cannot afford a sheep, she shall take two turtledoves or two pigeons, one for a burnt offering and one for a sin offering; and the priest shall make atonement on her behalf, and she shall be clean.”

- Leviticus 12:8

- Matthew 15:1

Then Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said, “Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands before they eat.”

- Mark 7:1-8

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them.

(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.)



“Netilat Yadayim”: Handwashing

“Tevilat Kelim”: Immersion of Utensils

- Luke 2:41-42

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover.

