



BA BETA KRISTIYAN HAILE SELASSIE I THE CHURCH OF HAILE SELASSIE I



Sunday Class

November 3rd, 2018

Compiled by Sister Eliah

Agenda: Who are the Pharisees and the Sadducees?

The Pharisees

Etymology: derived from Ancient Greek pharisaios, from Aramaic, plural. **“Set apart, separated.”**

The Pharisees were a political party, a social movement, and a school of thought, during the time of Joshua the Christ. The Pharisees in modern times can be likened to the Democrats or the Republicans.

The Sadducees

Etymology: the Sadducees developed their name from the High Priest Zadok. Priest Zadok was the first High priest and anointed Solomon king over Israel.

A sect or group of Jews that were active in Judea during the time of Joshua the Christ.

We first begin to see the appearance of the Pharisees in St. Matthew 3:7.

But when he saw many of the Phar'i-sees and Sad'du-ces come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

Viper: (noun) a spiteful or treacherous person.

The Pharisees and the Sadducees came to the river Jordan to see why many people were coming to be baptized of John the Baptist. John the Baptist warned the Pharisees and Sadducees to come and repent because the time has come when Joshua the Christ will arrive, and he will bring the authority of the Word of the Most High God to the people.

(Question: Who was John the Baptist?)

John the Baptist was the son of priest Zacharias and Elizabeth, who was the cousin of Mary the mother of Joshua the Christ. In other words, John the Baptist was the cousin of Joshua the Christ and would have been the High Priest who would have anointed Joshua the Christ had he been able to fulfill his mission of restoration of the throne of King David. John the Baptist did baptize Joshua the Christ in the river Jordan.



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The Pharisees come again in St. Matthew 9:11. They questioned why Joshua the Christ was congregating with the publicans and sinners.

St. Matthew 9:11

And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners?

Publican: (noun) a person who owns or manages a pub: a collector of taxes.

Sinner: (noun) a person who transgresses the law of the Lord by committing an immoral act or acts.

In those times, the Pharisees were one of the leading sects of Judaism. The priests and scribes of the Pharisees held an esteemed position in a society that was ruled by the Romans. It is inevitable that they would view Joshua the Christ as a threat to them through his teachings and the mission that he came to fulfill. Joshua the Christ came to fulfill prophecy to restore the Throne of David, and in doing so he called the people to repentance. In St. Matthew 9:11, we see the Pharisees begin to question the practices of Joshua the Christ. If he is who he says he is, why does he congregate with people who transgress the law? Joshua the Christ refutes their question by answering them, why would he call the righteous to repentance.

St. Matthew 7:29

For he taught them as *one* having authority, and not as the scribes.

Not only did the disciples of Joshua the Christ see that he spoke with an air of authority but so did the scribes. This intimidated them because they did not understand who Joshua the Christ was. This is important to note because we must look at the purpose of the mission of Joshua the Christ.

But the Pharisees said, He casteth out devils through the prince of devils.

The Pharisees accuse Joshua the Christ of casting out demons out of the people through the works and power of the devil. Joshua the Christ challenges them stating, how can he cast out devils in the name of the devil. That would be dividing his house and making it weaker. Joshua the Christ made the Pharisees argument seem pointless because it holds no logical or spiritual basis. The Pharisees were trying to contradict the works and teachings of Joshua the Christ.

St. Matthew 16:1-6

The Pharisees along with the Sadducees began to seek to tempt Joshua the Christ to give them a sign that he is the Son of God. Joshua the Christ then called them blasphemous because they



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required a sign. They questioned his teachings in order to make him look bad to the people. The Pharisees consistently came to Joshua the Christ to interrogate him and see if he would uphold the law of the word or go against it. Each time Joshua the Christ answered them and rebuked them for tempting him because if they were righteous men, they should not have to ask him the questions that they did. If they were righteous man who adhered to the Law, they should have accepted the teachings of Joshua the Christ as the people did. It is easy to see that the Pharisees were threatened by Joshua the Christ because of his teachings.

(Question: What would it have cost the Pharisees and the Sadducees had Joshua the Christ been able to fulfill his mission?)

St. Matthew 22: 15-46

The Pharisees and the Sadducees both come to get Joshua the Christ to mix up his words from his teachings. The Pharisees put forth the question to Joshua the Christ: What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Cae'sar, or not? They ask this question of Joshua the Christ after they make it seem as though they recognize that he is the Son of God. Joshua the Christ calls them hypocrites because they are attempting to see if Joshua the Christ holds the Emperor to the same esteem as he does God. Joshua the Christ tells them to render the things that are Caesar's unto him. Meaning, give to Caesar what is his and give unto to God what belongs to God. The tribute of the Adonai God comes with a clean heart and a contrite spirit. We are to give tribute unto him because it is our duty for all the blessings that he bestows upon us as His Children.

The Sadducees come to Joshua the Christ and ask him who's wife will the woman who was the wife of seven brothers be when she dies? Joshua the Christ tells the Sadducees that God is not the God of the dead but the God of the Living. Joshua The Christ basically tells the Pharisees that God is A LIVING GOD.

However, when he asked them what they think of Christ? Whose son, is he? They could not answer because they did not want to be wrong nor give him the benefit of the doubt.

St. Matthew 26: 3-5, St. Mark 14:1-2

The Chief priests and the scribes of the Pharisees and Sadducees come together to conspire to kill Joshua the Christ, but they do not want to do it on the Holy Day (Passover) so they decide to wait until after.

St. John 11:46-57

What are the names of the Twelve Disciples of Joshua the Christ?

Who was Ju'das Is-car'iot? What role did he play?



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Was he a pacifist or was he a revolutionary?

In modern day Christianity, we are taught that Joshua the Christ was a pacifist, preaching to the people to turn the other cheek and love thy neighbor. Yet there is evidence that he displayed revolutionary behavior. For example, when he went to the Synagogue that the people had made into a gambling den, Joshua the Christ turned over the money changing table.

St. Matthew 9:34