



N.G. Carraway

## **Beliefs Held by the Essenes more than 100 years *before* the birth of Jesus**

(This information is compiled from videos with **Dr. Ken Johnson**)

The information shared below is from the testimonies of the Patriarchs, starting with Adam and including Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. These beliefs were passed down for thousands of years and recorded in the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Ken Johnson believes that John the Baptist ran the School of the Prophets (at Qumran) and taught prophecy there. The Essenes had a list of all prophets from Adam to John the Baptist and included Agabus of the New Testament.

The Essenes believed that man had a sin nature because of Adam's fall.

The Essenes believed that the men who were direct descendants of the Zadok priestly lineage, were the true Jewish priests for the Jewish religion.

The Essenes said they have the 'testimonies' of the Patriarchs going all the way back to Adam. Josephus quoted from the testimony of Adam, but that scroll has not yet been found. Dr. Ken Johnson states that Noah and Abraham both left testimonies and Jacob's 12 sons each left a testimony. There were other writings as well (Enoch, Gad, Jasher, etc.) found in the Dead Sea Scrolls. Dr. Ken Johnson is currently translating these scrolls into English.

The Essenes believed that *they* followed the correct calendar, which was solar, not lunar, and their calendar goes back to creation. On their calendar, Abraham was born in 1948 (years from creation).

The Essenes did not believe the Messiah would free them from Roman rule, but rather the Messiah would free man from the rule of sin.

The Essenes believed that you should not swear an oath. In Matthew 5:34, Jesus told his disciples 'do not swear an oath at all'.

The Essenes believed in an end-time battle between good and evil (the apocalypse or Armageddon).

The Essenes believed that the 'Teacher of Righteousness' would come to Qumran. When John the Baptist was in prison and about to be killed, he asked a question of Jesus. When Jesus sent his answer, he quoted from the Dead Sea Scrolls. Later scrolls state that the Teacher of Righteousness *did* visit their community. Dr. Ken Johnson believes that Jesus was the Teacher of Righteousness.

The Essenes did *not* believe in owning slaves and they only carried weapons for protection against robbers.

The Essenes believed in God (who lived in heaven), and in the Holy Spirit on earth, and in the coming Messiah (basically the trinity).

For more information concerning the Essenes, I recommend Dr. Ken Johnson; his website is <http://biblefacts.org> and his YouTube channel is called 'Ken Johnson'. Dr. Johnson is one of the few people in the world who has copies of the Dead Sea Scrolls and he is in the process of translating these scrolls into English.

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