

- In the 1st century disciples always chose their Masters because there were many to choose from
- Andrew chose John the Baptist before Christ chose Andrew
- It was always Master Yeshua who chose His disciples
- This coincides with Elijah choosing Elishah
- 1Kings 19:19 – 21
- John 15:16

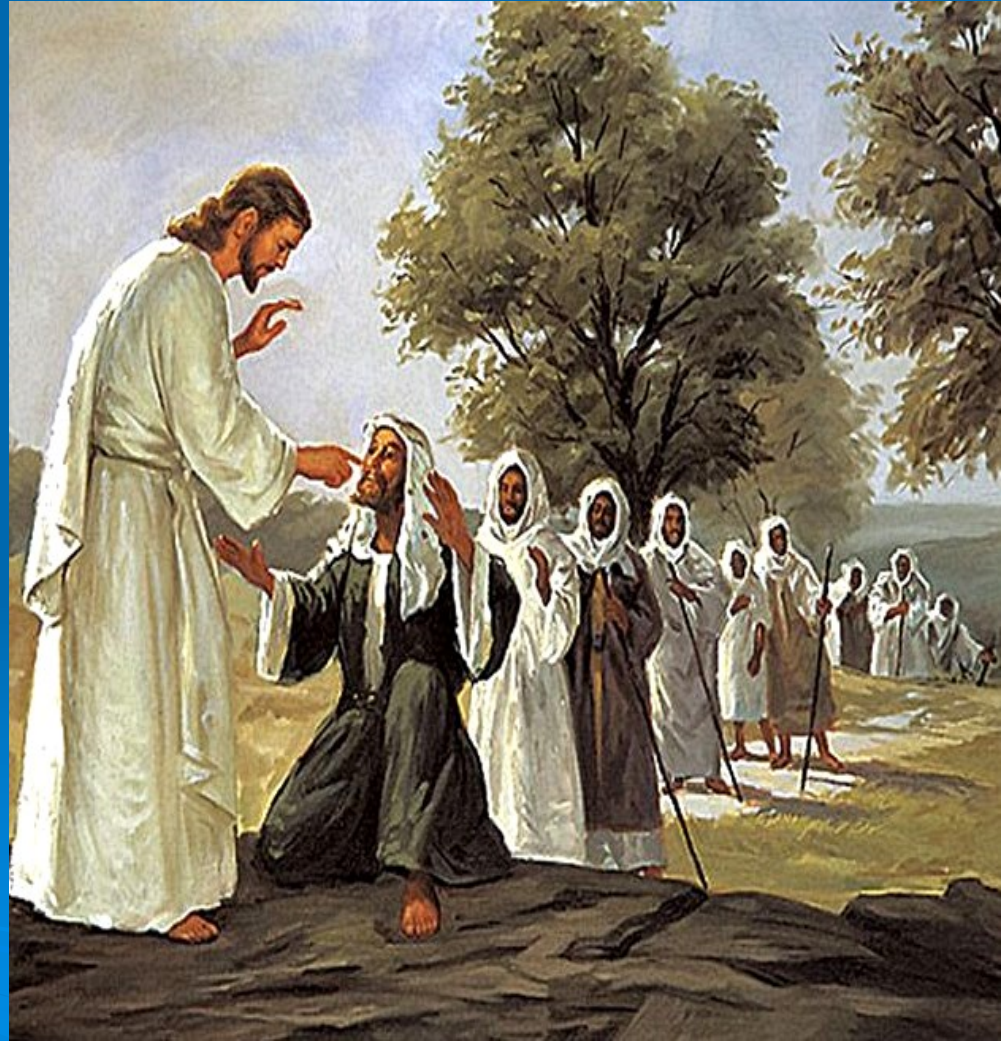
THE *TZADIK*: A HOLY MAN



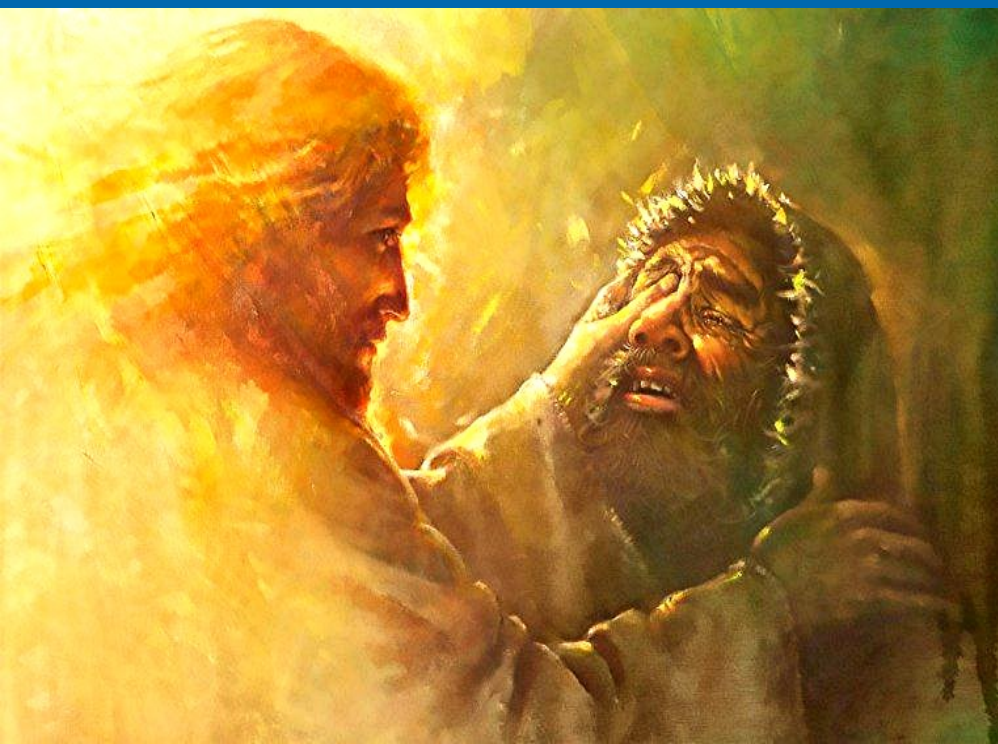
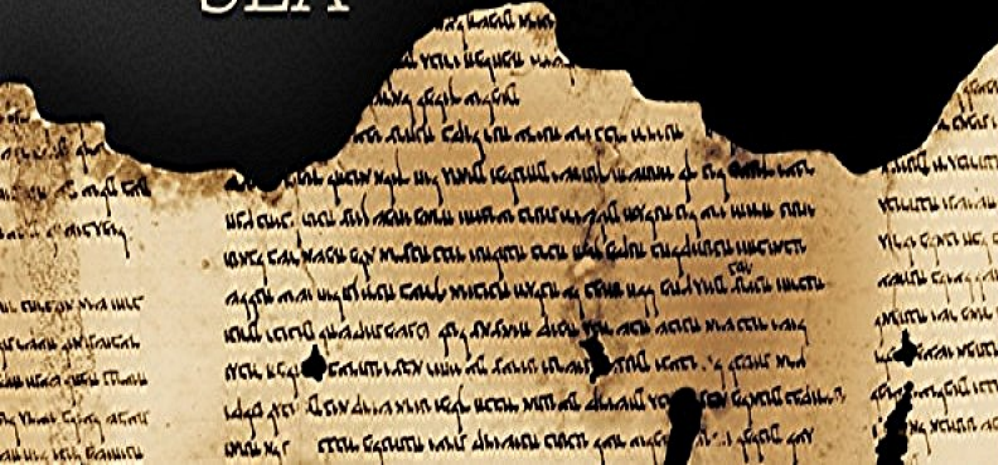
- Why would the disciples immediately leave everything and follow Yeshua?
- *Tzadik* = righteous one, but meant Holy Man to the Jews
- *Tzadikkim* believed to be divinely gifted
- Jews believed era of OT Prophets was over; they were the “miracle workers”
- The Holy Men practiced poverty, which endeared them to the common folk
- Main attribute was healing the sick and lame

CHRIST THE HOLY MAN

- Yeshua constantly healed the sick and lame
- Rabbinical literature says that these *Tzadik* were thought of as “sons of God”
- This idea was set in the Jewish cultural sense, not literally
- The Holy Men had a personal awareness that they were gifted by God with the ability to heal
- Matthew 11: 25 - 27



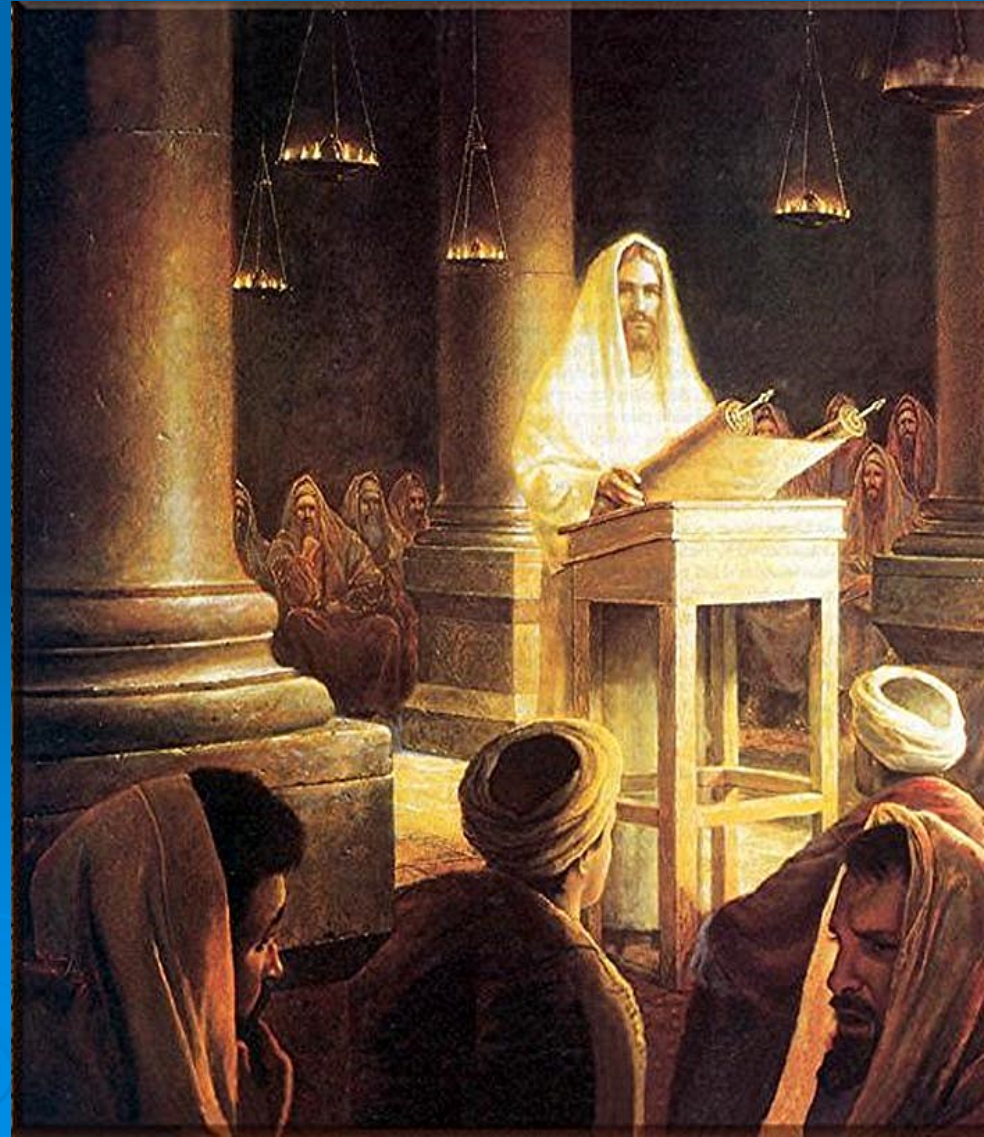
DEAD SEA SCROLLS



- Thanksgiving Hymns
- “his message will be prudence to the simple”
- This Essene hymn speaks of a righteous man, a Holy Man, giving thanks to God for God’s power to work wonders through him
- The Gospels paint Jesus as a Holy Man
- Yet, Yeshua was so much more... He was the promised Messiah

TZADIKKIM TAUGHT ABOUT HEAVENLY MYSTERIES


- The fisherman brothers immediately obeyed because they recognized Yeshua as a Holy Man
- At the time the new disciples didn't know who Jesus really was
- Yeshua currently living in the seaside town of Capernaum
- Fisherman were not illiterate, they were blue-collar workers
- What they knew about their religion came mostly from Tradition



DID THESE NEW DISCIPLES LEAVE THEIR FAMILIES TO POVERTY?

- *Ya'akov* translates to Jacob, not to James
- Yeshua would not have commanded that these fishermen turn their families into beggars
- If they did that, few would pay attention to them
- The meaning is that these fisherman immediately put Christ first in their lives





*Am I
being
called to
ministry?*

- No one-size-fits-all answer
- We are not living in the 1st century, so our challenges and consequences for our decisions are different
- When husband and wife agree, and go forward together, then the circumstance is probably right
- But when a husband and wife don't agree, or debt load doesn't permit it, then the circumstance is wrong

- Luke 14:26
- The phrase “and his own life besides” is often overlooked
- Paul has much to say about marriage and ministry 1Cor. 7
- Vs. 22 Says James and John also “left father”
- Merely means that their father was there, too





- At this time in Yeshua's ministry, the Good News meant "the Kingdom of Heaven is near"
- To the Jews this meant God was going to expel the Romans and begin Heavenly rule on earth
- People came from distant locations to be healed by Yeshua "the Holy Man"
- The places people came from were mostly Jewish populations



- Who did the crowds think they were coming to see on that hillside in the Galilee? A miracle working ***Tzadik***.
- Matthew chapter 5 is only the first of 3 chapters that cover the Sermon on the Mount
- First 10 verses are called The Beatitudes, and they are generally separated from the remainder of the address
- In reality those first verses are like a preamble as the speaker recognizes just who His audience is