

**Questions and answers  
for use with the study series**

# **JESUS THE NEW WAY**

**By Dr. Ted Coleman**

We are pleased that Dr. Ted Coleman found the JESUS THE NEW WAY series valuable for his educational programs. He developed these questions to help review and assess the impact of the programs in the student learning process.

We are grateful to Dr. Coleman for his permission to reprint these questions. An answer key has been included.

**Jesus 401**  
**A Plausible Pre-Easter Jesus**  
**Dr. Ted Coleman**

**Getting the Surprising Kingdom Started.**

View the video Jesus the New Way by Tom Wright and Ken Curtis, all of program one entitled "Getting the Kingdom Started" and into program two through the sub-heading "the shocking welcome" (30 min.). Stop tape at "the New Challenge" in program two.

- 1.1 Regarding the physical appearance of Jesus, the Gospels tell us:
  - a. he had Egyptian features
  - b. he was white
  - c. he was a handsome Jewish male
  - d. nothing
  - e. he was an ordinary looking, unremarkable Jewish peasant.
  
- 1.2 According to Dr. Tom Wright, Jews of Jesus' day lived on:
  - a. hatred of the Romans
  - b. love for all people
  - c. hope for a deliverer
  - d. despair that God would ever come
  - e. a deep desire for revenge against their enemies.
  
- 1.3 Which of the following peoples had ruled the Jewish people: (select all that apply)
  - a. Egyptians
  - b. Babylonians
  - c. Persians
  - d. Greeks
  - e. Syrians
  - f. Romans
  
- 1.4 Two hundred years before Jesus did it, a bold leader called \_\_\_ came into the temple with palm branches waving and then cleansed the temple.
  - a. Julius Caesar
  - b. Judas Maccabeus
  - c. Matthias
  - d. Pompei
  - e. Alexander the Great
  
- 1.5 According to Wright, the most powerful symbol of Jewish identity in Jesus' day was:
  - a. the temple
  - b. the torah
  - c. circumcision
  - d. Sabbath-keeping and food laws
  - e. the holy land
  
- 1.6 According to Wright, John the Baptist, like Jesus, was seen as a prophet who launched what can best be described as a/an \_\_\_ movement.
  - a. renewal
  - b. restoration
  - c. counter-temple
  - d. anti-empire
  - e. political
  - f. revolutionary
  
- 1.7 A writer who described the events of the Jewish war with the Romans was:
  - a. Tacitus
  - b. Suetonius
  - c. John the Essene
  - d. Herodotus
  - e. Josephus
  
- 1.8 Jesus started the kingdom of God by:
  - a. being born
  - b. being baptized
  - c. healing people
  - d. teaching in parables about the kingdom
  - e. dying on a Roman cross
  - f. being raised to new life
  - g. all of the above
  
- 1.9 The messenger predicted in Isaiah 52 would announce to Jerusalem:
  - a. God is coming
  - b. YHWH is returning to Zion
  - c. your God rules
  - d. YHWH has won the battle
  - e. the exile has ended

1.10 According to Wright, the main Jewish figure from the past who inspired the Jews of Jesus' day to keep hope alive was: a. Abraham b. Moses c. Isaiah d. Daniel

1.11 According to Wright, the powerful symbols of Jewish identity were: (select all that apply) a. law or torah b. the ark of the covenant c. the holy land of Palestine d. sabbath keeping e. food laws f. circumcision g. the Jerusalem temple h. synagogues j. talmud k. family m. sacred scrolls of Hebrew Bible

1.12 According to Wright, which of the following Jewish movements were counter-temple movements: a. Herodians b. Essenes c. Pharisees d. Sadducees e. zealots f. John the Baptist's disciples

1.13 According to Wright, historians today have historical sources for best reconstructing a life of: a. Julius Caesar b. Jesus of Nazareth c. emperor Nero d. Bar Cochba e. Herod Antipas f. Herod the Great

1.14 According to Wright, the healings of Jesus were \_\_\_\_\_. They were the actions which formed the focus of his kingdom announcement.  
a. powerful b. mysterious c. deliberate d. symbolic

1.15 According to Wright, when Jesus invited people "to repent and believe the good news," he meant something like:  
a. stop sinning and turn to God b. give up your agenda and trust me for mine  
c. confess your sins and have faith in God d. stop your violence, turn around and practice peaceful ways.

**Jesus 401**  
**A Plausible Pre-Easter Jesus**  
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**The King who comes to his City and to his Temple.**

Begin viewing Jesus the New Way at Prgm 2: The New Challenge and go through Prgm 3 to the end (30 minutes).

- 2.1 According to Wright, Jesus' interaction with his people during the Galilean phase of his ministry can be best described as: welcome, challenge, summons, and \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. invitation   b. warning   c. healings   d. a new kingdom proposal
- 2.2 Jesus welcomed many people who were social and religious outcasts. By welcoming sinners into table fellowship with himself, Jesus implied that just by being with him, sharing his table and his agenda, people could be \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. forgiven   b. healed   c. cleansed   d. justified with God.
- 2.3 The actor who plays Jesus and dramatizes the Sermon on the Mount as a one-person show is:   a. Leonardo Defilippis   b. Brian Deacon   c. John Steel  
d. Robert Powell   e. Bruce Marchiano
- 2.4 According to Wright, in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus challenged the people of Israel to be the light of the world by practicing:  
a. the warlike methods of the Romans and other nations  
b. Temple sacrifices and a temple religion of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving  
c. a humanitarian righteousness which includes all peoples and religions  
d. self-giving love which serves even one's enemies
- 2.5 Two Jewish revolutionary leaders who started messianic movements during Jesus' era were:   a. Akiba   b. Simon ben Giora   c. Attila ben Mattias   d. Josephus  
e. Simeon bar Kosiba
- 2.6 According to Wright, Jewish symbols which Jesus interpreted in a new way included: (circle all that apply)  
a. the Jewish family   b. food laws & Sabbath keeping   c. the holy land  
d. the law or torah   e. circumcision   f. temple   g. ark of the covenant  
h. sacred scrolls of the Hebrew Bible
- 2.7 According to Wright, the two great symbolic actions which Jesus performed to give important clues about his identity and mission were:  
a. the cleansing of the temple  
b. the entry into Jerusalem riding on a donkey  
c. dying on a Roman cross  
d. celebrating the last supper as a passover meal and linking the meal sayings about bread and wine to his body, blood, new covenant, and forgiveness of sins  
e. being born in a manger  
f. healing people possessed by demons

- 2.8 According to Wright, the two main jobs of a Jewish king or messiah was or would be to:
- a. defeat the Romans and get rid of a corrupt high priestly family
  - b. fight off the pagans and establish the Jewish monarchy
  - c. keep the law and restore sacrifices in the Jerusalem temple
  - d. do battle and establish the temple as supreme over other gods.
  - e. build or re-build the temple and defeat foreign oppressors
- 2.9 According to Wright, like Jeremiah the prophet, when Jesus entered into Jerusalem riding on a donkey, he was
- a. simply coming into the city as many pilgrims did, identifying with the common people
  - b. making a powerful symbolic statement
  - c. fulfilling a prophecy made by John the Baptist
  - d. fulfilling the Danielic vision of “the stone” which referred to the coming king who would destroy the evil empires of the world and establish the kingdom of God.
- 2.10 According to Wright, at Jesus’ Jewish trial, the high priest questioned Jesus regarding his messianic identity and learned that
- a. Jesus believed he was God’s promised messianic king.
  - b. Jesus would not make an unequivocal statement about his identity as God’s messiah.
  - c. Jesus was a messianic pretender.
  - d. Jesus was out to destroy the temple and to establish his rule as a messiah.

**Jesus 401**  
**A Plausible Pre-Easter Jesus**  
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**The King who was willing to die.**

View Jesus the New Way, program four: Why did Jesus die?

- 3.1 According to Wright, crucifixion was the \_\_\_\_\_ of Roman power and domination.  
a. reality    b. military sign    c. symbol    d. historical consequence
- 3.2 According to Wright and to the Gospel of John, the Jewish ruler who led the effort to get rid of Jesus by killing him was:    a. Pilate    b. Annas    c. Caiaphas  
d. Zerah the priest
- 3.3 According to Wright, Jesus' words spoken at the last supper in a (an) \_\_\_\_\_ context indicate that he was willing to die for the people and for God's kingdom.  
a. prophetic    b. sapiential    c. messianic    d. Passover
- 3.4 According to Wright, Jesus' words, "This is my body, given for you. This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins," indicated that Israel's story is now \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. reaching its climax    b. starting a new chapter    c. reaching its turning point  
d. ending.
- 3.5 According to Wright, sayings of Jesus, or so-called riddles of the cross, which capture the intention of Jesus to die for the people include: (circle all that apply)  
a. a hen gathering her chicks (Matt. 23.37-39 and Lk. 13.34)  
b. the parable of the sower (Matt. 13.1-9, 18-23 & parallels)  
c. "If they do this when the wood is green, what will they do when the wood is dry?" (Lk. 23.31)  
d. the parable of the wicked tenants who kill the owner's son (Mt. 21.33-46 & parallels)  
e. "This is my body given for you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood which is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins (Lk. 22. 19-20; Mt. 26.26-28; Mk. 14.22-24 & I Cor. 11.23-26)."
- 3.6 According to Wright, the supreme section of the Old Testament for understanding Jesus' intentions and the Jewish belief that God would bring God's people through suffering to victory is:    a. Psalms 1-72 esp. 22    b. Ezekiel    c. Daniel  
d. Isaiah 40 – 55
- 3.7 According to Wright, Jesus had spoken all along about a battle he had to fight. It was    a. a battle with Rome    b. a contest with the zealots    c. a battle with satan  
d. a battle with Herod and the Jewish aristocrats, the Herodians  
e. a debate with the Pharisees and scribes in the temple.
- 3.8 According to Wright, the widespread symbol of Roman authority and domination was \_\_\_\_\_.    a. the scales of justice being held by a person who is blindfolded    b. an eagle    c. crucifixion    d. an image of a toga-clad aristocrat

**Jesus 401**  
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**What King Jesus shows us and tells us about the true god**

View [Jesus the New](#), program five: Who was Jesus?

- 4.1 In Luke 22.63-71, the guards mock Jesus as:
- a. a false prophet
  - b. a phony king of the Jews
  - c. a false messiah
  - d. an egotistical blasphemer
  - e. an unclean Galilean
- 4.2 Instead of asking "Was Jesus the Son of God?" Wright thinks it is better to ask:
- a. Was Jesus born of a virgin?
  - b. Was Jesus really raised from the dead?
  - c. Did Jesus really perform miracles?
  - d. What is meant by "god?"
  - e. Is it true that the living god was uniquely and personally present in Jesus?
- 4.3 According to Wright, a covenant relationship is:
- a. a relationship between a superior god and a human being or group of humans.
  - b. a relationship between two persons about equal in power or status.
  - c. an agreement which sets forth mutual privileges and responsibilities.
  - d. a relationship somewhere between a marriage, a contract, and a job description.
- 4.4 According to Wright, the message of the scripture is that Israel:
- (select all that apply)
- a. failed to be wise and to obey God's word.
  - b. grieved God's spirit.
  - c. disobeyed God's laws and commandments.
  - d. built a temple and made sacrifices religiously to God which were pleasing in God's sight.
  - e. did not worship God and God alone, but worshipped other gods and goddesses.
- 4.5 Because of Israel's behavior, Yahweh: (select all that apply)
- a. returned.
  - b. disappeared.
  - c. selected someone and his army to destroy the nation and the temple.
  - d. withdrew and abandoned Israel.
  - e. left Israel to her own behaviors to harvest what she had planted.
- 4.6 According to Wright, the great prophets of the exile, such as Isaiah of Babylon and Ezekiel, insisted that Yahweh would: (select all that apply)
- a. restore Israel's fortunes in a new age.
  - b. return to Jerusalem.
  - c. judge Israel before all the nations.
  - d. re-build the temple.

4.7 According to Wright, in Luke 19.41-44, Jesus (select all that apply):

- a. says that the Israelites had not practiced or recognized the things that make for peace.
- b. indicated that Jerusalem had not recognized the time of their visitation from God.
- c. indicated that his journey was the symbolic enactment, the embodiment even, of Yahweh's return to Zion.
- d. says that his journey to Jerusalem for Passover was God's fulfilment of the passover event.
- e. indicated that his journey to Jerusalem was just another pilgrim's procession.

4.8 According to Wright, Jesus appropriated to himself these ways that God is active in the world: (select all that apply and match all that are true)

- a. Sabbath
- b. spirit
- c. law
- d. land
- e. temple
- f. word
- g. wisdom
- r. acts of healing and exorcism
- s. rich young ruler: sell everything and come follow me.
- t. parable of the sower who plants seed
- u. "your sins are forgiven"
- v. two houses: rock and sand
- w. humans are made for the sabbath; not sabbath for humans.
- x. come from east to west to sit at table with Abraham

4.9 According to Wright, people in ancient as well as modern times believe in all sorts of gods. Some of the gods mentioned by Wright include: (select all that apply)

- a. an absentee god
- b. god as a force of nature (thunder, lightning, sun, fire, sea, river)
- c. god as the whole universe and as everything in it
- d. god as a rule-maker and moral judge of human perfection
- e. god as an economic force (e.g. the Dow-Jones stock index)
- f. god as a creator and covenant-making god with Abraham

4.10 According to Wright, in the first century people who ended up on Roman crosses were normally viewed as failed messiahs. According to Wright, why was Jesus not viewed as a failed messiah?

- a. his disciples' missionary work
- b. the formation of the church
- c. the resurrection
- d. the holy spirit
- e. the faith of the first Christians

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***The New Claim***

View Jesus the New Way, program six: The New Claim

- 5.1 According to Wright, in the Roman world, the normal result after a Jewish messiah was crucified would be that:
- a. the movement proclaimed another messiah.
  - b. the members of the movement were killed or imprisoned.
  - c. the movement disbanded and faded away.
  - d. the leaders of the movement were arrested and also crucified.
- 5.2 In the Jewish scriptures, the first major statement about resurrection is a sort of parable. It occurred in: a. Isaiah 53 b. Ezekiel 37 c. Daniel 7 d. 2 Maccabees 7
- 5.3 Of the Jewish groups in Jesus' time, which believed in a resurrection: (select all that apply) a. Sadducees b. Herodians c. Essenes d. Pharisees e. zealots
- 5.4 Resurrection language in the Hebrew or Jewish scriptures symbolized: (select all that apply)
- a. life after death in a bodily sense
  - b. life after death in a non-bodily sense
  - c. God's overturning of the present world order and rulers
  - d. God's establishing of his people in freedom and peace
  - e. God's victory over death
  - f. all of the righteous dead people would rise again to share in God's new world
- 5.5 In the Easter stories in the Gospels, the first skeptics of Jesus' resurrection from the dead were: a. the women who came to the tomb b. the male disciples  
c. the Roman soldiers d. the Jewish priests e. the gardeners
- 5.6 According to Wright, why did the first Christians say "resurrection" had happened? (select all that apply)
- a. they believed the end of the world had come
  - b. they had evidence of Jesus' empty tomb
  - c. they believed that God had raised Jesus bodily from the dead
  - d. they believed the report of the women who said they had seen Jesus alive after his burial.
- 5.7 According to Wright, the idea of resurrection starts off life:
- a. as an alternative to the Greek notion of the immortality of the soul.
  - b. as a theological solution to the problem of why do good people die young.
  - c. as a sapiential solution to the great issue of justice and personal retribution.
  - d. as a metaphor for the great return from exile, the restoration of God's people.
  - e. as a prophetic response to what happens after the death of the nation.

5.8 Wright notes and responds to which skeptical proposals concerning the resurrection of Jesus: (select all that apply) a. the disciples stole the body b. wrong tomb  
c. dead people don't live again d. corporate hallucination e. wishful thinking  
f. fantasy g. Jesus didn't really die h. disciples deliberately invented the  
resurrection appearance stories j. modern science has demonstrated the finality of  
human death

5.9 According to Wright, if Jesus had not risen from the dead, what two things would his followers have done: a. dispersed and ended the movement  
b. joined another messianic movement  
c. lapsed into grief, depression, and probably suicide.  
d. elected another leader as messiah  
e. elected James the brother of Jesus as a new messiah  
f. gone back to work as fishermen in Galilee

5.10 According to Wright, the Apostle Paul says that resurrection means:  
a. the immortality of the soul b. that our bodies will be finally abandoned  
c. that our bodies will be finally resuscitated d. that our bodies will be finally  
transformed into new spiritual realities.

5.11 According to Wright, the resurrection of Jesus means: (select all that apply)  
a. evidence for the immortality of the soul  
b. the beginning of God's new creation promised by the Jewish prophets  
c. that the final destination for Christians is a disembodied heaven  
d. new life for the individual person  
e. new hope for the future  
f. new life for divided communities  
g. new embodied life to share in the new world God is in the process of making

5.12 According to Wright, an appropriate Christian response to the resurrection of Jesus involves: (select all that apply) a. living by faith in Jesus' achievement b. joining a church to work for Jesus and to praise God  
c. living by hope in the final implementation of Jesus' achievement d. living by love, the kind of self-giving and forgiving love embodied by Jesus to the world and to Israel  
e. putting up with a mess in this life and hoping for better things in the next life.

5.13 According to Wright, the Apostle Paul thinks that the resurrection of Jesus: (select all that apply) a. has defeated the principalities and rulers of this world.  
b. means that the great resurrection promised at the end of the space and time continuum has already started with one human person.  
c. means that the great end-time reversal of cosmic decay, the power of sin and death themselves, has already actually happened with Jesus Christ.  
d. has vindicated Jesus against his Jewish and Roman opponents.  
e. means that Christians can look forward to the new day when God's victory over death will be completed and all God's people will be raised to new life just as Jesus has been raised.

**Jesus 401**  
**A Plausible Pre-Easter Jesus**  
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**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**Getting the Surprising Kingdom Started.**

View the video Jesus the New Way (30 min.). Stop tape at “the New Challenge” in program two.

- 1.10 Regarding the physical appearance of Jesus, the Gospels tell us:
- a. he had Egyptian features
  - b. he was white
  - c. he was a handsome Jewish male
  - d. nothing
  - e. he was an ordinary looking, unremarkable Jewish peasant.

**Answer = d. nothing.** The Gospels tell us nothing about the physical appearance of Jesus. Wright & George, Jesus the New Way; Leader’s guide and program scripts. Christian History Institute, c1998, pg. 6. Hereafter this work is cited as Scripts. It is the natural tendency of most human ethnic and racial groups to claim that Jesus looked like them. In fact, we do not know what Jesus looked like. Perhaps, it is in keeping with the mysterious nature of the one true, living God and with that God’s commandment not to make any graven images to represent God (Ex. 20.4; Dt. 5.8) that we simply do not have a physical snapshot of the historical Jesus.

- 1.11 According to Dr. Tom Wright, Jews of Jesus’ day lived on:
- a. hatred of the Romans
  - b. love for all people
  - c. hope for a deliverer
  - d. despair that God would ever come
  - e. a deep desire for revenge against their enemies.

**Answer = c. hope for a deliverer.** Scripts, pg. 6, Waiting for God. Wright cites evidence from Isaiah 52 and from Maccabees remembering how Judas Maccabeus, with palm branches waving, cleansed the temple in 164 B.C. and gained military victory over the enemies of the Jewish people. Certainly hatred of oppressor groups and a desire for revenge are powerful motivators for certain groupings within any society, but before the Jewish war erupted in Palestine, in the society as a whole, hope seemed more powerful than despair. The Essene experience at Qumran furnishes an important historical parallel on this issue. They had a very keen hope for a coming priestly messiah as well as a Davidic messiah.

- 1.12 Which of the following peoples had ruled the Jewish people: (select all that apply)
- a. Egyptians
  - b. Babylonians
  - c. Persians
  - d. Greeks
  - e. Syrians
  - f. Romans

**Answer = A,B,C,D,E,F.** Scripts, pg. 7.

- 1.13 Two hundred years before Jesus did it, a bold leader called \_\_\_\_ came into the temple with palm branches waving and then cleansed the temple.
- a. Julius Caesar
  - b. Judas Maccabeus
  - c. Matthias
  - d. Pompei
  - f. Alexander the Great

**Answer = b. Judas Maccabeus.** Scripts, pg. 7.

- 1.14 According to Wright, the most powerful symbol of Jewish identity in Jesus' day was:
- b. the temple
  - b. the torah
  - c. circumcision
  - d. Sabbath-keeping and food laws
  - g. the holy land

**Answer = a. the temple.** Scripts, pg. 9. The temple in Jerusalem was the most powerful symbol of Jewish identity in Jesus' day. The other items are all important symbols of Jewish identity, but the temple was the supreme symbol. This is expressed in Josephus, the Jewish historian, in his memorable slogan, "One temple for the one God."

- 1.15 According to Wright, John the Baptist, like Jesus, was seen as a prophet who launched what can best be described as a/an \_\_\_\_\_ movement.
- a. renewal
  - b. restoration
  - c. counter-temple
  - d. anti-empire
  - e. political
  - h. revolutionary

**Answer = c. counter-temple movement.** Scripts, pgs. 10-11. Like Jesus, John the Baptist launched a counter-temple movement. Wright stresses that by forgiving sins, Jesus was offering people what normally they would have to go to the temple to get. Other Jesus experts stress some of the other answers: restoration (Ed Sanders), revolutionary (J.D. Crossan, John Meier), renewal (Marcus Borg).

- 1.16 A writer who described the events of the Jewish war with the Romans was:
- a. Tacitus
  - b. Suetonius
  - c. John the Essene
  - d. Herodotus
  - e. Josephus

**Answer = e. Josephus.** Scripts, pg. 21, 87 & 90ff. Tacitus and Suetonius are Roman historians, and Herodotus is a Greek historian.

- 1.17 Jesus started the kingdom of God by:
- a. being born
  - b. being baptized
  - c. healing people
  - d. teaching in parables about the kingdom
  - e. dying on a Roman cross
  - f. being raised to new life
  - g. all of the above

**Answer = g. all of the above.** Any one of these moments could, and historically have, been understood to be **the** starting point of God's kingdom being inaugurated on the earth. The supreme defining moment for the starting of the kingdom of God on earth, although it is somewhat in disguise as an historical moment, would be the resurrection of Jesus as a human from the dead, but a logical case could be made for the other moments as well. Scripts, p. 12-13. Wright almost seems to imply that the kingdom of God starts with Jesus' teaching in parables about the kingdom. But, in introducing the entrance of Jesus, Wright alludes to Jesus' connection with John the Baptist (Scripts, p.11), and visually, on the screen, we see Jesus being baptized by John the Baptist. Certainly, in the beginning of program two, Wright connects the start of the kingdom with the healings of Jesus (Scripts, p.19).

- 1.9 The messenger predicted in Isaiah 52 would announce to Jerusalem:
- a. God is coming
  - b. YHWH is returning to Zion
  - c. your God rules
  - d. YHWH has won the battle
  - e. the exile has ended

**Answer = c. your God rules (52.7).** *Scripts*, p.8, “One day Israel’s God would be king over the whole world.... Here is part of the heart of Wright’s theology of Jesus’ program: end of exile, forgiveness of sins, return of Yahweh to Zion, the defeat of the real enemy, namely Satan, all equals = the victory of God, or as expressed here in Isaiah 52, “your God rules or reigns.” This theological scheme is explained more fully in program 3 and in Wright’s book Jesus and the Victory of God (Fortress, 1996).

1.10 According to Wright, the main Jewish figure from the past who inspired the Jews of Jesus’ day to keep hope alive was: a. Abraham b. Moses c. Isaiah d. Daniel

**Answer = d. Daniel.** *Scripts*, p. 8. Under an oppressive government, Daniel resists and keeps faith in the one true god. Daniel also dreams dreams of how the sovereign God would defeat the monsters and vindicate Israel as the true people of God.

1.11 According to Wright, the powerful symbols of Jewish identity were: (select all that apply) a. law or torah b. the ark of the covenant c. the holy land of Palestine d. sabbath keeping e. food laws f. circumcision g. the Jerusalem temple h. synagogues j. talmud k. family m. sacred scrolls of Hebrew Bible

**Answer = a. law, c. the holy land, d. Sabbath, e. food laws, g. temple, and k. the Jewish family.** This list appears visually on the screen. *Scripts*, p. 9.

1.12 According to Wright, which of the following Jewish movements were counter-temple movements: a. Herodians b. Essenes c. Pharisees d. Sadducees e. zealots f. John the Baptist’s disciples

**Answer = b. Essenes, c. Pharisees, e. zealots, and f. John’s disciples.** *Scripts*, p. 9-10. Wright does not name the zealots here as a separate group opposed to the temple. But, in spite of the complexities of the definition of zealots and bandits, Wright does not doubt that such zealots or bandits, or whatever they were called during the time of Jesus, were opposed to the temple aristocrats. The Sadducees and the Herodians were the temple aristocrats.

1.13 According to Wright, historians today have historical sources for best reconstructing a life of: a. Julius Caesar b. Jesus of Nazareth c. emperor Nero d. Bar Cochba e. Herod Antipas f. Herod the Great

**Answer = b. Jesus of Nazareth.** *Scripts*, p. 10. Tom Wright, like Marcus Borg and Mark Allan Powell, is more cautiously positive and optimistic about the reliability of New Testament sources as sources for the pre-Easter Jesus (to use Marcus Borg’s phrase). On this issue of “the hermeneutic of suspicion” or “the hermeneutic of reliability,” Wright’s position of a “hermeneutic of reliability” is unlike that of “the hermeneutic of suspicion” held by many modern New Testament scholars, such as the notorious Jesus Seminar led by John Dominic Crossan and Robert Funk.

1.15 According to Wright, the healings of Jesus were \_\_\_\_\_. They were the actions which formed the focus of his kingdom announcement. a. powerful b. mysterious c. deliberate d. symbolic

**Answer = d. symbolic.** Scripts, p. 19 – Startling Surprises. According to Wright, Jesus' healings are symbolic because they intentionally include into the new people of God which he is forming the blind, the lame, the deaf, the dumb, women, and lepers (all groups excluded from the inner areas of the temple as "unclean").

1.15 According to Wright, when Jesus invited people "to repent and believe the good news," he meant something like:

- a. stop sinning and turn to God
- b. give up your agenda and trust me for mine
- c. confess your sins and have faith in God
- d. stop your violence, turn around and practice peaceful ways.

**Answer = b. give up your agenda and trust me for mine.** Script, p.21. Since Jesus' time, of course, these words have taken on a more religious connotation. Wright, however, will stress in programs two and four that Jesus' non-violent, peaceful confrontation agenda is different from the domination agenda of the Romans and the Jewish leadership which, of course, does not think twice about using cruel violence such as crucifixion to accomplish their goals.

2.1 Answer B = warning.

2.2 Answer A = forgiven

2.3 Answer A = Leonardo Defilippis

2.4 Answer D = self-giving love which serves even one's enemies

2.5 Answers B and E = Simon ben Giora and Simeon bar Kosiba

2.6 Answers A, B, C, and D = the Jewish family, food laws & Sabbath keeping, the holy land, the law or torah.

2.7 Answers A and D = the cleansing of the temple, and celebrating the last supper as a passover meal and linking the meal sayings about bread and wine to his body, blood, new covenant, and forgiveness of sins.

2.8 Answer E = build or re-build the temple and defeat foreign oppressors.

2.9 Answer B = making a powerful symbolic statement.

2.10 Answer D = Jesus was out to destroy the temple and to establish his rule as messiah.

3.1 Answer C = symbol

3.2 Answer C = Caiaphas

3.3 Answer D = Passover

3.4 Answer A = reaching its climax

3.5 Answers A, C, D, and E = a hen gathering her chicks, "If they do this when the wood is green, what will they do when the wood is dry?", the parable of the wicked tenants who kill the owner's son, and "This is my body given for you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood which is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins."

3.6 Answer D = Isaiah 40 – 55

3.7 Answer C = a battle with satan

3.8 Answer C = crucifixion

4.1 Answer A = a false prophet

4.2 Answer E = Is it true that the living god was uniquely and personally present in Jesus?

4.3 Answer D = a relationship somewhere between a marriage, a contract, and a job description.

4.4 Answers A, B, C, and E = failed to be wise and to obey God's word, grieved God's spirit, disobeyed God's laws and commandments, and did not worship God and God alone, but worshipped other gods and goddesses.

4.5 Answers C, D, and E = selected someone and his army to destroy the nation and the temple (Nebuchadnezzar), withdrew and abandoned Israel (Psalms & Book of Job), and left Israel to her own behaviors to harvest what she had planted (Deuteronomic Historian and prophets).

4.6 Answers A, B, and D = restore Israel's fortunes in a new age, return to Jerusalem, and re-build the temple.

4.7 Answers A, B, and C = says that the Israelites had not practiced or recognized the things that make for peace, indicated that Jerusalem had not recognized the time of their visitation from God, and indicated that his journey was the symbolic enactment, the embodiment even, of Yahweh's return to Zion. While D = "says that his journey to Jerusalem for Passover was God's fulfillment of the passover event" may be implied by Wright and true for Jesus, it is NOT mentioned in Luke 19.41-44.

4.8 Answers B, C, E, F, and G = spirit, law, temple, word, and wisdom. B spirit matches with R "acts of healing and exorcism." C law or torah matches with S "rich young ruler: sell everything and come follow me." E temple matches with U "your sins are forgiven." F word matches with T "the parable of the sower who plants seed." And G wisdom could match either with V "two houses: rock and sand" (wise and foolish actions summarizing Sermon on the Mount) or X "come from east to west to sit at table with Abraham" (wisdom is international and context of something greater is here implies wisdom).

4.9 All answers A, B, C, D, E, and F = an absentee god, god as force of nature (thunder, lightning, sun, fire, sea, river), god as the whole universe and as everything in it, god as a rule-maker and moral judge of human perfection, god as an economic force (e.g. the Dow-Jones stock index), and god as a creator and covenant-making god with Abraham.

4.10 Answer C = the resurrection.

5.1 Answer C = the movement disbanded and faded away.

5.2 Answer B = Ezekiel 37

5.3 Answer D = Pharisees

5.4 Answers A, C, D, E and F = life after death in a bodily sense, God's overturning of the present world order and rulers, God's establishing of his people in freedom and peace, God's victory over death, and all of the righteous dead people would rise again to share in God's new world.

5.5 Answer B = the male disciples

5.6 Answer C = they believed that God had raised Jesus bodily from the dead.

5.7 Answer D = as a metaphor for the great return from exile, the restoration of God's people.

5.8 Answers A, B, C, D, E, F, and G = the disciples stole the body, wrong tomb, dead people don't live again, corporate hallucination, wishful thinking, fantasy, Jesus didn't really die.

5.9 Answers A and D = dispersed and ended the movement and elected another leader as messiah.

5.10 Answer D = that our bodies will be finally transformed into new spiritual realities.

5.11 Answers B, D, E, F, and G = the beginning of God's new creation promised by the Jewish prophets, new life for the individual person, new hope for the future, new life for

divided communities, and new embodied life to share in the new world God is in the process of making.

5.12 Answers A, C, and D = living by faith in Jesus' achievement, living by hope in the final implementation of Jesus' achievement, and living by love, the kind of self-giving and forgiving love embodied by Jesus to the world and to Israel. Although answer B "joining a church to work for Jesus and to praise God" might be implied, it is not mentioned by Wright in his presentation.

5.13 Answers A, B, C, and E = has defeated the principalities and rulers of this world, means that the great resurrection promised at the end of the space and time continuum has already started with one human person, means that the great end-time reversal of cosmic decay, the power of sin and death themselves, has already actually happened with Jesus Christ, and means that Christians can look forward to the new day when God's victory over death will be completed and all God's people will be raised to new life just as Jesus has been raised.

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Ted Coleman is an ELCA pastor and adult Bible teacher in Atlanta, GA. He has a Ph.D. in Religion (Biblical Studies) from Duke University. He can be reached at [ted@tedcoleman.com](mailto:ted@tedcoleman.com). He enthusiastically endorses the work of Dr. N.T. Wright as the most powerful synthesis of Jesus and New Testament in the past half century. He is available for teaching *Jesus: the New Way* in congregational settings, and for teaching short courses on Jesus and the Gospels.