

THE HUMANITIES: Culture, Continuity, and Change

Chapter 1 – THE FLOWERING OF CHRISTIANITY

What is Masada and why is it of symbolic significance?

Define messianic. What happened in 168 BCE that led to the Jewish religion becoming increasingly messianic?

What led to Judaism splitting into three sects? What were the three sects? Which was responsible for the Dead Sea Scrolls? Who are the Sanhedrin?

Identify the connection between the rabbis, the Oral Torah, Mishnah, Gemara, and Talmud.

Why did the teachings of Jesus antagonize both Jewish and Roman leaders? What promise became the foundation of the Christian faith?

How did Paul help transform Christianity into a major religion? How did Paul say redemption was earned?

Why were the Gnostic texts banned? Why does it seem possible the Gnostics were influenced by Indian philosophy? What important trait was shared by the Brahmins and Gnostics?

What matters most in early Christian art, its literal meaning or symbolism? How did early Christians use art and why?

What is the Nicene Creed and what is its significance?

Why was naturalism abandoned as an important aim of art?

What were mystery cults? In what ways did Zoroastrianism and Mithraism set the stage for Christianity?

Why is St. Augustine's *Confessions* significant religiously? As literature? What was his most important work?

What "may well have" been the reason why Justinian had Hagia Sophia built?

Define the hieratic style of art and why it might be used instead of naturalism?

What was St. Augustine's view regarding music in worship? Who was Boethius? What did he argue were the three classes of music? Which was the highest form?

What was the iconoclast controversy? What was Leo III's motivation? What role did Islam play in it?

Vocabulary:

antiphonal

iconography

syncretism

apocalypse

Latin cross

synoptic gospels

dogma

liturgy

type

Gnostic gospels

Messiah

typology

iconoclasm

mystery cult

Vulgate