The Good Life was hard to find in Israel.

Greeks, Romans and the Herods...and Jews

The Kingdom of God means war

The 4 gospels



Jesus had foresight and insight

a person endowed with profound moral and spiritual insight or knowledge; a wise person or sage who possesses intuitive

Jesus the teacher (Rabbi)

Jesus was an authority

Jesus was an eyewitness

The others...



Pharisees





Tax collectors

The Sinners



Sadducees

Scribes

The Pharisees: mentioned more than any group in the gospels

Luke 18:9 He told his next story to some who were complacently pleased with themselves over their moral performance and looked down their noses at the common people .

## The Sadducees

- 1. They embraced the growing Greek culture
- throughout the Mediterranean
- 2. Politically ambitious, cosying up with the Herods and the Romans.
- 3. Because of this they had political power as leaders of Israel.
- 4. Wealthy
- 5. Strictly Moses disciples
- (accepting only the first five books of the Bible).

## **Scribes** were the legal accountants

The "Scribe" was a teacher, but also a lawyer, a judge, a notary (in matters of divorces and contracts), a law-maker, a physician (expert in questions touching the fitness of cattle for food, a botanist, an agriculturalist (in matters of tithes and mixed crops), and so forth.

## TAX COLLECTORS

They were dishonorable and disreputable scammers.

## **The Sinners**

Any Jew who disregarded the ways of the Pharisees and Sadducees

We see a very deliberate caste system in Israel

Few things are more indicative of the kind of person Jesus was than the fact that the religious elite reacted against him, while these "sinners" responded to him. Mat 11:28-30

Unbending ideals makes absolutely necessary whatever it thinks is important...and everything was important to the guard dogs of Judaism.



"we"













