

Study Aids
Discussion Questions
For “What’s the Message?” Lessons

Lesson 91

Questions:

What role did Alexander the Great and his succeeding generals play in shaping the attitudes and expectations of the Jews at the time of Christ?

Who were the Maccabees, and what is the connection between them and Alexander?

What is Hanukkah, and what is the connection between Hanukkah and the Maccabees?

What, if anything, does Hanukkah have to do with Christmas?

Who were the Sadducees, where did they come from, and what did they stand for?

Who were the Pharisees, how did they develop, and why was there such a feud between them and the Sadducees?

How do we relate the Messiah foretold in Isaiah, Ezra the Scribe, and the popular concept of the Messiah held by the Jews of this era?

Why did the hierarchy and officials of Judaism reject Jesus as the Messiah?

How did Cleopatra’s hatred for Herod the Great play a role in shaping the political structure of Judah under Rome at the time of Jesus?