

Questions, week 5 (Hopkins, Chapters 2, 8, and Goodman, 2004)

1. What are the Dead Sea Scrolls? Why are they important to Jewish history?
2. What are the similarities and differences between the Qumran sect and Christianity?
3. What can we learn from the three versions of the TV show?
4. Was Hopkins trying to reconstruct a historical Jesus in Chapter 8?
5. Hopkins stated (p. 330), “The variety of early Jesuses was amazing.” What did he mean? What are the implications for understanding history?
6. What is the role of miracles in Christianity (and Judaism)?
7. Did Hopkins make a good case for the success of Christianity?
8. How does this book help us to understand Jewish history?
9. Goodman (2004): Why was the Temple destroyed?
10. Goodman (2004): How is the succession of Roman emperors relevant to Jewish history? (Vespasian, 69-79; Titus; Domitian, 81-96; Nerva; Trajan, 98-117; Hadrian, 117-38)