

The Dead Sea Scrolls

Dr. Joel M. Hoffman
<http://www.lashon.net/JMH>
Temple Shaaray Tefila



*Benediction, from Qumran Cave 4
c. 50 BCE*

..... The Cast

Khalil Musa, Jum'a Mohammed, and Mohammed el-Dhib — Ta'amireh Bedouin

Jalil "Kando" Iskandar Shalim — antiquities dealer

Athanasius Yeshue Samuel — Archimandrite of Saint Mark in Jerusalem

Elizer Sukenik — professor at Hebrew University

John Trever — research student at ASOR and amateur photographer

Yigael Yadin — archaeologist and IDF chief of staff

Lankester Harding — director of the Department of Antiquities of Jordan

Roland de Vaux — director of *Ecole Biblique et Archeologique Francaise*

Ben Zion Wacholder — professor at HUC-JIR in Cincinnati

Martin Abegg — graduate student working with Professor Wacholder

.....**The Scrolls**.....

- Rules
- Halakhic Texts
- Eschatological Literature
- Exegetical Literature
- Para-Biblical Literature
- Poetic Texts
- Liturgical Texts
- Astronomical Texts, Calendars, & Horoscopes
- The Copper Scroll
- Biblical Material

.....**Psalms**.....

.....**4Q88**.....

Let heaven and earth exult. May all the stars of dusk exult with them. Rejoice, Judah, rejoice greatly! Rejoice greatly and delight greatly, celebrate your celebrations and fulfill your vows, for there is no evil [lit., Belial —JMH] in you. Lift up your hand, strengthen your right hand, for your enemies will perish and all evil[do]ers scatter. You, Adonai, are forever, and your glory is forever....

.....**Psalms**.....

[Psalm 96] Let heaven rejoice and earth delight... [Psalm 92] When the wicked sprout like weeds and all evildoers flourish, it is that they be destroyed forever. But You are exalted forever, Adonai.

.....**Ezekiel**.....

.....**4Q386**.....

[And he said,] Son of Man, prophesy over the bones and say: let one bone join with the next, one joint [with the next and] it was so. And he said a second time prophesy, and sinews will grow on them and they will be covered with skin [and it was so.] And he said again prophesy over the four winds of the sky and the winds [of the sky] will blow [into them and they will live] and a nation of many people will arise and bless Adonai Tz'vaot who gave them life. And I asked, Adonai, when will these things happen? And God answered me [...] a tree will bend over and straighten up.

..... **Ezekiel 37**

[...] And he said to me, Son of Man, prophesy of these bones and say to them: dry bones hear the word of Adonai. Thus said Adonai, God, to these bones, behold I will bring breath [“wind”] into you and you will live. And I will place sinews upon you, and I will cover you with flesh and I will form skin on you. And I will put breath into you, and you shall live again. And you shall know that I am Adonai.

I prophesied as I had been commanded and while I was prophesying there was a loud voice, and the bones joined, one bone with the next. And I saw that there were sinews upon them, and flesh had grown, and skin had formed over them from above, but they had no breath. And he said to me, prophesy to the wind, prophesy, Son of Man, and say to the wind: Thus says Adonai, God: From the four winds, come, O wind, and breathe into these slain that they might live. I prophesied as I had been commanded, and breath entered them and they lived and they arose on their feet, and very, very great multitude.

..... **4Q386**

[...] the sight that Ezeki[el] saw [...] the gleam of the chariot and four living creatures; a living creature [... do not turn when they walk] backwards; one [each? —JMH] living creature walked on two, and their two le[gs] [...] was a spirit, and their faces were each joined to the other. The appearance of the fa[ces was: one a lion, on]e an eagle, one a calf and one a human.

..... **Ezekiel 1:5**

In the center [of the cloud from the stormy wind from Ezekiel 1:4 —JMH] was the appearance of four living creatures and this is how they looked: They had the appearance of human beings. They had four faces each, and four wings each. [...] They do not turn when they walk, each man moving in the direction of any of its faces. The appearance of their faces was: a human face, a lion’s face to the right of all four, and an ox’s face to the left of all four, and an eagle’s face to all four.

..... **The Copper Scroll (3Q15)**

In the ruin in the dark valley [or: in the Valley of Akur —JMH], under the steps leading east, forty cubits [?]: a chest of silver and its vessels, weighing 17 talents. *KEN*.

..... **The War Scroll (1QM)**

For the In[structor: The Rule] of the War. The first attack by the sons of light will be launched against the lot of the sons of darkness, against the army of Belial, against the company of Edom and of Moab and of the sons of Amnon.... The sons of Levi, the sons of Judah and the sons of Benjamin, the exiled of the desert, will wage war against them....

..... **The Temple Scroll (11Q19)**

...You shall not work with an ox and a donkey together. You shall not sacrifice any pure cow, sheep, or goat in any cities which are less than a three day's walk from my temple, but instead sacrifice them inside the temple....