

Ancient Near East

Test 3 Study Guide

Multiple Choice Items

1. Aryans
2. the origin of the name “Iran”
3. where the Medes settled
4. where the Persians settled
5. the geography of Iran
6. the climate of Iran
7. Cyaxares
8. Astyages
9. the Achaemenids
10. the legend of Cyrus
11. how Cyrus became ruler
12. the conquest of Ionia
13. Cyrus’ religious policy
14. Cyrus and the Jews
15. Cyrus’ death
16. Cambyses II
17. how Darius I became king
18. Darius’ army
19. Persian kingship under Darius
20. the Persian royal court
21. satrapies
22. satraps
23. Persian road-building
24. Aramaic in the Persian empire
25. Old Persian
26. Avestan
27. the Persian imperial legal system
28. the Persian imperial economy
29. Persian imperial coinage
30. the extent of the Persian empire under Darius I
31. the Ionian Revolt
32. the battle of Marathon
33. Xerxes
34. the battle of Salamis
35. the battle of Plataea
36. Artaxerxes III
37. Darius III
38. the battle of the Granicus
39. the battle of Issus
40. the battle of Gaugamela

41. Zarathustra
42. pre-Zoroastrian religion
43. the Magi
44. the three sacred ceremonies of pre-Zoroastrian religion
45. haoma
46. daevas
47. ahuras
48. the Avesta
49. the Gathas
50. the traditional account of Zoroaster's infancy and later life
51. the main thrust of Zoroaster's reform
52. Ahura Mazda
53. Ahura Mazda's creation of the world
54. the Spenta Mainyu
55. the Amesha Spentas
56. Angra Mainyu
57. Zoroaster's teaching on free will
58. Zoroastrian eschatology
59. the three saviors
60. Saoshyant
61. the Zoroastrian End Times scenario
62. Zoroastrian syncretism
63. Mithraism
64. Manichaeism
65. Zoroastrian worship in antiquity
66. the haoma sacrifice and the Christian Eucharist (Communion)
67. Zoroastrian influences on Judaism
68. Zoroastrian influences on Christianity
69. Zoroastrian influences on Islam
70. Sheol
71. the Jewish notion of the immortality of the soul
72. the origins of the idea of the Resurrection
73. differing notions about the Messiah
74. apocalyptic literature
75. debates about the canon of the Hebrew Bible
76. the assembly at Jabneh
77. the Septuagint
78. the Apocrypha or Deuterocanonicals
79. the Pseudepigrapha
80. the Pharisees
81. the Talmuds
82. the rabbis
83. the Sadducees
84. the Zealots
85. the Essenes
86. the Dead Sea Scrolls

87. the problem of theodicy
88. Jesus of Nazareth
89. the causes of the Jewish Revolts
90. the Arsacids
91. main features of Roman-Parthian relations
92. Parthian government
93. Parthian social structure
94. the Parthian army
95. Parthian religion
96. the rise of the Sassanids
97. Khusrau the Just
98. Khusrau II
99. Sassanid government
100. Sassanid religion

Essay Questions

1. What are the religious beliefs of Zoroastrianism? What do Christianity and Islam owe to Zoroastrianism?
2. What was the relationship between “church and state”, i.e., religious and political authority, among the Persians, Parthians, and Sassanids?
3. In what ways were the social structures of the Persians, Parthians, and Sassanids similar? In what ways were they different?
4. How did the governmental/political systems of the Persians, Parthians, and Sassanids resemble one another? How were they different?
5. What were the main themes in the historical evolution of Zoroastrianism over time, from its foundation down to the Sassanid period?
6. What were the policies of the Persians, Parthians, and Sassanids towards other religions? How were those policies similar, and how were they different?