

## NUMBERS

### Understanding Israel/Understanding Scripture

Numbers 1:1-4 & 54; 2:34

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*“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”* (ESV)

The Bible is really a library of 66 individual books, in two major sections, written over a period of 1,600 years, by about 40 different men, with one single theme that can be summed up in the words of John 3:16.

*“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”* (ESV)

It has been said that the American Church today is more Biblically illiterate than ever before. We just haven't taken the Bible seriously enough to really study it to the point we get the big picture. We know some of the high points from the Bible stories we have heard but what we don't know far out weighs what we do know. When it comes to the truth of Scripture ignorance is never bliss.

Today we begin a series from the Book of Numbers. It isn't written about us but there are many things we can learn from it that apply to all people of faith whether we are Jewish or whether we are not Jewish.

A book like Numbers is easier to digest if we have established a basic understanding of some special people and some historical details.

1. It helps to know about Abram (Abraham) – Genesis 12:1-3
2. It helps to know about Isaac – Genesis 26:3-4
3. It helps to know about Jacob (Israel) – Genesis 28:10-15 & 32:22-32
4. It helps to know about 12 the sons of Jacob (Israel) – Exodus 1:1-10
5. It helps to know about Egypt and Moses
6. It helps to know the Old Testament points forward to Jesus
7. It helps to know that the New Testament points back to Jesus
8. It helps to know that God has special plans for the people and land of Israel (Hebrews, Chosen People, Covenant People, Jews, Israel, Israelites, Israelis)

### So What?

- Since God has a great love for Israel so should we
- Since God has great plans for Israel it will survive
- One can have a Jewish family and not be Jewish (Romans 2:28-29)
- One can have a Christian family and not be Christian (Romans 3:29-30)