

Understanding Israel

Romans 9:1-5 (NASV)

"What then shall we say to these things?" (Ro 8:31a)

Question: Why was the Apostle Paul so interested in the Jewish people?
(Two reasons)

1. He had a personal reason because he was Jewish. (v. 1-3)
2. He had a prophetic reason because through the writings of the Old Testament and through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit showed Paul that God has a plan and a purpose and He is going to keep His promise to the nation of Israel.

Important Notes Concerning Israel:

1. It's the geographical center of the world. (Ezekiel 5:5)
2. It's the religious center of the world.
3. It's the political center of the world.
4. It's the prophetic center of the world.
5. It will one day be the spiritual center of the world.

Background Knowledge of Israel:

1. The gifts God gave to Israel. (v.4)
 - God gave Israel a Land.
 - God gave Israel a Law.
 - God gave Israel a Language.
 - God gave Israel a Lord.
2. The promises God made to Israel (v.4)
 - God made an everlasting covenant with the father of the Hebrew nation, Abraham. (Gen 17:7,8)
3. The problems for the nation of Israel.
 - Desolation (Leviticus 26:31-32)
 - Dissemination (Leviticus 26:33)
 - Division (Genesis 17:18-20)
 - Deception (Daniel 9:27)
4. God's plan for the nation of Israel. (Two words)
 - Restoration (Is 11:11,12); Ezekiel 37:21,22; Ez 39:25-29; Amos 9:14,15)
 - Salvation (Zech 12:10-; Ro 11:25-27)