

God's People in the World

January 22, 2012

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Genesis 46:8-27

Pastor Mark W. Turner

Backing up to Gen 46:8... Why this portion of Scripture?

Not 1st list in Bible: Gen 4:17-22; Gen 5:1-32; Gen 10; Gen 11; Gen 25; Gen 36

So What?

- **God has given each person a purpose and a plan**

Psa 139:16; Ex 33:17; Isa 45:3, etc.

- **The Textual Issue**

- Name Variations between Num 26 & 1 Chr 2-8
Several explanations... 2 of sons of Genesis are grandsons
- Difference between v26 & 27: 66 vs. 70
Most likely: not counting Er, Onan, Ephraim, Manasseh
- Stephen in Acts 7:14 says "75"; Gen 46 says "70"
Stephen quotes Septuagint (Grk translation of Hebrew) which reads 75
Septuagint likely includes 9 descendants of Joseph (later) instead of just 2
- Key: God's Word is reliable, our understanding is often lacking

- **God does things in His Way and His time**

God's promises to Abraham: Gen 12; 15; 17; 22, etc.

Hardly seem fulfilled in 70 descendants 215 years later!

But God's economy is not our economy — He does things in His time & for His glory!

APPLICATION: With God & spiritual things be faithful and obedient and do NOT become discouraged with little apparent growth — trust God for growth!
1 Sam 16:7; Prov 30:24-28; Titus 1:1-3

- **God uses His people as they dwell in unity**

Consider Jacob's family earlier: not unified; quarrelsome; sold brother...

But all came as instructed Gen 46:3-4

Faith was not in circumstances or things

But in the God who gives the promises!

We are aliens & strangers in this world: 1 Pet 2:11-12

- **God's People are the Aroma of God**

God fulfilled His prophecy Gen 15:13

We are to be the "fragrance of the knowledge of Him" 2 Cor 2:14-16

What does that look like in your life, your family, your church?

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