

2019 EXPERIENCE ISRAEL TOUR

Study Guide for 8c & 10a: Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls



Historical background: Qumran is located in the West Bank, near the northern edge of the Dead Sea. The Dead Sea Scrolls were found in nearby caves. The scrolls were first found around 1947

when a young shepherd by the name of Muhammed Edh-Dhib was looking for a stray goat. At one point “he was amusing himself by throwing stones. One of these fell into a small hole in the rock and was followed by the sound of the breaking of pottery,” writes researcher Geza Vermes in his book “The Story of the Scrolls” (Penguin Books, 2010). “Muhammed climbed in and found several ancient manuscripts in a jar. Altogether seven scrolls were subsequently removed from the cave.” More than 900 manuscripts were found in 11 caves, each located near Qumran, less than 2 miles away. “Passages from all the books of the Hebrew Bible are represented among the scrolls from the Qumran caves, with the exception of the books of Nehemiah and Esther,” writes Adolfo Roitman in his book “The Bible in the Shrine of the Book: From the Dead Sea Scrolls to the Aleppo Codex” (The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, 2006). The Isaiah scroll is the only one that survived in its entirety. Hymns, calendars, psalms, and other biblical works were also found. According to Adolfo Roitman, “The writings discovered in the area of Qumran can all be ascribed to the Hellenistic-Roman period, from the 3rd Century BCE to the 1st Century CE”. This timeframe is right before the life of Christ.



Bible Application: Read: [Isaiah 52-53](#)

Since God preserved the book of Isaiah, let’s spend some time reading [Isaiah 52-53](#). After you read, listen to [Hammering it Home](#), by Pastor Mark Martin at Calvary Phoenix. Listen as he unwraps the prophetic Scriptures in Isaiah that Jesus fulfilled when he came.

Thanksgiving and Praise: What is it about me that Jesus loves? My sin hurts him yet he loves me so much that he made a way for me to spend eternity with him. Let’s worship God with this song, [The Nails in Your Hands](#).

Digging Deeper:

“Is it coincidence that the scrolls were found just before Israel became a nation in 1948? In fact, the scrolls were found by a Bedouin shepherd, sold privately, and eventually returned to Israel...The day

before the UN voted to create the state of Israel. Phenomenal!” quoted by Kym in her blog, [Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls](#).

Check it out! [12th Dead Sea Scrolls Cave Discovered](#)

Watch this video from Kym’s blog, [The Miracle of Israel and the Bible’s Authenticity](#).

[Why You Can Believe the Bible](#) is a great article that used archeology to prove the Bible’s authenticity.

Keep looking for blessings!