

Good Morning & Welcome!
Lets Begin By Dismissing Our Kids
To Their Kids Quest Areas Of Ministry!



***This Morning We Continue Our
Journey In The Life Of Joseph!***

Text:

Genesis 42:1-28!

Title:

Only God

Can Stimulate a Seared Conscience!



Let's Review The Life Of Joseph!

Chapter 37... Joseph's *Betrayal!*



Let's Review The Life Of Joseph!

Chapter 37... Joseph's *Betrayal!*



Let's Review *The Life Of Joseph!*

Chapter 39-40 ... Joseph's *Bondage!*



Let's Review *The Life Of Joseph!*

Chapter 41:1-40 ... Joseph's *Blessing!*



Let's Review *The Life Of Joseph!*

Chapter 41:41-57 ... Joseph's *Bride!*



Let's Review *The Life Of Joseph!*

Chapters 42:1-47:10 ... Joseph's *Brothers!*



Last Week!

We watched as God in His sovereignty (theme) used a world wide famine to set the stage for what will happen next in the narrative. And last week in the story we were left with the horrible image of the Egyptian people hungry and crying out to Pharaoh for bread. They, like the world around them, were beginning to starve to death. And hearing their cry for food, we witnessed Joseph opening the doors to the storehouses and feeding the people of Egypt.

This Morning!

We continue to develop the theme of God's sovereignty over all His creation. And again, we will see how God used a famine to fulfill His promise to Abraham in ***Genesis 12 – I will make you a great nation, and in you all the families of the world will be blessed!*** This morning we will see God reuniting Joseph and his family. In the book of Exodus, God will use Moses to lead a great and mighty nation out of Egypt and back into the promised land (Abrahamic Covenant).

Let The Journey Continue!

Something to Think About!

Just as the story of Joseph is a story that in many ways parallels the life of Christ, so also the story now before us is a picture of how God will use the coming time of Great Tribulation to reunite Israel with her Messiah.



Let's Get Into The Inspired Text!



An Overview of this Long Section!

Chapters 42:1- 47:10

Joseph Meets His Brothers: In 3 Bite Size Pieces!

The *1st Section* / 42:1- 44:34: The *Mystery* Phase!

It is in this phase that we find Joseph's brothers at a complete loss when it comes to understanding and explaining what is happening to them. It is in this section that God is beginning to move to awaken their consciences to the past wrongs they have committed against their younger brother, Joseph.

An Overview of this Long Section!

Chapters 42:1-47:10

Joseph Meets His Brothers: 3 Bite Size Pieces!

The 2nd Section / 45:1-24: The Majesty Phase!

It is in this phase of the story that Joseph will make himself known to his brothers. And when he presents himself to them he will stand before them in all his glory as the Zaphenath-paneah over all the land of Egypt.



An Overview of this Long Section!

Chapters 42:1-47:10

Joseph Meets His Brothers: 3 Bite Size Pieces!

The 3rd Section / 45:25-47:10: The Ministry Phase!

It is in this final section that Joseph is found standing before the mighty throne of Pharaoh representing his family's interests. It is here that Joseph spends time reuniting with them and establishing them by settling them in the most fertile and lush land in all of Egypt.

Our Sermon Outline!

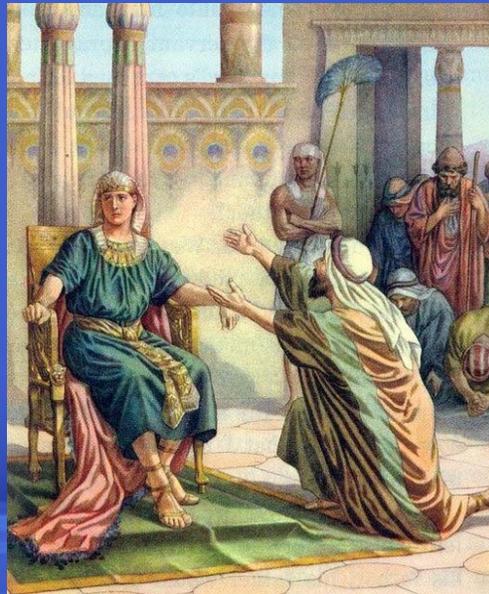
I. (42:1- 47:10) Joseph **MEETS** his brothers!

A. (42:1- 44:34) The **MYSTERY** phase of section.

1. (42:1- 42:34) How Joseph's brothers were **burdened**.

2. (42:35-43:34) How Joseph's brothers were **bewildered**.

3. (44:1-34) How Joseph's brothers were **broken**.



The Context of the Sermon Outline!

I. (42:1- 47:10) Joseph **MEETS** his brothers!

A. (42:1- 44:34) The **MYSTERY** phase of section.

1. (42:1- 42:34) How Joseph's brothers were **BURDENED**.

This story is written in a literary style known as a narrative. This morning the story is building on Pharaoh's dream as recorded in Genesis 41:15-24, where Pharaoh calls for Joseph to be brought before him to interpret his dream. Here Joseph reveals to Pharaoh that God has allowed him to know what will take place in the future. And because of Joseph's ability to reveal the future to Pharaoh, he is immediately given the high position of Prime Minister over all the land of Egypt. Now we find that all the world is facing starvation as a result of the seven years of famine. Here we discover that Egypt is the only place where bread can be found. So Jacob will send his sons to Egypt to buy bread.

The Setting of the Story!

The annual thunderstorms that occurred in the land of Ethiopia (just south of Egypt / higher grounds) suddenly disappeared. And because of this, the mighty Nile River began to dried up. And once dried, the constant, daily, heat from the sun (Ra / Source of all life) caused everything to wither and die. Because of this the crops have dried up, and without food and water to nourish the cattle they grew gaunt and very ugly. Soon the famine took its effect on all the earth. Trying desperately to avoid starvation, Jacob sends his ten older sons to Egypt to buy grain lest they die.

The opening verse of chapter 42 builds upon this scene!



Our Sermon Outline!

The MYSTERY Phase

I. (42:1-28) How Joseph's Brothers were **BURDENED!**

A. (42:1-5) The Famine in the Land of **CANAAN.**

1.) (v.1a) Jacob **SAW.**

Here we discover that Jacob and his sons are still alive despite the world wide famine. But we also discover that they are not doing very well as a result of the famine. As one caravan after another passes through the land (with grain to sell), Jacob hears that there is bread for sale in the land of Egypt. Note: If you look closely at the text you will discover that the aging patriarch (Jacob) has grown frustration and somewhat angry with his lazy sons.

The idea here is – Why don't you get off your lazy tails and get up and do something? Why are you sitting around?

Our Sermon Outline!

I. (42:1- 28) How Joseph's brothers were **BURDENED**.

A. (42:1-5) The famine in the land of **CANAAN**.

1. (v.1a) Jacob **SAW**.

2. (v.1b.) Sons **STARED**.

What Moses records is a polite way of saying, "Why are you sitting there twiddling your thumbs when we're about to starve to death? You're grown men now! Why are you waiting for me to tell you what to do? Get up and do something!"

Note: Again we see the results of Jacob's poor parenting skills. Jacob not only caused his sons to become jealous by having his favorite, he also never prepare them to become adults. Instead he continues to tell his sons what to do, when to do it, and where to go to complete what needs to be done. And yet he appears to be surprised that they are sitting around, unable to make an adulthood decision for themselves. Warning! A word to the wise! (First ministry in Detroit)

Our Sermon Outline!

A. (42:1- 28) How Joseph's brothers were **BURDENED**.

a. (42:1-5) The Famine in the Land of **CANAAN**.

1. (v.1a) Jacob **SAW**.

2. (v.1b) Sons **STARED**.

3. (v.2) Jacob **SAID**.

Out of complete frustration Jacob cries out, "Get up and go to Egypt and buy us grain before we all die!"



Our Sermon Outline!

I. (42:1- 28) How Joseph's brothers were **BURDENED**.

A. (42:1-5) The Famine in the Land of **CANAAN**.

1. (v.1a) Jacob **SAW**.
2. (v.1b) Sons **STARED**.
3. (v. 2) Jacob **SAID**.
4. (v.3) Brothers **SENT**.

Now remember, Jacob believed Joseph to be dead. We will soon discover that Jacob's sons thought that Joseph was dead, too. No one ever expected to see Joseph's face again – thus the stage is set for the story to continue!

Our Sermon Outline!

I. (42:1- 28) How Joseph's brothers were **BURDENED**.

A. (42:1-5) The Famine in the Land of **CANAAN**.

4. (v.3) Brothers **SENT**.

5. (v.4) Youngest Son **SAFE**:

Here the contrast is introduced with the word "but." While Jacob was willing to send his older sons to Egypt, his youngest son, Benjamin, will remain behind in Canaan.

Since God has comforted Jacob's and Rachel's sorrow with the birth of a new son, they are unwilling to take a chance on losing the son that has taken Joseph's place.

Again we find Jacob repeating his past mistake of showing favoritism to Rachel's son.

(Thank God for guilt!)

Our Sermon Outline!

I. (42:1- 28) How Joseph's brothers were **BURDENED**.

A. (42:1-5) The Famine in the Land of **CANAAN**.

4. (v.3) Brothers **SENT**.

5. (v.4) Youngest Son **SAFE**.

6. (v.5) Story **SUMMARIZED**:

Most likely Jacob's 10 sons will join, or follow (for safety), one of the many caravans that were traveling to Egypt to purchase food to sell.

Our Sermon Outline!

I. (42:1- 28) How Joseph's brothers were **BURDENED**.

A. (42:1-5) The Famine in the Land of **CANAAN**.

B. (42:6-28) The Food in the Land of **EGYPT**.

1. (vs.6-24) The **DIALOGUE**:

a. (v.6) The **SETTING**.

Jacob's sons now find themselves before the Zaphenath-paneah of Egypt (remember his appearance as described in Genesis 41:42f). And when they approach him, they immediately bow with their faces to the ground.

b. (v.7) The **SCENE**:

1.) (v.7a) Joseph becomes **Aware**.

2.) (v.7b) Joseph seeks **Affirmation**.

3.) (v.7c) Joseph's brothers **Answer**.

Our Sermon Outline!

I. (42:1- 28) How Joseph's brothers were **BURDENED**.

A. (42:1-5) The Famine in the Land of **CANAAN**.

B. (42:6-28) The Story Continues in the Land of **EGYPT**.

1. (vs.6-24) The **DIALOGUE**.

c. (v.8) The **SUMMARY**:

After seeing his brothers and receiving information from them, Joseph recognizes who they are. However, his brothers do not recognize Joseph (they believe he is dead / the man before them is clean shaven and dressed in Egyptian clothing / speaks harshly / uses an interpreter).

Our Sermon Outline!

B. (42:6-28) The Story Continues in the Land of **EGYPT**.

1. (vs.6-24) The **DIALOGUE**.

c. (v.8) The **SUMMARY**.

d. (vs.9-16) The **SOVEREIGNTY**: Remember Theme!

1.) (v.9) Joseph becomes **Aware** as they bow.

a.) Joseph **Remembers** his dream – 37:5-7, 9-10.

b.) Joseph's **Response** is to hide his identity.

Our Sermon Outline!

B. (42:6-28) The Story Continues in the Land of **EGYPT**.

1. (vs.6-24) The **DIALOGUE**.

d. (vs.9-16) The **SOVEREIGNTY**: Remember Theme!

1.) (v.9) Joseph becomes **Aware** as they bow.

2.) (vs.10-16) Joseph's **Accusation** is refuted:

a.) (v.10) Their **Reason** for coming.

b.) (v.11) The **Reality** of their situation.

c.) (v.12) The **Response** of Joseph.

d.) (v.13) Their argument is **Restated**.

e.) (v.14) The charge is **Repeated**.

f.) (vs.15-16) Their argument is **Refused**.

Our Sermon Outline!

B. (42:6-28) The Story Continues in the Land of **EGYPT**.

1. (vs.6-24) The **DIALOGUE**.

d. (vs.9-16) The **SOVEREIGNTY**: Remember Theme!

1.) (v.9) Joseph becomes **Aware** as they bow.

2.) (vs.10-16) Joseph's **Accusation** is refuted.

3.) (vs.17-20) Joseph **Arrests** his brothers:

a.) (v.17) Joseph's **Reaction**.

b.) (vs.18-20) Joseph's **Recommendation**.

4.) (vs.21-24) The **Awareness** of God's sovereignty:

a.) (v.21) **Reminded** of God's justice.

b.) (v.22) **Reuben's** cry of reckoning.

c.) (vs.23-24) **Ruffing** up of Simeon.

Our Sermon Outline!

B. (42:6-28) The Story Continues in the Land of **EGYPT**.

1. (vs.6-24) The **DIALOGUE**.

2. (vs.25-28) Their **DEPARTURE**.

a. (vs.25-26) The Time to **RUN**.

Upon being dismissed Joseph's brothers wanted to get out of Egypt as fast as they could. And once their donkeys were loaded with grain, they immediately headed back to Jacob. Once Egypt was far behind, they stopped to rest for the night. And when one of the brothers opened his sack of grain to feed his animal, behold, the money he had paid to Pharaoh was in the sack.

Our Sermon Outline!

B. (42:6-28) The Story Continues in the Land of **EGYPT**.

1. (vs.6-24) The **DIALOGUE**.

2. (vs.25-28) Their **DEPARTURE**.

a. (vs.25-26) The Time to **RUN**.

b. (vs.27-28a) Their Finding is **REPEATED**.

c. (v.28b) The **REALIZATION** of God's Sovereignty.

3. (vs.29-38) The **DELIVERY**. (Of grain to Jacob)



Application for Us Today!

Before we leave Joseph's world to reenter our own, there are two important lessons to remember and take with us!

First, God activates our seared consciences when we are victims of unfair treatment that is similar to how we once treated someone else. God uses the distress caused by being falsely accused and even imprisoned to awaken the brothers' consciences, and bring to mind the distress they caused to Joseph.

Application for Us Today!

Before we leave Joseph's world to reenter our own, there are two important lessons to remember and take with us!

Second, God activates our seared consciences when we are recipients of undeserved expressions of grace. His brothers deserved imprisonment or even worse for what they had done to Joseph. But what they received instead was their money back for the grain they were carrying back home to Canaan. It was an act of grace from Joseph that God used to further convict his brothers and draw their attention toward Him.

Application for Us Today!

One other thing worth noting!

One of the first signs of a conscience waking is the admission of personal guilt. Notice that the brothers didn't blame their father for being passive or not raising them right. Nor did they blame Joseph for being spoiled and proud in his mid-teen years; they simply confessed their own guilt – which seemed to haunt them ever since the day they sold Joseph into slavery (cf. v. 21).

Next Week: The Journey Continues!

*The Theme of God's Sovereignty
Continues to be Developed*

