

Good Morning & Welcome!

Lets Begin By Dismissing Our Kids To Their Kids Quest Areas Of Ministry!



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This Morning We Conclude Our Journey In The Life Of Joseph!

Text:

Genesis 47:27 - 50:26!

Title:

Waiting for the Promise!



The End of Joseph's Life!

In our study of the life of Joseph, our journey has taken us from **the pit of despair** in Canaan, to the **pinnacle of success** in Egypt. This morning the **road turns its final bend**.

***Joseph sits securely on the throne over Egypt. His days of rejection and abuse are over and the long day of his glory has come. Our sojourn in Joseph's life has been nothing short of incredible. But as Moses looks over this manuscript, the Spirit of God instructs him to write an appendix – the death of Jacob and the death of his favorite son Joseph!
(Genesis 5 continues / Messiah must come)***

Let's Get Into The Inspired Text!

Genesis 50:1-26



Perhaps no other verse in Scripture is able to sum up the ending found in the book of Genesis than Hebrews 11:13-16.

All these *died in faith*, without receiving the promises, but *having* seen them and *having* welcomed them from a distance, and *having* confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. **For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own.**

And indeed, *if* they had been thinking of that country from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they *desired* a better country, that is, a heavenly one. **Therefore, God *is* not ashamed to be called their God; **for** He *has prepared a city for them.***

(I Cor.2:9 / Isa.64:4, 65:17 / Rev.21)

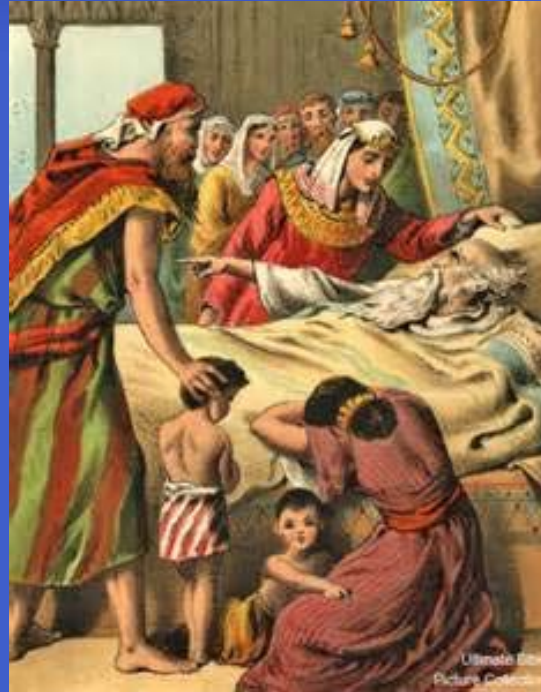
An Overview of Our Journey!

With the introduction of chapter 5, the book of Genesis becomes one vast graveyard, one great handbook of funeral sermons, one large page of obituaries. This morning we end our journey by focusing on the last two funerals in the book – the death of Jacob (Israel) and the death of his favorite son Joseph.

Because the death of Jacob is lengthy, we will divide it up into two sections – 1st, Jacob's Foreknowledge and, 2nd, Jacob's Funeral. Then we will close with the death of Joseph.

An Overview of Our Sermon Outline!

I. (47:27-49:27) Jacob's FOREKNOWLEDGE!



II. (49:28-50:21) Jacob's FUNERAL!

III. (50:22-26) Joseph's FUNERAL!

Today's Sermon Outline!

I. (47:27-49:27) Jacob's **FOREKNOWLEDGE!**

As with Jacob's grandfather Abraham, and his father Isaac, God's Spirit of prophecy now descends on Jacob. He is able to see the future of his family with great clarity. The prophecies that now flow from his lips are among the most remarkable and detailed in the entire Bible. As his eyes look at his sons for the last time this side of heaven, his prophetic knowledge focuses first on his favorite son Joseph.

Today's Sermon Outline!

I. (47:27-49:27) Jacob's **FOREKNOWLEDGE!**

A. (47:27-48:22) The Blessing of His **Favorite** Son.

Jacob's favorite son was Joseph. As a lad he had been his father's pride and joy. And even when Benjamin is born we were told that he was a constant reminder of Rachel's and Joseph's death. While Benjamin was beloved by Jacob, Joseph, as a lad, was all that Jacob could have ever wanted in a son. Joseph was and would ever be Jacob's favorite – thus he will be blessed first – before all the other sons!

Today's Sermon Outline!

I. (47:27-49:27) Jacob's **FOREKNOWLEDGE!**

A. (47:27-48:22) The Blessing of His **Favorite** Son.

1. (47:27-31) Jacob's **Burial**.

a. (vs.27-28) The **Setting** — Jacob's home, prosperity and age.

b. (vs.29-30) The **Scene** — Jacob's desire and his burial.

c. (v.31) The **Swearing** — Jacob's thankfulness and praise.

2. (48:1-6) Jacob's **Bedside**.

a. (v.1) The **Setting** — Joseph hurries to Jacob's side.

b. (v.2) The **Scene** — Jacob prepares to see Joseph.

c. (vs.3-6) The **Story** — Jacob talks about his past and the present.

(Note)

Note!

Joseph's two sons had been brought up in the court of Pharaoh. So their appearance, manners, and education were naturally more Egyptian than Hebrew. Here Jacob adopts them to assure Joseph that his descendants would have their place in the promise given to Abraham.



Today's Sermon Outline!

- I. (47:27-49:27) Jacob's **FOREKNOWLEDGE!**
 - A. (47:27-48:22) The Blessing of His **Favorite** Son.
 - B. (49:1-27) The Blessing of God's Chosen **Family.**

*Knowing that his death is near, Jacob calls for his sons. His goal is to reveal to them what will happen to them in the "last days." **Note: The expression "last days" is used here for the first of fourteen occurrences in the Old Testament. The expression is to be understood as a term of eschatology – referring to the time prior to Messiah's coming and His kingdom.***

Today's Sermon Outline!

I. (47:27-49:27) Jacob's **FOREKNOWLEDGE!**

A. (47:27-48:22) The Blessing of His **Favorite** Son.

B. (49:1-27) The Blessing of God's Chosen **Family**.

1. (vs.1-2) Jacob **CALLS** for his sons.

As Jacob's sons gather around his bed he will tell his sons what will befall them in the coming days. But he will not speak to them in the usual conversational style or manner. In stead, he will speak to them using poetic, symbolic, and exclamatory phrases. His goal is to get their attention by causing a deep hush of awe and fear to grip their hearts. In many ways his words will be taken as a form of judgment for their past actions and behavior.

Today's Sermon Outline!

I. (47:27-49:27) Jacob's **FOREKNOWLEDGE!**

A. (47:27-48:22) The Blessing of His **Favorite** Son.

B. (49:1-27) The Blessing of God's Chosen **Family.**

1. (vs.1-2) Jacob **CALLS** for his sons.

2. (vs.3-29) Jacob's **COMMENTARY** about his sons.



Jacob's Commentary About His Sons!

a. (vs.3-4) **Reuben:**

Because of his fornication with Bilhah, Leah's servant (35:22), Jacob's first born son would forfeit his place of preeminence. He is described by Jacob as "uncontrolled water" (lit. water that boils over). Here Jacob predicts Reuben's future instability and ineffectiveness. In the Bible we discover that no prophet, or judge, or hero, comes through his tribe.

Jacob's Commentary About His Sons!

b. (vs.5-7) **Simeon and Levi:**

They are condemned as a result of their cruelty and hot-tempered anger displayed in the slaying of the Shechemites (34:25). In chapter 49, Jacob is disassociating himself from their motives and actions. Here Jacob mentions that in their anger they “lamed oxen” or cut the leg tendons of the animals of the city. They are condemned as a result of their wanton acts of destruction. Later the tribe of Levi will redeem themselves (Ex.32) by refusing to worship the golden calf produced by the people while Moses received God's ten commandments while on the holy mountain.

Jacob's Commentary About His Sons!

c. (vs.8-12) **Judah:**

While on his death bed, Jacob proclaims that Judah would become the leader among the tribes of Israel. He would be as strong as a young lion that has eaten his prey (powerful), and as secure as a mature lion whom no one would dare to rouse (filled with wisdom).

Jacob's Commentary About His Sons!

d. (v.13) **Zebulum:**

While we are given very little about Leah's youngest son, here we are told that he will be connected with the great sea merchants of the world and that his seaports would be the means of wealth to many cities.

e. (v.14-15) **Isachar:**

This son would be strong but also docile and lazy. He would become a slave that is forced to labor hard for others.

Jacob's Commentary About His Sons!

f. (vs.16-18) **Dan:**

This son is the first born of Rachel's servant Bilhah. Nothing is said about him in the book of Genesis except that an evil report was given by Joseph, to Jacob, about him (and his three closest brothers). Perhaps Jacob's prophecy (he would be a judge, he would be evil causing Israel to stumble, and that the Lord would wait for his salvation) was fulfilled with the coming of the Judge, Samson.

Jacob's Commentary About His Sons!

g. (v.19) **Gad:**

Gad's descendants will choose to live on the far side of the Jordan River. Thus, his territory was under constant attack from the nomadic tribes that swooped in from the desert. Here Jacob predicts that Gad would be victorious against them. But history points out that eventually they were overcome by the Assyrian armies from the north. The prophecy predicts that they would be forced to be a war-like tribe.

Jacob's Commentary About His Sons!

h. (v.20) **Asher:**

His descendants would inherit the rich seacoast lands north of Mount Carmel. The valleys would produce an abundance of crops and the mountain sides would overflow with olive oil.

Jacob's Commentary About His Sons!

i. (v.21) **Naphtali:**

As a child he was known for his love for nature. He is described by Jacob as “a doe let loose in the woods.” He is also known for his “beautiful words.” His descendant would inherit these qualities – his love for nature and his ability to defend himself when confronted by others.

Jacob's Commentary About His Sons!

j. (vs.22-26) **Joseph:**

When Jacob's eyes fall upon Joseph, he has much to say. Jacob's words to Joseph focus on four areas of blessing:

- 1st / v.22 - His descendants will be fruitful. (end of story)
- 2nd / v.23 - He would be hated. (beginning of story)
- 3rd / v.24 - He would be strong in his faith. (while in Egypt)
- 4th / vs.25-26 - He would receive God's blessing. (Cov.)

Jacob's Commentary About His Sons!

k. (v.27) **Benjamin:**

Benjamin's descendents would become a warrior tribe. He would destroy his enemies in the morning and divide the spoils in the evening. Note: Both King Saul and Paul were descendents of Benjamin.

Note: Moses does not record a single voice being raised in opposition to Jacob's predictions. As each brother left their father's bedside, they realized that their descendents would reap what they had sown. (so too do our descendents!)

II. (49:28-50:21) Jacob's Funeral!

*With these verses the story of Jacob comes to an end.
With the death of Jacob we are reminded of the pain
caused by Adam's sin.*

A. (49:28-33) The PLEDGE!

*With Jacob's words given to his family now over, he
will now prepare for his death.*

1. (v.28) The Summary of the story.
2. (vs.29-32) The final Statement of Jacob.
3. (v.33) The closing Scene in Jacob's story.

II. (49:28-50:21) Jacob's Funeral!

A. (49:28-33) The PLEDGE!

B. (50:1-21) The PREPARATION!

1. (vs.1-3a) The Sorrow of Joseph.

2. (v.3b) The Sadness of Egypt.

3. (vs.4-9, 14) The Story resumes.

4. (vs.15-18) The Struggle of the brothers.

5. (vs.19-21) The Prime Minister Speaks.

III. (50:22-26) Joseph's Funeral!

The story of Joseph's death and burial is told in five short verses. It is with these few and final words that the story of Joseph's life ends.

A. (v.22) Joseph's Dwelling.

Here we find Joseph growing old while enjoying the blessings of God.

B. (v.23) Joseph's Descendants.

Joseph will spend his final years enjoying his grandchildren and his great grandchildren.

III. (50:22-26) Joseph's Funeral!

The story of Joseph's death and burial is told in five short verses. It is with these few and final words that the story of Joseph's life ends.

C. (vs.24-25) Joseph's Demand.

Joseph reminds his family that after his death the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, will fulfill His promise to them.

D. (v.26) Joseph's Death.

Joseph will die an old and happy man of God. He will be embalmed and placed in a coffin until the time when Israel would return to the promised land of God. It will be in the land of Canaan that Joseph and his fathers will await the coming of Messiah.

The Final Application from the Story!

- 1. The story of the life of Joseph ends with a reminder of the books theme (it is only God who is sovereign over His creation)!***



The Final Application from the Story!

2. The story of Joseph's life ends with two very important lessons:

- a. Growing old free of bitterness and anger is one of the finest gifts you can leave behind. Question. What memory will your children have of you when you're gone? Will it be one of you constantly picking at the scabs of the past? Or will it be of someone filled with joy as you go home to be with Jesus?***
- b. To face death knowing that you are right before both man and God is the finest way to enter eternity. Grace and forgiveness are caught, not taught! How are you teaching your children?***

The Final Application from the Story!

3. The story of the life of Joseph ends with Joseph's waiting for God to fulfill His promise to Abraham. Today we, too, find ourselves waiting for Christ's promised return. Hopefully our response is like the proclamation given by the apostle Paul – "even so, come quickly Lord Jesus!" Until that day we await God's coming promise with all the brothers and sisters who have gone before us.

