

Lesson Eleven – Genesis 46-47: Joseph Brings Jacob’s Family to Egypt; More Years of Famine

Chapter 46 – Jacob Journeys to Egypt

1. Read vv. 1-4. What did Jacob (Israel) do at Beersheba? Why is this significant? What reassurance and promises does God make to Jacob in a vision?
2. Read vv. 5-27. How many men who were Jacob’s descendants come with him to Egypt? How does this passage arrive at the final count of 70 men who were “the house of Jacob who came into Egypt”?
3. Read vv. 28-34. Who did Jacob send ahead of the wagon train coming to Egypt and why? What does this suggest regarding this man? Upon reuniting with Joseph, Jacob tells him, “Now let me die, since I have seen your face.” How many more years does Jacob live in Egypt until he dies? (see 47:9, 28) Joseph carefully instructs his brothers to tell Pharaoh what when they stand before him? Why does Joseph want them to do this? What would this ensure?

Chapter 47 – Jacob’s Family Settles in Egypt; More Years of Famine Follow

4. Read vv. 1-6. What instructions does Pharaoh give Joseph re. Joseph’s father and brothers?

5. Read vv. 7-12. When Jacob stand before Pharaoh, the text says twice that Jacob did what to Pharaoh? Why is the significant? (see Hebrews 7:7) Where did Joseph settle his father and brothers in Egypt? How is this land described? By what other name is this area known? (cf. 45:10; 46:28, 34)

6. Read vv. 13-17. How is the famine in Egypt described? After the Egyptians money runs outs, what did they give Joseph next in exchange for grain to eat? How long did this exchange system last?

7. Read vv. 18-26. What exchange for grain is next proposed in these verses? What did the Egyptians become in exchange for grain to live? Joseph proposed a statute that Moses, who pens the book of Genesis hundreds of years later, said still “stood to the day” in which he was writing. What statute?

8. Read vv. 29-31. When Jacob knew he was about to die, what did he make Joseph swear to him?