



Name:

WEEK 5

Jan 27

Ch. 45

Joseph finally reveals himself to his brothers. Joseph's past years could have left him with more than enough bitterness and resentment toward his brothers. But what enabled Joseph to forgive them instead of taking revenge on them?

- 1) Verse 5: (.....) sent me before you to preserve life.
- 2) Verse 7: (.....) sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.
- 3) Verse 8: So then it was not you who sent me here, but (.....) .

*The subject of Joseph's words is God. His perspective on God's providence enabled Joseph to forgive his brothers without wallowing in self-pity.

Ch. 46

When Jacob heard that Joseph had become the prime minister of Egypt, he led his entire family to Egypt. Canaan was the land that God had promised to his ancestors Abraham and Isaac. Accordingly, Jacob needed God's promise and confirmation to leave Canaan to go down to Egypt. Where did Jacob meet God in a vision and gain confidence to go to Egypt? (Verses 1-4)

*This was the place where Abraham built an altar to God and worshiped him (Gen. 21:33), and where Isaac built an altar to commemorate God's appearance (Gen. 26:23-25). Where is the place like Beersheba in your life?

Jan 28

Ch. 47

As the Israelites multiplied and prospered in the land of Goshen (v. 27), God's promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob was fulfilled even in the midst of a severe famine. After spending 17 years in Egypt, Jacob, who was 147 years old and knew that his death was near, asked Joseph not to bury him in Egypt but to bury him in the cave of Machpelah, the burial place of his ancestors (vv. 29-30). When Joseph swore to his father Jacob that he would do so, what did Israel (Jacob) do on his bed?

*God made Jacob, who had lived a tenacious life, worship God only at the end of his life.

Ch. 48

The writer of Hebrews refers to the scene where Jacob blessed Joseph's two sons as the most memorable action of faith in Jacob's life (Hebrews 11:21). Why is this scene important? Over the long years of his life, Jacob's faith had matured and he had finally learned to trust in Jehovah. How does Jacob confess his faith in God in verses 15-16?

Jan 29

Ch. 49

This chapter is a record of Jacob's prophecy to his twelve sons before he died. Jacob's blessing of Joseph is unique and long. Joseph is likened to a vine planted by a well, whose branches grow so large that they run over a wall. His prosperity will be pretext for attacks by his enemies (v. 23), but Joseph will endure with the help of the Almighty, the strength that comes from God, his Shepherd and Rock (v. 24). How many times in verses 25-26 is the word "bless" or "blessing" mentioned to Joseph?

Ch. 50

The book of Genesis ends with the death of Joseph, following the death of Jacob. As Joseph died, he blessed his brothers, saying, "I am about to die, but God will () you." (v. 24) And "God will surely (.....) you." (v. 25)

Jan 30

Exodus Ch. 1

Pharaoh felt threatened by the children of Israel growing and multiplying in the land of Egypt, so he enslaved them and oppressed them, but was unable to stop their growth. Pharaoh opposed God's sovereignty by ordering that all male children be killed, but the midwives, such as Shiphrah and Puah, feared God more than Pharaoh and did not obey the order of Pharaoh (v. 17).

1) Verse 17 - But the midwives (.....) God and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them.

2) Verse 21 - The midwives (.....) God

*What lessons can we learn from the example of the midwives Shiphrah and Puah who did not obey the order of Pharaoh, the most powerful person at the time, but instead feared invisible God?

Ch. 2

The promises of the God who cares (as we read in Genesis 50) are fulfilled in this chapter.

"And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. God (.....) the people of Israel—and God (.....)."

* Keep in mind that God remembers his promise, looks after us, visits us, and works on our behalf.

Jan 31

Ch. 3

Moses spent 40 years in the wilderness of Midian. Before these 40 years, Moses was confident when he went forward with physical strength (Exodus 2:11). After these 40 years of shepherding sheep in Midian, his confidence disappeared. Thus it was natural that Moses was afraid to see God's presence. (verse 6). To Moses, God tells him,

"I have surely (.....) the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have (.....) their cry because of their taskmasters. I (.....) their sufferings, and I have come down to (.....) them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to (.....) them up out of that land to a good and broad land."

Ch. 4

Moses resists God's call. Moses' hesitation shows his self-obsession, fear, and unbelief. God gave Moses three signs (2-9).

The first sign is a support to rely on (....., v. 2-5). The second is a sign symbolizing sin (....., 6-7). The third is a sign that the water of the Nile river will turn into blood if they do not believe in the two signs above. (The Nile symbolized the life of Egypt, and it shows that if they refuse to accept God's sign, life will become a curse and death.)

Like the signs shown to Moses, we too must rely only on God (the staff) in our lives and not forget who we are (spiritual lepers).

Feb 1

Ch. 5

Moses obeys God's command and goes to Pharaoh and demands, "Let my people go," as God had said. However, Moses' obedience to God results in even more hardships for God's people (Pharaoh commands that no straw should be given Jewish slaves for making bricks, yet they had to make the same number of bricks as before). Here, obedience of faith leads to a more difficult situation. What does this mean? Does this story test our faith? However, such result was already predicted of by God in Exodus 3:19-20. In this situation, the foremen of the Jews went to Pharaoh to plead (v. 15), but to whom did Moses go to plead (vv. 22-23)?

Ch. 6

In response to Moses' question recorded in Chapter 5, instead of explaining this entire process, God says that eventually Pharaoh will drive out His people. What will make that possible?

"Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh; for with a (.....) he will send them out, and with a (.....) he will drive them out of his land."