

Jacob and His Family Live in Egypt

Genesis 46 - 50

Family reunions are a great time to catch up on news of relatives, join in activities, and visit. Many enjoy this type of fellowship with relatives every year.

In today's story there is reunion. A father who many years ago was told his son was dead, learns that his son is alive. The "dead son" wants his father to move to a foreign land so that he can take care of his father and his family. The father is more amazed to learn that his "dead son" is second in command of the most powerful country in the world at the time – truly a reunion that only God could design.



Today we travel with Jacob as he is reunited with his favorite son, Joseph, a powerful ruler in Egypt.

Prayer

Lord God, we thank You for showing us Your loving plan for our salvation. Though mankind, lost in sin, does evil things yet You continue to show mercy and turn evil into good for the sake of Your kingdom and our salvation. Oh Lord, fill us with Your Spirit as we study Your gracious Word together that Your name may be magnified in our hearts and that Your kingdom come to us all. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

God directs Jacob to Journey to Egypt - Genesis 46-50

Jacob agrees with his sons to leave the land of Canaan, a land of famine, and travel to Egypt. He agrees to do this only because he believes it is the Lord's will. Jacob is assured of the Lord's hand since the Lord had kept Joseph alive. To reassure Jacob, the Lord appeared to Jacob in a vision and promised to be with him. The Lord repeated His promise that He would make of Jacob's family a great nation and would one day return the family to the promise land of Canaan. Jacob's family numbered 70 when it Jacob moved to Egypt.

Jacob Settles in Goshen

As Jacob and his family neared the land of Goshen, he sent Judah to greet Joseph. Joseph and his sons had gone to the land of Goshen to meet Jacob. When Jacob saw Joseph, he was ready to die because he now knew that Joseph was still alive. Joseph presented his family to Pharaoh and Jacob, now one hundred and thirty years old, blessed Pharaoh. Joseph saw to it that his family was situated in the land of Goshen which Pharaoh had given to Joseph's family.

The family of Jacob, also called



Israel, lived in the land of Egypt, the country of Goshen. There the Lord blessed them with growth and many possessions. Jacob live for another seventeen years before he died.

Jacob Blesses Joseph's Sons

As was the custom in those days when a family member was about to die, the time had come for Jacob to pass on the family blessings. When Joseph heard that his father's health was failing he took his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim, to their grandfather. The blessing Joseph would have received, Jacob gave to Joseph's sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. Jacob went on to bless all of his sons. The special blessing, the blessing of the Savior did not go to the first born, Reuben, but to Judah.

Jacob's Last Words to His Sons

When Jacob finished blessing all of his sons, he breathed his last and died at the age of one hundred forty-seven years. Joseph had the Egyptian physicians embalm his father's body so that it could be carried back to Canaan for burial. All Egypt mourned for Joseph's father for seventy days. Pharaoh gave his permission to Joseph allowing him to go with his brothers to the land of Canaan and bury his father.

Joseph Reassures his Brothers

When Joseph and his brothers returned from Canaan a fear came over the brothers. Now that their father was dead the brothers were concerned that Joseph would carry out an act of revenge on them for being cruel to Joseph. After all , they had sold Joseph and let Jacob think that Joseph was dead. That was very tough on their father, Jacob. Joseph reassured his brothers of the Lord's power and wisdom. Joseph pointed out to them that the Lord used their evil and turned it into good. By having Joseph in Egypt, the Lord provided a way to save Jacob's family from the famine. Moreover, the Lord provided the way for the promise of a Savior to be preserved.

Death of Joseph

Joseph was blessed with good life in Egypt. His family grew and he had the joy of seeing his grandchildren. Before Joseph died he reminded his family that the Lord would move them back to the promised land of Canaan. He made his family promise that when they went back to Canaan they were to take his body with them. Joseph died at the age of one hundred ten years; his body was embalmed and placed in a coffin awaiting the day when it would be transported back to Canaan with his family.

Outer Aim - God builds and preserves His chosen nation from which the Christ would be born.

What the Story Tells Us -Choose the correct answer.

1. Jacob [blessed – did not believe] his sons when they returned from their second journey to Egypt bearing gifts from Joseph.

2. The Lord appeared to Jacob [during the day – in a vision] reassuring him that going to Egypt was the right thing to do.
3. The Lord [did – did not] promise
4. to return Jacob's family to Canaan.
5. Joseph was [excited – sad] to see his father again.
6. [Joseph – Pharaoh] gave Jacob and his family the land of Goshen to live in.
7. [True or False] Being pleased with everything that Joseph had done for Egypt, Pharaoh was kind to Jacob's family.
8. Because of [God's promise – Joseph's dream], Jacob's family grew to a very large number of people.
9. As Jacob's health [improved – failed] Joseph, his sons, and his brothers gathered to receive their blessings from their father.
10. Jacob gave the blessing of a Savior to [Joseph – Judah].
11. Before Joseph died, he made his family promise to bury him in [Egypt – Canaan.]

Inner Aim - God's hand supports and saves those who put their trust and faith in Him.

What the Bible Tells Us - Use the word bank to complete the following statements.

actions	Ephraim	heaven	ourselves	trust
children	witness	Manasseh	people	faithfulness
deeds	Goshen	obedient	temptations	

1. In Proverbs 3:5 we learn that we should _____ in the Lord and not in _____.
2. Through grace, God gives us the trust we hear of in Proverbs 3:5. That is what makes us God's _____.
3. God expects much of each of us because we are his _____.
4. Jacob obeyed the Lord and moved his family to Egypt. This reminds us that we need to be _____ to the Lord's will in our own lives.
5. Joseph followed in the ways of the Lord even when his young life was filled with troubles. The Lord continued to strengthen Joseph and bless him with two sons, _____ and _____.
6. Joseph was blessed when his father came to live in Egypt in the country of _____.
7. Through Joseph's _____ and _____ to God, the people of Egypt learned about the Lord.
8. We must remember that through our _____ and _____ as children of the Lord are showing our faith for God's power and His love.
9. It is important that we are daily strengthened in the Lord's Word so that when the _____ of Satan seek us we find comfort in the Lord.
10. Jacob and Joseph remained faithful to the Lord. Both listened and followed the will of God. May each of us look forward to joining them in _____ praising our Heavenly Father.

Passages

Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

Luke 17:3-5 "Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. "And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him." And the apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith."

Matthew 6:12 "And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors."

Ephesians 4:32 "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

Hymn - Read over TLH #410. May Jesus be our guide as we travel through our lives here on earth. May His strength be our relief that makes us patient and enduring until we are in heaven.

Jesus, lead Thou on till our rest is won;
And although the way be cheerless,
We will follow calm and fearless.
Guide us by Thy hand
To our fatherland.

When we seek relief from a longfelt grief;
When temptations come alluring,
Make us patient and enduring;
Show us that bright shore
Where we weep no more.

If the way be drear, if the Foe be near,
Let not faithless fears o'ertake us;
Let not faith and hope forsake us;
For through many a woe
To our home we go.

Jesus, lead Thou on till our rest is won;
Heav'nly Leader, still direct us,
Still support, control, protect us,
Till we safely stand
In our fatherland.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, Your Word is so precious to us because there we see Your hand in the lives of Your people down through the generations. You have always made all things work together for the good of those that love You. As we see these things we pray that You will give us Your Spirit that we may recognize Your hand in our lives guiding, leading and blessing us each day. Amen.