

Carry the Light

Gen. 50:24-26, Ex. 13:19, Heb. 11:22



Gen, 50:24 And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and **God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.**

25 And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and **ye shall carry up my bones from hence.**

26 So Joseph died, *being* an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

Ex. 13:19 And **Moses took the bones of Joseph with him:** for he had straitly sworn the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you; and ye shall carry up my bones away hence with you.



Heb. 11:22 **By faith Joseph**, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

Our new theme for 2017 is “Carry the Light.” On January first, we looked the...THE INTRINSIC POWER and THE ILLUMINATING PURPOSE of light in regard to the woman taken in adultery in Jn. 8.

Several weeks ago we began looking at Joseph, and how he “*carried the light*” into Egypt, as an individual letting his light shine.

Carrying the Light from the Pit to the Palace

I. THE INDIVIDUAL PLAN FORETOLD

- The Inclusive Picture
- The Individual Purpose
- The Inspirational Performance



II. THE INDIVIDUAL PREPARATION FOR FAITHFULNESS

- The Dedication of Parents
- The Deception of Perception
- The Development of Priorities

Trials of our faith are the challenging parts of our spiritual development.

III. THE INDIVIDUAL PRESENCE OF FAILURE

- The Reality of Failure
- The Reaction to Failure
- The Remedy for Failure

Failure is a setback that is only a delay to accomplishing the objective.



IV. THE INDIVIDUAL PERCEPTION FOR THE FUTURE

- A Friend Promotes Personal Inspiration
- A Friend Protects Private Information
- A Friend Produces Powerful Illumination

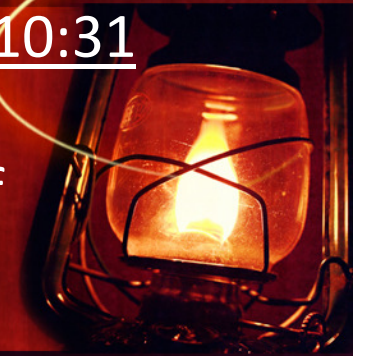
Our hope for the future is encouraged by our Friendship with Christ.

V. THE INDIVIDUAL PROMOTION FOR FRUITFULNESS

- The Pleasure of Promotions
- The Purpose of Promotions

After salvation, we are to live our lives for His glory – 1 Cor. 10:31

Living for Christ is living with Christ, daily, for the purpose of fruitfulness.



VI. THE INDIVIDUAL PROVISION FOR FAMILY

- The History of Joseph's Family's Futility
- The Heritage for Joseph's Family's Future
- The Hope for Joseph's Family's Faith

-Joseph led his sons to their grandfather to receive the covenantal blessings.

-Manasseh and Ephraim were privileged to be present during both outstanding accounts of faith – Jacob and Joseph's.

-Joseph died leaving the impression that what was important to him, for his heritage, was NOT to settle in Egypt, but live upon the promises of God!



Let's review the life of Joseph and his faithfulness to God:

- As a child, he obeyed his father, Jacob.
- As a teenager, after suffering the indignity of slavery, he maintained his purity/chastity when tempted by Potiphar's wife.
- When falsely accused, he exhibited patience under the trials of prison.
- He exhibited great wisdom and discernment in allowing God to work through him while in prison.
- When exalted to power in Egypt, he maintained character in carrying out his responsibilities.



- When confronting his scheming brothers, he did not retaliate.
- When his father came to Egypt, he honored Jacob and took care of him.
- He overcame evil with good (Gen. 50:20).
- He is the epitome of a type of Christ in the Old Testament.

VII. THE INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE OF FAITH

A. The Individuality of Faith



Eph. 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: **it is the gift of God:**

9 Not of works, **lest any man** should boast.

Jn. 7:37 In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, **If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.**

Jn. 10:9 I am the door: **by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved**, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

Rom. 10:13 For **whosoever** shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore **if any man be in Christ**, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.



Rom. 14:12 So then **every one of us shall give account of himself** to God.

- Each of us, individually, will give an account of ourselves to God.
- Each of us, individually, may come to Christ and drink of the water of life, freely.
- Each of us, individually, becomes a new creature in Christ after we are saved.
- Each of us, individually, is to live a life walking by faith for God's glory.
- Hebrew 11 is about individuals who walked by faith, doing something noted by God.



B. The Incredibility of Faith

Heb. 11:22 **By faith Joseph**, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

Last week we saw that Joseph was with his father Jacob, who exhibited faith on his deathbed.

Like father – like son.



- With such an incredible life, why mention the deathbed experience?
- The perspective of an incident – earthly = weird, unusual, eccentric, inconsequential...
- The perspective from Heaven – eternal = honoring to God and His promises!

Acts 7:9 And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: **but God was with him,**

10 And delivered him out of all his afflictions, and gave him favour and wisdom in the sight of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and he made him **governor over Egypt** and all his house.



- Being the governor over Egypt could not prevent Joseph's death.
- Egypt was not the focus of Joseph's heart – God's promises were!

Gen. 15:13 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land *that is* not theirs, and shall serve them; and **they shall afflict them four hundred years;**

14 And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: **and afterward shall they come out with great substance.**

Acts 7:6 And God spake on this wise, **That his seed should sojourn in a strange land; and that they should bring them into bondage, and entreat *them* evil four hundred years.**



- Joseph was God's man, at the right time, and in the right place.
- Joseph had assurance in God's promises.
“...God **will surely** visit you...”

Gen, 50:24 And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and **God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.**

25 And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and **ye shall carry up my bones from hence.**

- Joseph wanted his **bones**, not his body, taken to the Promised Land!



C. The Ideality of Faith

- We are saved by grace through faith.

Eph. 2:8 For **by grace are ye saved through faith**; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

- We are justified by faith.

Rom. 5:1 Therefore **being justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:



- All things are possible by faith.

Mt. 17:20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, **If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed**, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and **nothing shall be impossible unto you.**

Luke 12:28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; **how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith?**

- The exhibition of faith is pleasing to God.

Heb. 11:6 But **without faith it is impossible to please him**: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.



- The trying of our faith strengthens us.

1 Pet. 1:7 That **the trial of your faith**, being **much more precious than of gold** that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

Jas. 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

3 Knowing *this*, that **the trying of your faith** worketh patience.

4 But let patience have *her* perfect work, **that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.**



- Greater faith is accessible to us.

Rom. 10:17 So then **faith cometh by hearing**, and **hearing by the word of God.**

- Walking by faith is expected for believers.

2 Cor. 5:7 (For **we walk by faith**, not by sight:)

Rom. 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, **The just shall live by faith.**





Conclusion

- Joseph's deathbed account was pleasing to God as it exhibited faith in His promises.
- God is pleased by genuine faith that is exhibited by His children.

1 Tim. 1:5 Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and *of* a good conscience, and *of* **faith unfeigned**:


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- Our faith produces hope for the future.

Gal. 5:5 For we through the Spirit wait for **the hope of righteousness by faith.**

1 Pet. 1:21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your **faith and hope might be in God.**

- Faith and hope must be genuine.

Job 27:8 For what *is* **the hope of the hypocrite**, though he hath gained, when God taketh away his soul?



Rom. 3:3 For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?

4 God forbid: yea, **let God be true, but every man a liar**; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.

- We can have assurance of faith for our future.

1 Thess. 5:8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, **putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.**