

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

JN. 5:39



Jn. 5:39 “**Search the scriptures....they are they which testify of me.**”

Jn 5:46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for **he wrote of me.**

Genesis 37

We began in Genesis with the beginnings of the human race.

I. THE PRIMEVAL HISTORY: BEGINNINGS OF THE HUMAN RACE, 1:1—11:32

II. PATRIARCHAL HISTORY: BEGINNINGS OF THE HEBREW RACE, 12:1—50:26

A. The Progenitor: Abraham, 12:1—25:11

B. The Pilgrim: Isaac, 25:19—27:46

C. The Propagator: Jacob, 28:1—36:43

D. The Provider: Joseph, 37:1—47:26

1. Joseph's Background, 30:24-25

2. Joseph's Boyhood, 37:1-11

3. Joseph's Betrayal, 37:12-36

a. How Joseph was Sent to His Brethren, 37:12-17

(1) The Mission Discussed, 37:12-14

(2) The Mission Discharged, 37:15-17

b. How Joseph was Seen by His Brethren, 37:18-27

(1) The Conscious Wickedness of All, 37:18-24

(2) The Criminal Weakness of Reuben, 37:21-22,
29-30

(3) The Calculating Worldliness of Judah, 37:25-27

We continue looking at the “Provider Patriarch,” Joseph. He is one of the most prolific “types of Christ” in all of the Old Testament. This evening, we continue observing Joseph’s life and his brothers’ betrayal of him.

c. How Joseph was Sold by His Brethren, 37:28-36

(1) Their Fine Bargain with Cash, 37:28

Gen. 37:28 Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for **twenty pieces of silver**: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

JOSEPH GOES TO MEET HIS BROTHERS & IS TAKEN TO EGYPT AS A SLAVE



Ex. 21:32 If the ox shall push a manservant or a maidservant; he shall give unto their master **thirty shekels of silver**, and the ox shall be stoned.

Lev. 27:5 And if *it be* **from five years old even unto twenty years old**, then thy estimation shall be **of the male twenty shekels**, and for the female ten shekels.

❖ Each brother received 2 pieces of silver + a lifetime of guilt.

(2) Their First Bite of Conscience,
37:29-36

Gen. 37:29 And Reuben returned unto the pit; and, behold, Joseph *was* not in the pit; and he rent his clothes.

30 And he returned unto his brethren, and said, The child *is* not; and I, whither shall I go?

31 And they took Joseph's coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood;

32 And they sent the coat of *many* colours, and they brought *it* to their father; and said, This have we found: know now whether it *be* thy son's coat or no.

33 And he knew it, and said, *It is* my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces.

34 And Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days.

35 And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him.

36 And the Midianites sold him into Egypt unto Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, *and* captain of the guard.

- ❖ Reuben's plan fell apart.
- ❖ He returned to the pit, and then returned to his brethren. He was shocked to find Joseph was gone.
- ❖ When Reuben exhibited anguish by renting his clothes (v. 29), his reaction must have caused conviction on his guilty brothers.
- ❖ Joseph's brothers lied to Jacob about their brother's death.
- ❖ We have already covered many parallels between Joseph and Jesus, and now, a few more.

- Joseph's brothers did not believe him (Gen 37:8,10, 11); neither did Jesus' brothers believe Him (John 7:5)

Jn. 7:5 For **neither did his brethren believe in him.**

- Joseph's Father sent him to his brethren (Gen 37:14). Jesus was sent by God, His Father to the house of Israel (the 12 brethren/tribes—Mat 15:24)

Mt. 15:24 But he answered and said, **I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.**

- Joseph's coat was stripped from him (Gen 37:23). Jesus' tunic was taken from Him (Mat 27:35; Mar 15:24; Luk 23:34).

Mt. 27:35 And they crucified him, and **parted his garments**, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

- Both Jesus's and Joseph's coats were dipped in blood (Gen37:37; Rev 19:13)

Rev. 19:13 And **he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood**: and his name is called The Word of God.

Isa. 63:1 Who *is* this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this *that is* glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save.

2 Wherefore *art thou* red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat?

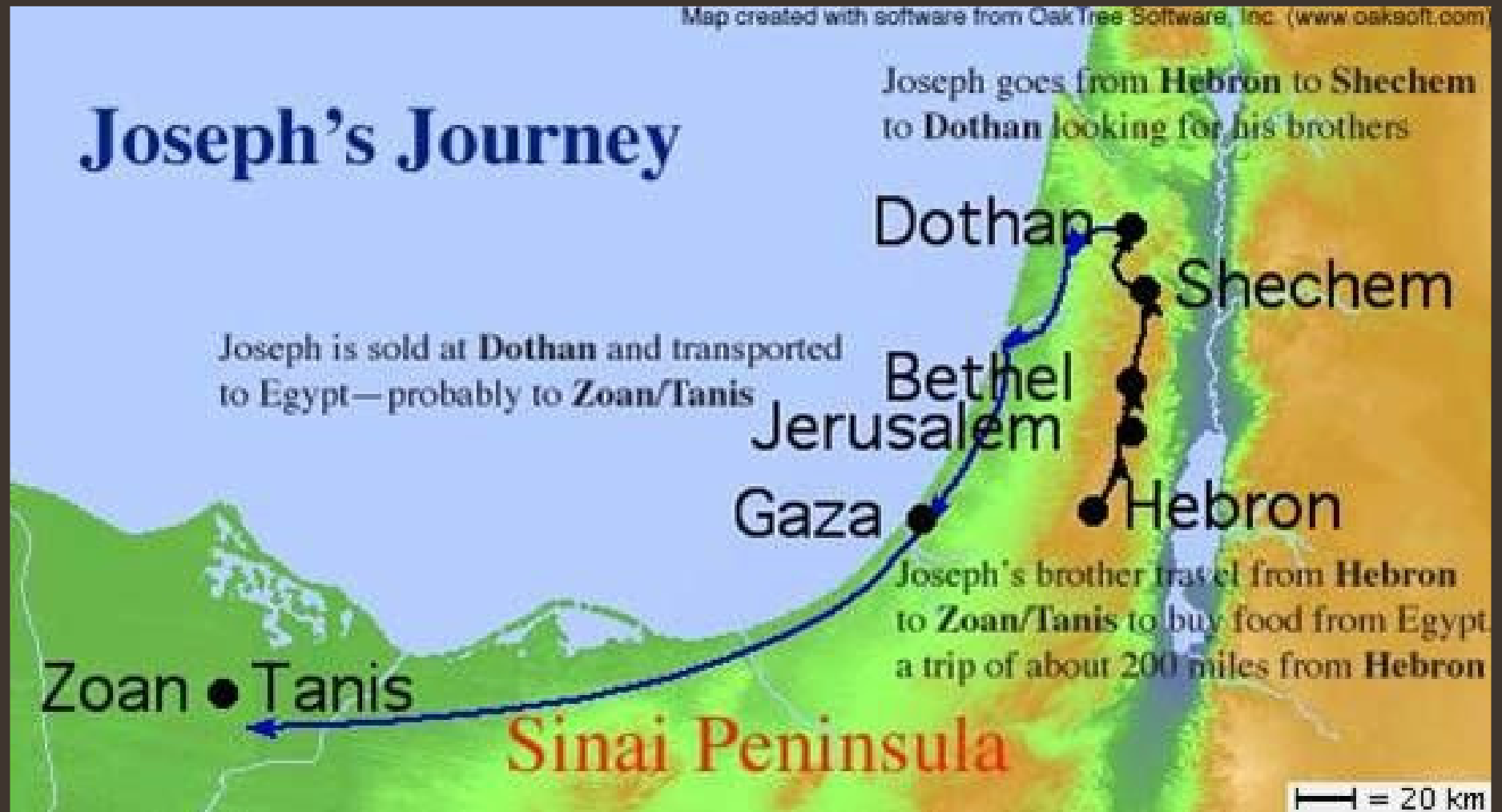
3 I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people *there was* none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and **their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments**, and I will stain all my raiment.

4 For the day of vengeance *is* in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.

5 And I looked, and *there was* none to help; and I wondered that *there was* none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me.

6 And **I will tread down the people in mine anger**, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth.

Mt. 27:51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;



Summary

- ❖ Consider the timing of ch. 37. Joseph reveals his dreams and upsets his brothers.
- ❖ The brothers go to Shechem to feed the flock, and Jacob sends Joseph to check on them.
- ❖ Joseph is “in the field” and “a certain man” directed him to Dothan.
- ❖ The brothers see Joseph afar off and conspire against him and his dreams.

- ❖ After the brothers throw Joseph in a dry pit, Reuben plans to save him.
- ❖ While Reuben is away, a caravan of Midianites just happen to come across the brothers at the same time.
- ❖ Judah proposes a deal to sell Joseph into slavery, the Midianites take Joseph to Egypt.
- ❖ Reuben returns, finds Joseph gone, and rents his garments in anguish.
- ❖ Joseph's brother develop a plan to deceive the "deceiver" – Jacob.

- ❖ Jacob is deceived into believing that Joseph has been killed by wild animals.
- ❖ The brothers think that they have circumvented Joseph's dreams.
- ❖ God has allowed them their folly because He has other plans for the future.

Gen. 50:20 But as for you, ye thought evil against me; *but* **God meant it unto good**, to bring to pass, as *it is* this day, to save much people alive.

Conclusion

Deut. 11:12 A land which the LORD thy God careth for: **the eyes of the LORD thy God *are* always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year.**

Num. 32:23 But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and **be sure your sin will find you out.**

Luke 12:1 In the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, insomuch that they trode one upon another, he began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.

2 For **there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known.**

3 Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops.

Psa. 139:7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

8 If I ascend up into heaven, **thou art there**: if I make my bed in hell, **behold, thou art there**.

9 *If* I take the wings of the morning, *and* dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

10 Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

11 If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.

12 Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light *are* both alike *to thee*.

13 For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.

14 **I will praise thee; for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made:** marvellous *are* thy works; and *that* my soul knoweth right well.