

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.**

Gen. 39-40

Review

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

4. Joseph's Brother, 38:1-30

a. Judah and His Sons, 38:1-10

(1) His Wayward Behavior, 38:1

(2) His Worldly Bride, 38:2-5

(3) His Wicked Boys, 38:6-10

b. Judah and His Sins, 38:11-26

(1) His Perverted Values, 38:11-14

(2) His Personal Vileness, 38:15-23

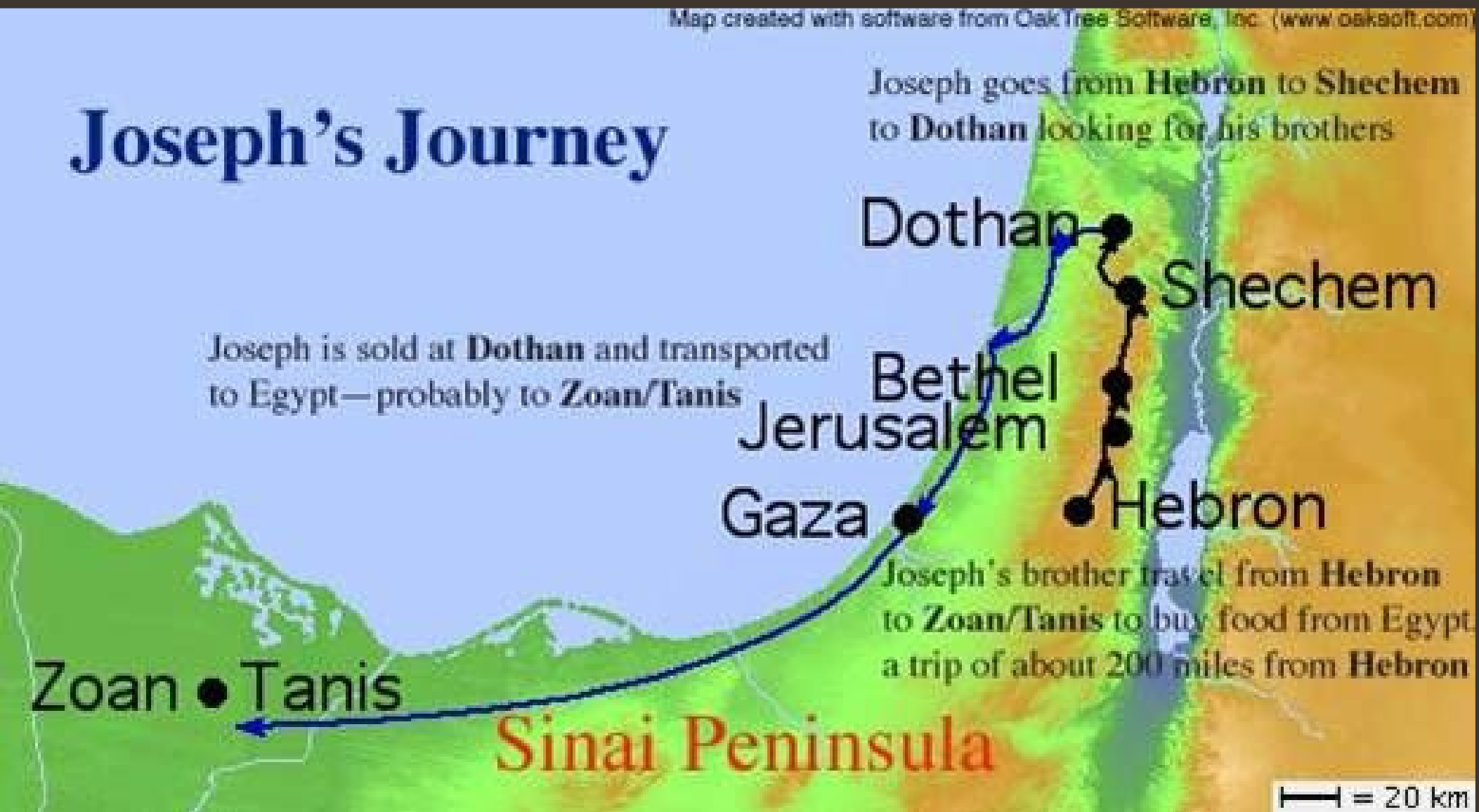
(3) His Pretended Virtue, 38:24-26

c. Judah and His Seed, 38:27-30

(1) The Redeemed Child, 38:27-28, 30

(2) The Royal Child, 38:29

This week, we return to studying Joseph while he was in Egypt.



Imagine the inner turmoil haunting Joseph. What about his dreams? Has God forsaken him?

5. Joseph's Bondage, 39:1—40:23

a. The Slave Man: Completely Trusted by a Prosperous Master, 39:1-6

Gen. 39:1 And Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him of the hands of the Ishmeelites, which had brought him down thither.
2 And **the LORD was with Joseph**, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.

3 And **his master saw that the LORD was with him**, and that **the LORD** made all that he did to prosper in his hand.

4 And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all *that* he had he put into his hand.

5 And it came to pass from the time *that* he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that **the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake**; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.

6 And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and he knew not ought he had, save the bread which he did eat. And Joseph was *a* goodly *person*, and well favoured.

- ❖ In the first verse, nothing is mentioned about Joseph's state of mind or spiritual status.
- ❖ Imagine the inner turmoil plaguing Joseph.
- ❖ Unknown to Joseph, God was preparing him for greater accomplishments.

Psa. 105:17 **He sent a man before them, *even Joseph*,**
who was sold for a servant:

18 **Whose feet they hurt with fetters:** he was laid in
iron:

19 Until the time that his word came: **the word of the
LORD tried him.**

❖ Joseph's responsibility was to be faithful, the same for believers today (1 Cor. 4:2.)

1 Tim. 6:1 Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, **that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed.**

2 And they that have believing masters, let them not despise *them*, because they are brethren; but rather do *them* service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit. These things teach and exhort.

3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, *even* the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;

Eph. 6:5 **Servants, be obedient to them that are *your* masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;**
6 Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but **as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart;**

1 Cor. 7:21 Art thou called **being a servant**? care not for it: but if thou mayest be made free, use *it* rather.

22 For **he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord's freeman**: likewise also **he that is called, being free, is Christ's servant**.

23 Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.

24 Brethren, let every man, **wherein he is called, therein abide with God**.

❖ Believers need to serve the Lord immediately, regardless of personal situations, not waiting until a better situation comes along. Joseph stayed faithful regardless of his personal challenges.

Summary

❖ The Lord Jesus, as Joseph, was sold out: Gen. 39:1;
Zech. 11:12-13; Mt. 27:3

Gen. 39:1 And Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him of the hands of the Ishmeelites, which had brought him down thither.

Zech. 11:12 And I said unto them, If ye think good, give *me* my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price **thirty pieces of silver**.

13 And the LORD said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prised at of them. And I took the thirty *pieces* of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the LORD.

Mt. 27:3 Then **Judas, which had betrayed him**, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the **thirty pieces of silver** to the chief priests and elders,

❖ The Lord Jesus, as Joseph, had God with Him: Gen. 39:2;
Acts 10:38

Gen. 39:2 And **the LORD was with Joseph**, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.

Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; **for God was with him.**

- ❖ Like Potiphar, others saw that God was with the Lord Jesus: Gen. 39:3; Jn. 10:41-42
- ❖ Joseph's life was a testimony that honored the Lord.

Gen. 39:3 And his master **saw that the LORD was with him**, and that the LORD made all that he did to prosper in his hand.

Jn. 10:41 And **many resorted unto him**, and said, John did no miracle: but all things that John spake of this man were true.

42 And **many believed on him there.**

❖ Both Joseph and Jesus prospered; Gen. 39:3;
Isa. 53:10

Gen. 39:3 And his master saw that the LORD *was* with him, and that **the LORD made all that he did to prosper in his hand.**

Isa. 53:10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put *him* to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see *his* seed, he shall prolong *his* days, and **the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.**

❖ The Lord Jesus and Joseph were over all the house:
Gen. 39:4; Heb. 3:1-6

Gen. 39:4 And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him **overseer over his house**, and all *that* he had he put into his hand.

5 And it came to pass from the time *that* he had made him **overseer in his house**, and over all that he had, that **the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake**; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.

Heb. 3:1 Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;

2 Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses *was faithful* in all his house.

3 For **this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house.**

4 For every house is builded by some *man*; but he that built all things *is* God.

5 And Moses verily *was* faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after;

6 But **Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we**, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

❖ Both the Lord Jesus and Joseph were embraced by grace: Gen. 39:4;
Psa. 45:2

Gen. 39:4 And **Joseph found grace** in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all *that* he had he put into his hand.

Psa. 45:2 Thou art fairer than the children of men: **grace is poured into thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee for ever.**

❖ As God blessed Potiphar and his house for Joseph's sake, so did God bless the Gentiles by the Lord Jesus Christ's sake. Gen. 39:5;
Eph. 2:11-13

Gen. 39:5 And it came to pass from the time *that* he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that **the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake**; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.

Eph. 2:11 Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;
12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

13 But **now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.**

Conclusion

2 Cor. 3:2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts,
known and read of all men:

3 *Forasmuch as* **ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ** ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

Jn. 15:8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye **bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.**