

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.**

Rom. 15:4 For whatsoever things were **written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.**

Gen. 45

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. THE 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
 5. Joseph's Bondage, 39:1—40:23
 6. Joseph's Blessing, 41:1-44
 7. Joseph's Bride, 41:45-52
 8. Joseph's Brethren, 41:53—47:10
 - a. The Mystery Phase, 41:53—44:34
 - b. The Majesty Phase, 45:1-24
 - (1) The Revelation of Joseph, 45:1-1
 - (a) Of His Person, 45:1-16
 - (b) Of His Purposes, 45:4-16
 - i. His Purpose in Pardon, 45:4-5
- ❖ He Deals with Their Guilt, 45:4
 - ❖ He Deals with Their Grief, 45:5

ii. His Purpose in Provision, 45:6-12

- ❖ Seeing Grace, 45:6
- ❖ Saving Grace, 45:7
- ❖ Sovereign Grace, 45:8
- ❖ Sanctifying Grace, 45:9
- ❖ Sufficient Grace, 45:10-12

iii. His Purpose in Praise, 45:13

iv. His Purpose in Proximity, 45:14-16

Tonight, we continue looking at Gen. 45, finishing "***The Majesty Phase***," when Joseph reveals to his family all the glory that is now his in Egypt. This phase is a symbolic teaching to the Lord's future dealings with the nation of Israel, as well as practical lessons for us today. This incident is a good picture of when the nation of Israel realizes the identity of the Lord Jesus as their reigning Messiah.

Last week we finished "The Revelation of Joseph."
Tonight, we observe "The Resources of Joseph."

(2)The Resources of Joseph, 45:17-23

i. Their Source, 45:17-20

Gen. 45:17 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Say unto thy brethren, This do ye; lade your beasts, and go, get you unto the land of Canaan;

18 And take your father and your households, and come unto me: and I will give you the good of the land of Egypt, and ye shall eat the fat of the land.

19 Now thou art commanded, this do ye; take you wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones, and for your wives, and bring your father, and come.

20 Also **regard not your stuff**; for the good of all the land of Egypt *is* yours.

- Pharaoh gives his stamp of approval upon Joseph's plan to bring Jacob to Egypt.
- There is no indication that Pharaoh knew anything about the brothers' role in betraying Joseph and the selling him into slavery.
- The first time the word "forgive" is found in the Bible indicates Joseph's brothers fear of NOT being forgiven.

Gen. 50:17 So shall ye say unto Joseph, **Forgive, I pray thee now, the trespass of thy brethren, and their sin**; for they did unto thee evil: and now, **we pray thee, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of thy father**. And **Joseph wept when they spake unto him**.

➤ Joseph, like Christ, had a heart of forgiveness:

Psa. 86:5 For thou, Lord, *art* good, and **ready to forgive**; and **plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee**.

Luke 23:34 Then said Jesus, **Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do**. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

Eph. 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, **forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you**.

- When Pharaoh states to “...regard not your stuff...” he is telling them not to worry about anything left behind. All of Egypt is at their disposal.
- When a sinner repents, all worldliness should be left behind (2 Cor. 5:17.)

ii. Their Sufficiency, 45:21-23

Gen. 45:21 And the children of Israel did so: and Joseph gave them wagons, according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and **gave them provision for the way.**

22 To all of them he gave each man changes of raiment; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred *pieces* of silver, and five changes of raiment.

23 And to his father he sent after this *manner*; ten asses laden with the good things of Egypt, and ten she asses laden with corn and bread and meat for his father by the way.

- Joseph obeys Pharaoh's commands and "...gave them provision for the way."
- The Lord provides all that His children need "...for the way."

Phil. 4:19 But **my God shall supply all your need** according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

➤ The extra amount of goods to Benjamin exhibited a special token of love for the one who did not betray Joseph. It may have been another tests for the other brothers regarding jealousy and resentment.

(3) The Request of Joseph, 45:24

Gen. 45:24 So **he sent his brethren away**, and they departed: and he said unto them, See that ye fall not out by the way.

- Don't fall out with one another as you travel!
- While a church travels the path of life, one of the greatest attributes is to have harmony and unity.

Psa. 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* for brethren **to dwell together in unity!**

Eph. 4:3 Endeavouring to **keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ...**

13 **Till we all come in the unity of the faith**, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

➤ Joseph's directions for his brothers is similar to Jesus' commission to the first church: Gen. 45:24 "So **he sent his brethren away...**"

Jn. 5:30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because **I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.**

Jn. 20:21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace *be* unto you: **as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.**

➤ Joseph's brothers obeyed: "...and they departed:"

➤ Believers today are "required" to obey the Great Commission:

1 Cor. 4:2 Moreover **it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.**

ALL THE TIME – EVERYWHERE

Summary

- Pharaoh gives his stamp of approval upon Joseph's plan to bring Jacob to Egypt, just like the Father approved the recognition of His Son.

Jn. 5:19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. ...**

23 That **all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father**. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

- Joseph, like Christ, had a heart of forgiveness.
- Joseph obeys Pharaoh's commands and "...gave them provision for the way."
- Like Joseph, the Lord provides all that His children need "...for the way."
- Like Joseph commanded, the Lord Jesus wants His children to walk in unity.
- As Joseph sent his family away, the Lord Jesus sends His children into all the world.

Conclusion

Acts 8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his death. **And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad** throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.

2 And devout men carried Stephen *to his burial*, and made great lamentation over him.

3 As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed *them* to prison.

4 Therefore they that were scattered abroad **went every where preaching the word.**