

# 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. 46-47

## 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
  - c. The Ministry Phase, 45:25—47:10
    - (1) Proposition, 45:25—46:7
      - (a) Jacob's Fears, 45:25-28
        - i. His Fears Displayed, 45:25-26
        - ii. His Fears Dissolved, 45:27-28
      - (b) Jacob's Faith, 46:1-7
        - i. Seeking the Lord, 46:1
        - ii. Seeing the Lord, 46:2
        - iii. Serving the Lord, 46:3-7

Tonight, we continue looking at Gen. 46, continuing “*The Ministry Phase*,” as Jacob learned that Joseph was alive. Jacob then moved to Egypt, particularly to the land of Goshen.

## (2) Propagation, 46:8-30

### (a) Jacob’s Family, 46:8-27

Gen. 46:8 And these *are* the names of the children of Israel, which came into Egypt, Jacob and his sons: Reuben, Jacob's firstborn.

9 And the sons of Reuben; Hanoch, and Phallu, and Hezron, and Carmi.

10 And the sons of Simeon; Jemuel, and Jamin, and Ohad, and Jachin, and Zohar, and Shaul the son of a Canaanitish woman.

11 And the sons of Levi; Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

12 And the sons of Judah; Er, and Onan, and Shelah, and Pharez, and Zerah: but Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan. And the sons of Pharez were Hezron and Hamul.

13 And the sons of Issachar; Tola, and Phuvah, and Job, and Shimron.

14 And the sons of Zebulun; Sered, and Elon, and Jahleel.

15 These *be* **the sons of Leah**, which she bare unto Jacob in Padanaram, with his daughter Dinah: **all the souls of his sons and his daughters were thirty and three.**

16 And the sons of Gad; Ziphion, and Haggi, Shuni, and Ezbon, Eri, and Arodi, and Areli.

17 And the sons of Asher; Jimnah, and Ishuah, and Isui, and Beriah, and Serah their sister: and the sons of Beriah; Heber, and Malchiel.

18 **These are the sons of Zilpah**, whom Laban gave to Leah his daughter, and these she bare unto Jacob, **even sixteen souls.**

19 The sons of Rachel Jacob's wife; Joseph, and Benjamin.

20 And unto Joseph in the land of Egypt were born Manasseh and Ephraim, which Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On bare unto him.

21 And the sons of Benjamin *were* Belah, and Becher, and Ashbel, Gera, and Naaman, Ehi, and Rosh, Muppim, and Huppim, and Ard.

22 **These are the sons of Rachel**, which were born to Jacob: **all the souls were fourteen.**

23 And the sons of Dan; Hushim.

24 And the sons of Naphtali; Jahzeel, and Guni, and Jezer, and Shillem.

25 **These are the sons of Bilhah**, which Laban gave unto Rachel his daughter, and she bare these unto Jacob: **all the souls were seven.**

26 All the souls that came with Jacob into Egypt, which came out of his loins, besides Jacob's sons' wives, all the souls *were* threescore and six;

27 And the sons of Joseph, which were born him in Egypt, *were* two souls: **all the souls of the house of Jacob, which came into Egypt, were threescore and ten.**



❖ A summary of the “threescore and ten” are as follows:

Gen. 46:15 These *be* **the sons of Leah**, which she bare unto Jacob in Padanaram, with his daughter Dinah: **all the souls of his sons and his daughters were thirty and three.**

18 **These are the sons of Zilpah**, whom Laban gave to Leah his daughter, and these she bare unto Jacob, **even sixteen souls.**

22 **These are the sons of Rachel**, which were born to Jacob: **all the souls were fourteen.**

25 **These are the sons of Bilhah**, which Laban gave unto Rachel his daughter, and she bare these unto Jacob: **all the souls were seven.**

27 all the souls of the house of Jacob, which came into Egypt, *were* **threescore and ten.**

$$33 + 16 + 14 + 7 = 70$$

Ex. 1:5 And **all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls**: for Joseph was in Egypt *already.*

❖ When Stephen gave testimony about Israel's history, he stated there were 75:

Acts 7:9 And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him,  
14 Then sent Joseph, and called his father Jacob to *him*, and all his kindred, **threescore and fifteen souls**.

❖ Three different perspectives about the same subject requires diligent study of God's Word – "...rightly dividing the word of truth.'

2 Tim. 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

52 grandchildren (Gen. 46:9ff) and 4 great-grandchildren + Dinah + 4 wives of Jacob + 12 sons + 2 sons of Joseph = 75

- ❖ The passage mentions Simeon's son, (v. 10) "...Shaul the son of a Canaanitish woman." but does not mention Judah and Tamar (v. 12.)
- ❖ Benjamin has 10 sons listed, v. 21, so he was not a child during this time period.
- ❖ As Jacob travels to Egypt, he sends Judah to Joseph.

## (b) Jacob's Favorites, 46:28-30

Gen. 46:28 And he sent Judah before him unto Joseph, to direct his face unto Goshen; and they came into the land of Goshen.

29 And Joseph made ready his chariot, and went up to meet **Israel** his father, to Goshen, and presented himself unto him; and he fell on his neck, and wept on his neck a good while.

30 And **Israel** said unto Joseph, Now let me die, since I have seen thy face, because thou *art* yet alive.

- ❖ Jacob chose Judah to be the intermediary to meet Joseph, a good picture of Israel's mediator in the future – 1 Tim. 2:5

1 Tim. 2:5 For *there is* one God, and **one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;**

- ❖ Joseph “went up to meet **Israel** his father... presented himself unto him; and he fell on his neck, and wept on his neck a good while.”

❖ Imagine the scene in heaven after the Ascension:

Jn. 20:17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, **I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.**

❖ Someday, each and every believer will enjoy a heavenly reunion with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jn. 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that **where I am, there ye may be also.**







# LAND O' GOSHEN

“Let your father and brothers settle in the best land we have for grazing. Let them live in Goshen.” Genesis 47:6

## GOSHEN

NILE RIVER DELTA

Avaris, one-time capital of Egypt

Cairo



EGYPT

Gulf of Suez

TURKEY

Mediterranean Sea

LEBANON

Damascus

SYRIA

JORDAN

CANAAN

Jerusalem

Hebron

ISRAEL

Beersheba

Kadesh oasis

NEGEV BADLANDS

a popular coastal route follows shoreline

desert route

Hebron to Goshen  
about a 200-mile trip (380 km)

WILDERNESS OF SHUR

WILDERNESS OF ZIN



**Jacob leaves Hebron. He moves to Egypt to escape a drought. His family will stay there for over 400 years. Then, cue Moses.**



- ❖ Joseph prepared his people to meet Pharaoh and how to live in Egypt.
- ❖ The Scriptures teach believers how to live in this present world.

Titus 2:12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, **we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;**

(3) Preparation, 46:31-34

(a) The Successful Mediator, 46:31-32

## i. His Appearance Before Pharaoh, 46:31

Gen. 46:31 And Joseph said unto his brethren, and unto his father's house, I will go up, and shew Pharaoh, and say unto him, My brethren, and my father's house, which *were* in the land of Canaan, are come unto me;

❖ As Joseph was the mediator for Israel, so is the Lord Jesus the believers' mediator: 1 Tim. 2:5

1 Jn. 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, **we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:**

ii. His Appeal Before Pharaoh, 46:32

Gen. 46:32 And **the men are shepherds**, for their trade hath been to feed cattle; and they have brought their flocks, and their herds, and all that they have.

- ❖ Joseph prepared Israel for what to say regarding a testimony to Pharaoh.
- ❖ Believers should be prepared to give an appropriate testimony...ALL THE TIME, EVERYWHERE.

(b) The Successful Minister, 46:33-34

i. His Plain Instructions, 46:33-34a

Gen. 46:33 “And it shall come to pass, when Pharaoh shall call you, and shall say, What *is* your occupation?  
34 That ye shall say, Thy servants' trade hath been about cattle from our youth even until now, both we, *and* also our fathers...”

❖ Words from Joseph are like the instructions for believers:

1 Pet. 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and **be ready always to give an answer to every man** that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

ii. His Plain Intentions, 46:34b “...that ye may dwell in the land of Goshen for **every shepherd is an abomination unto the Egyptians.**”

❖ Egypt, a type of the world, has no use for the “Good Shepherd.”

❖ Egypt, the world, has no use for believers and their standards.

Gen. 43:32 And they set on for him by himself, and for them by themselves, and for the Egyptians, which did eat with him, by themselves: because **the Egyptians might not eat bread with the Hebrews; for that is an abomination unto the Egyptians.**



## (4) Presentation, 47:1-10

### (a) Joseph Brought His Brethren to Pharaoh, 47:1-6

Gen. 47:1 Then Joseph came and told Pharaoh, and said, My father and my brethren, and their flocks, and their herds, and all that they have, are come out of the land of Canaan; and, **behold, they *are* in the land of Goshen.**

2 And he took some of his brethren, *even* five men, and presented them unto Pharaoh.

3 And Pharaoh said unto his brethren, What *is* your occupation? And they said unto Pharaoh, **Thy servants *are* shepherds, both we, *and* also our fathers.**

4 They said moreover unto Pharaoh, For to sojourn in the land are we come; for thy servants have no pasture for their flocks; for the famine *is* sore in the land of Canaan: now therefore, we pray thee, **let thy servants dwell in the land of Goshen.**

5 And Pharaoh spake unto Joseph, saying, Thy father and thy brethren are come unto thee:

6 The land of Egypt *is* before thee; in the best of the land make thy father and brethren to dwell; in the land of Goshen let them dwell: and if thou knowest *any* men of activity among them, then make them rulers over my cattle.

❖ Pharaoh didn't mind separating from the shepherds, but would use them for his good.

(b) Jacob Bestowed His Blessing to  
Pharaoh, 47:7-10

Gen. 47:7 And Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh: and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.

8 And Pharaoh said unto Jacob, How old *art* thou?

9 And Jacob said unto Pharaoh, The days of the years of my pilgrimage **are an hundred and thirty years**: few and evil have the days of the years of my life been, and have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage.

10 And Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from before Pharaoh.

## Summary

- ❖ As Joseph spent his first 17 years in Jacob's care, so Jacob will spend his last 17 years in Joseph's care.
- ❖ Jacob's reunion with Joseph is a good picture of Israel uniting with the Lord Jesus as the Reigning Messiah during the Millennium.
- ❖ None of the sons' wives names are given except Asenath, (v. 20) Joseph's Egyptian wife.
- ❖ Jewish women lost their identities in that of their husbands, but they are not unknown to God:

Heb. 11:35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: ...

38 (**Of whom the world was not worthy:**) they wandered in deserts, and *in* mountains, and *in* dens and caves of the earth.

❖ As Joseph made intercession for Israel, so does the Lord Jesus do so for His children.

Rom. 8:34 Who *is* he that condemneth? **It is Christ** that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, **who also maketh intercession for us.**

Heb. 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing **he ever liveth to make intercession for them.**

## Conclusion

Heb. 10:32 But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions;

33 Partly, whilst **ye were made a gazingstock** both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used.

34 For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.

35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.

38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.