

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. 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
 - (2) Propagation, 46:8-30
 - (3) Preparation, 46:31-34
 - (4) Presentation, 47:1-10

Tonight, we continue looking at Gen. 47, “*The Ministry Phase*,” as Joseph provides for Jacob and his brethren. Within the process, Joseph centralizes the political power in Egypt which is a good picture of the Lord Jesus Christ establishing His rule and reign during the millennium.

9. Joseph’s Bounty, 47:11-26

a. Joseph’s Grace, 47:11-12

(1) The Position He Gave His Brethren, 47:11a
“And Joseph placed his father and his brethren...”

- ❖ Joseph was in an authoritative position to provide for his father and brethren.

(2) The Possession He Gave His Brethren,
47:11b “...and gave them a possession in
the land of Egypt, in the best of the land,
in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had
commanded.”

❖ Joseph established the Israelites in the “Land of
Goshen,” which means “drawing near.”

Original Word: גֹּשְׁן Transliteration: Goshen;

Definition: a district in Egypt, (“drawing near)

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/h1657/kjv/wlc/0-1/>



<https://bibleatlas.org/region/goshen.jpg>

Joseph's Families Journey to Goshen Due to the Famine

Fertile Nile Delta

Canaan

Egypt

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NASA Photo

- ❖ The “land of Goshen” was also known as “the land of Rameses” which means “the thunder that destroys.”
- ❖ In the future, the Israelites will draw near to the King of Kings whose voice will be like thunder upon the earth.
- ❖ Giving the Israelites “the best of the land” is a wonderful picture of Joseph’s grace.

(3)The Portion He Gave His Brethren, 47:12

Gen. 47:12 And Joseph nourished his father, and his brethren, and all his father's household, with bread, according to *their* families.

❖ The “Bread of Life” provides all this His people need.

Jn. 6:35 And Jesus said unto them, **I am the bread of life**: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. ...

48 **I am that bread of life.**

❖ The greatest source of nourishment from “the Bread of Life” is His Word:

Mt. 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, **Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.**

❖ All of mankind needs to cast ALL their care upon the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Pet. 5:7 **Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.**

b. Joseph's Government, 47:13-22

(1) Purses, 47:13-14

Gen. 47:13 And *there was* no bread in all the land; for the famine *was very sore*, so that the land of Egypt and *all* the land of Canaan fainted by reason of the famine.

14 And Joseph gathered up all the money that was found in the land of Egypt, and in the land of Canaan, for the corn which they bought: and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house.

- ❖ The famine was so devastating that all of Egypt was in desperation of deliverance, humbling themselves before the only hope, Joseph.
- ❖ This submission of the Egyptians pictures the whole world at the end of the Tribulation when the King of Kings returns to earth to initiate the millennial kingdom.
- ❖ With the four years of the famine yet to continue, and Joseph sold the grain for money, bringing the purses of the entire kingdom under the rule of Pharaoh.
- ❖ Money was useless to the Egyptians – survival was the only option of concern.

(2) Possessions, 47:15-17

Gen. 47:15 And when money failed in the land of Egypt, and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came unto Joseph, and said, Give us bread: for why should we die in thy presence? for the money faileth.

16 And Joseph said, Give your cattle; and I will give you for your cattle, if money fail.

17 And they brought their cattle unto Joseph: and Joseph gave them bread *in exchange* for horses, and for the flocks, and for the cattle of the herds, and for the asses: and he fed them with bread for all their cattle for that year.

- ❖ As the next year of the famine continues, Joseph accepted the cattle as payment for the grain. He also accepted other livestock.
- ❖ All assets were being liquidated in order to survive.

(3) Property, 47:18-20

Gen. 47:18 When that year was ended, they came unto him the second year, and said unto him, We will not hide *it* from my lord, how that our money is spent; my lord also hath our herds of cattle; there is not ought left in the sight of my lord, but our bodies, and our lands:

19 Wherefore shall we die before thine eyes, both we and our land? buy us and our land for bread, and we and our land will be servants unto Pharaoh: and give *us* seed, that we may live, and not die, that the land be not desolate.

20 And Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh; for the Egyptians sold every man his field, because the famine prevailed over them: so the land became Pharaoh's.

- ❖ In the “second year” (v. 18), implies the second year after v. 13, making it the beginning of year six year for verses 19-26.
- ❖ The land of Egypt becomes totally dependent upon Pharaoh, making it a welfare state.
- ❖ In the hands of a benevolent dictator like the Lord Jesus in the millennium, all the people can trust in His leadership.

(4) Persons, 47:21-22

Gen. 47:21 And as for the people, he removed them to cities from *one* end of the borders of Egypt even to the *other* end thereof.

22 Only the land of the priests bought he not; for the priests had a portion *assigned them* of Pharaoh, and did eat their portion which Pharaoh gave them: wherefore they sold not their lands.

- ❖ The people were moved from cities to receive better sources of food, not for political gestures like today.
- ❖ The properties of the “priests” were exempted, and dependent upon Pharaoh.

c. Joseph's Goodness, 47:23-26

(1) The Principle Explained, 47:23-25

(a) Worded Very Simply, 47:23-24

Gen. 47:23 Then Joseph said unto the people, Behold, I have bought you this day and your land for Pharaoh: lo, *here is* seed for you, and ye shall sow the land.

24 And it shall come to pass in the increase, that ye shall give the fifth *part* unto Pharaoh, and four parts shall be your own, for seed of the field, and for your food, and for them of your households, and for food for your little ones.

- ❖ Pharaoh, like share-cropping, provided the seed and expected a 20% return.
- ❖ The giving of the “fifth part” was Joseph’s plan during the seven years of plenty. His leadership proved to be beneficial to Pharaoh and the Egyptians.

Gen 41:33 Now therefore let Pharaoh look out a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt.
34 Let Pharaoh do *this*, and let him appoint officers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plenteous years.

(b) Welcomed Very Sincerely, 47:25

Gen. 47:25 And they said, Thou hast saved our lives: **let us find grace in the sight** of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh's servants.

- ❖ The Egyptians evaluated the value of living and considered it an act of grace by Joseph.

(2) The Principle Established, 47:26

Gen. 47:26 And Joseph made it a law over the land of Egypt unto this day, *that* Pharaoh should have the fifth *part*; except the land of the priests only, *which* became not Pharaoh's.

- ❖ Joseph implemented the 20% tax on the Egyptians with the exception of the priests.

Summary

- ❖ The Lord Jesus gave us the ultimate example of giving:

2 Cor. 8:9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet **for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.**

- ❖ A mature believer follows the Lord's example because of the heart:

2 Cor. 9:7 **Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give;** not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

Closing

Mt. 6:31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for **your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.**

33 But **seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;** and **all these things shall be added unto you.**

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