

# 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. 50

## 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

E. The Conclusion, 47:27—50:26

# 1.The Death of Jacob, 47:27—50:21

a. Jacob's Foreknowledge, 47:27—49:27

b. Jacob's Funeral, 49:28—50:21

(1)The Pledge, 49:28-33

(2)The Preparation, 50:1-3

(3)The Permission, 50:4-6

(4)The Procession, 50:7-14

(a)The Funeral Party, 50:7-9

(b)The Formal Proceedings, 50:10-13

(c)The Final Parting, 50:14

Tonight, we continue in Gen. 50, with the last days of Joseph after the death of his father Jacob.

### (5) The Pardon, 50:15-21

Gen. 50:15 And when Joseph's brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, Joseph will peradventure hate us, and will certainly requite us all the evil which we did unto him.  
16 And they sent a messenger unto Joseph, saying, Thy father did command before he died, saying,  
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.**

18 And his brethren also went and fell down before his face; and they said, Behold, we *be* thy servants.

19 And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for *am* I in the place of God?

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.

21 Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.

- ❖ The burial of Jacob is done, everyone returns home to Egypt, and Joseph must endure another heartache at the hands of his brothers.
- ❖ The brothers exhibit deceit due to disbelief in Joseph's character – 50:16.
- ❖ Guiltiness and fear affect the reasoning of the brothers as they devise a plan that implicates their father's unspoken desire.
- ❖ The brothers sought forgiveness while admitting their sin against Joseph.

- ❖ Upon hearing the false report from his brothers, Joseph's response was not anger, but anguish from a broken heart.
- ❖ The brothers exhibited an attitude of repentance.
- ❖ Joseph's response is a wonderful portrayal of love, mercy, and grace – just like the Savior.



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

❖ Joseph clarified the difference between his role and God's providential care, vs. 19-20.

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.

Rom. 8:28 And we know that **all things work together for good to them that love God**, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

❖ Joseph promises to take care of his loved ones,  
50:21.

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

Mt. 6:33 But **seek ye first the kingdom of God, and  
his righteousness; and all these things shall be added  
unto you.**

## 2. The Death of Joseph, 50:22-26

### a. Joseph's Dwelling, 50:22

Gen. 50:22 And Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he, and his father's house: and Joseph lived an hundred and ten years.

- ❖ Joseph lived another 54 years in Egypt after Jacob's death, dying at 110 years old.

## b. Joseph's Descendants, 50:23

Gen. 50:23 And Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third *generation*: the children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were brought up upon Joseph's knees.

❖ The Bible's portrayal of a blessed life is connected to the faithfulness of future descendants.

Prov. 13:22 **A good *man* leaveth an inheritance to his children's children**: and the wealth of the sinner *is* laid up for the just.

Prov. 17:6 **Children's children *are* the crown of old men**; and the glory of children *are* their fathers.

## c. Joseph's Discernment, 50:24

Gen. 50:24 And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

- ❖ Joseph discerned his impending death and made preparation for it, but not like the Egyptians.
- ❖ Joseph's Egyptian peers were building elaborate burial tombs, while Joseph focused upon God's promises for Israel's future – "...God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

Psa. 37:23 **The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD:** and he delighteth in his way.

Prov. 16:9 A man's heart deviseth his way: but **the LORD directeth his steps.**

d. Joseph's Demand, 50:25

Gen. 50:25 And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence.

❖ Joseph “put feet upon his faith” regarding his demand for his future departure.

Heb. 11:22 **By faith Joseph, when he died**, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

❖ Joseph believed God’s promises to the patriarchs – Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Josh. 24:32 And **the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt**, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of ground which Jacob bought of the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for an hundred pieces of silver: and it became the inheritance of the children of Joseph.

## e. Joseph's Decease, 50:26

Gen. 50:26 So Joseph died, *being* an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.



## Summary

- ❖ Joseph's brothers feared retribution and concocted a false testimony from Jacob.
- ❖ Lost sinners concoct personal excuses when fearing judgment before a holy God that are not Scriptural.
- ❖ Sinners, like the brothers, do not consider the heart of the one who is forgiving, and misjudge the character of God.
- ❖ Joseph is a wonderful type of the Lord Jesus in displaying a tender, loving heart in forgiving the brothers. This is a wonderful picture of love, mercy, and grace.
- ❖ Joseph's directions to remove his body from Egypt exhibits a life-long journey of faith.
- ❖ His directions are a good type of the rapture and resurrection of the saints!

## Conclusion

1 Cor. 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

55 O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory?

56 The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law.

57 But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.