

Genesis 46

Genesis 46.1-7

V1 – Who was Israel? Jacob (father of 12 sons)

- Why did Jacob offer sacrifices to God?** To find out the will of the Lord in this matter
- What land had been promised to the descendants of Abraham?** Land of Canaan
- Jacob was, therefore, worried about leaving Canaan

V2 – How did God answer Jacob? Visions in night

V3 – What was the message from God? 1. Go down to Egypt 2. I will make you a great nation there

V4 – What else did God promise? Jacob would “close his eyes” there

- Meaning?** Joseph would close his eyes at death (Jacob would die there)

V5 – Jacob and his family left for Egypt

V6 – What else did they take with them? Livestock and other property

V7 – Plus? The grandchildren

- What dangers would they face in Egypt?** Possibly intermarriage with Egyptians (but remember that Egyptians would not even eat with Hebrews)
- Possibly the idolatry of the Egyptians
- Jacob will have to be morally strong in Egypt

Genesis 46.8-27

V 8-27– Brief review

- Who were the two wives of Jacob?** Leah and Rachel
 - Recall the circumstances of his marriage to them?** He worked seven years for the wrong one (Leah)
 - Had to work another seven years for the other one
 - Six sons of Leah?** *Vs. 9-15*
 - Two sons of Zilpah (her handmaiden)?** *Vs. 16-18* – Gad and Asher
 - Two sons of Rachel?** *V 19-20* - Joseph and Benjamin
 - Two sons of Bilhah?** Dan and Naphtali
- See map in standard Bible reference book – 12 tribes had land holdings (no land for tribe of Levi – Manasseh and Ephraim took the place for Joseph)

V26 – Total number of descendants? 66

V27 – Total in Egypt? 70

Genesis 46.28-34

V 28 – **Out of the 12 sons, who seems to be the leader?** Judah (the "Jews" are named after his tribe and Jesus came through this tribe)

-But Judah was 4th in line (after Reuben, Simeon, and Levi)

-**Why?** Reuben – had sexual relations with Bilhah (35.22)

-**Simeon and Levi?** – wiped out village after the king's son raped Dinah (34.30)

-Therefore, leadership fell to Judah

-**What job did Judah have?** Lead the way to Egypt

V 29 – **How would you describe the meeting between Joseph and Jacob?** Very tearful

-Joseph seems to have been prone to crying

V 30 – **How glad was Jacob that he had seen Joseph?** Now ready to die (the goal of his life had been reached)

V 31– Joseph would report their arrival to Pharaoh

V 32 – **What profession would Joseph tell Pharaoh that his brothers were?** Shepherds

V 33 – **What questions would Pharaoh probably ask them?** “What is your occupation?”

V 34 – A very delicate situation – Joseph knew that the Egyptians put shepherds low on social scale

-**Explanation?** They could live in Goshen, on the other side of Nile (out of the way)

-Also: Joseph did not want his family corrupted by the idolatry of the Egyptians – he could keep them out of the mainstream of Egyptian life

Lessons:

-Joseph was looking out for the needs of his relatives - “Home is where they have to take you in.”

-Joseph had no bitterness toward his brothers

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