

“... In Exchange For Your Soul?”

Genesis 47:1-31

Introduction

I The Brothers Met Pharaoh

- A. Joseph **presented** his brothers to Pharaoh - Hos 6:3; Phil 3:10
 - 1. He selected five brother to meet the king - 2 Cor 4:14-15
- B. Joseph's brothers **introduced** themselves
 - 1. They were shepherds
 - 2. They had come to Egypt for a **while** - Gen 15:13
 - 3. They requested to live in Goshen
- C. Joseph was instructed by Pharaoh to:
 - 1. Settle his family in Goshen
 - 2. Employ any **skilled** brothers - Col 3:23-24; Prov 22:29

II The Father Met Pharaoh

- A. Joseph presented Jacob to Pharaoh
 - 1. Jacob **blessed** Pharaoh - Gen 12:3
 - 2. Jacob summarized his life:
 - a. As a **pilgrimage** - Heb 11:9-10; Phil 3:20; 1 Pt 1:17
 - b. As 130 years in length
 - c. As brief and **difficult** - Ps 90:10; Ps 34:19
 - 3. Jacob blessed Pharaoh
- B. Joseph acted on Pharaoh's directives
 - 1. He **settled** his family in Rameses - Ex 1:11; Num 33:3-4
 - 2. He provided his family with **food** - Mt 6:31-34

III The Famine Persisted

- A. A summary of the famine
 - 1. Egypt and Canaan **wasted** away - Ps 105:16
 - 2. Egypt's money was exhausted - Lev 25:17
 - 3. Egypt's people were still **hungry** - Amos 8:11-12
- B. The people bartered their livestock - Gen 47:6
- C. The people bartered their land and **lives** - Job 2:4; Rom 12:1
 - 1. Joseph gave them seed for land - Prov 11:26
 - 2. Joseph bought all the land for Pharaoh
 - a. The people were reduced to **servitude** - Lev 25:39-43
 - 3. Joseph exempted the priest's land - Ezra 7:24

- 4. Joseph introduced a 20% grain tax - Gen 41:33-34
 - a. The people consented and were **grateful** - Ps 41:1-2

IV The Summary Of Israel

- A. Jacob's family settled in Egypt
 - 1. They lived in Goshen
 - 2. They acquired property there - Eccl 2:26
 - 3. They were **fruitful** and increased greatly - Gen 12:2
- B. Jacob anticipated his death - Heb 9:27; Ps 89:48
 - 1. He lived **17** years in Egypt - Gen 37:2
 - 2. He established a living will
 - a. Don't **bury** me in Egypt
 - b. Carry me back to my fathers in Canaan - Heb 11:22
 - 3. He **worshipped** as he leaned on his staff

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

- 1. Who is the most “important” person you have ever met? What were the circumstances? Any lasting impressions?
- 2. Read Ps 105:16. What objectives has God achieved through the famine so far? What remained to be accomplished? How has God used hardship in your life to accomplish His purposes?
- 3. Read Col 4:1. As you consider Joseph's dealings with the Egyptians, do you think of him as 1) Ruthless? 2) Fair? 3) Generous? Explain your answer. How would the people under your authority describe you? Are you content with that?
- 4. Of the three things that the people of Egypt gave up – money, belongings, property, and independence – which do you think was easiest? Hardest? What would you have to surrender in order to follow God more fully? Are you willing?
- 5. Take a few moments to meditate on Rom 12:1, and then surrender everything to God; your money, belongs, property and independence as an act of spiritual worship to God.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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