

DEATH OF JACOB AND JOSEPH — GENESIS 50

JACOB IS EMBALMED AND MOURNED IN EGYPT – v.1-3

- Joseph summoned medical men, who were fully capable of embalming, rather than the religious embalmers to avoid the magic and mysticism associated with their practices.
- Jacob was preserved so that he could later be buried in the family burial cave in Canaan (Ge.49:29-32).

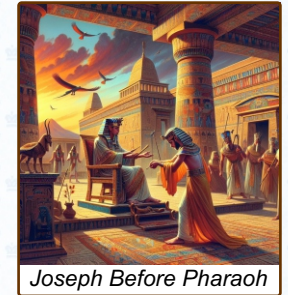


JOSEPH GETS PERMISSION TO BURY JACOB IN CANAAN – v.4-14

- Privileges and freedom often result when we have demonstrated our trustworthiness.
- Since trust must be built gradually over time, take every opportunity to prove your reliability even in minor matters.

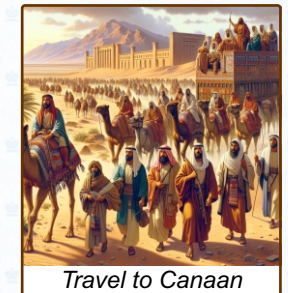
THE FEARS OF JOSEPH'S BROTHERS – v.15

- Now that Jacob was dead, the brothers, fearing that Joseph would deal harshly with them for their wrongs (Ge.45:3), pleaded for forgiveness.
- The brothers' guilty consciences reasserted themselves and caused them to underestimate the genuineness of Joseph's forgiveness.



THE UNLIKELY STORY OF JOSEPH'S BROTHERS – v.16-18

- This story is probably concocted. They didn't feel they had the moral right to ask Joseph for mercy, since they sinned against him so greatly.
- Joseph probably wept because it seemed his brothers thought so little of him and they doubted his character so greatly.



JOSEPH COMFORTS HIS BROTHERS – v.19-21

- Though it was true that they meant it for evil, but it was not the greatest truth.
- The greatest truth was that "God meant it for good." This is God's providence at work.
- God can overrule people's evil intentions to bring about his intended results.

JOSEPH IS IN EGYPT, BUT HIS HEART WAS IN CANAAN – v.22-24

- Joseph knew that because of the covenant God had made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Egypt would not be their ultimate resting place.
- The secret to that kind of faith at the end of life, is a lifetime of trusting God.

DEATH AND EMBALMING OF JOSEPH – v.25-26

- Like his father before him, Joseph made his brothers promise that his bones would be taken out of the land of Egypt at the great deliverance, a.k.a. the Exodus (Ex.13:19; Js.24:32; He.11:22).
- The hope of the Old and New Covenant is that "God will surely visit you."

