

Genesis 46.28 – 47.12

When Worlds Collide

NOMADIC Family of Shepherds > JACOB & Sons > International MOVE

From Simple Countryside to Sophisticated CIVILIZATION of Egypt

People in COVENANT w/ One God Yahweh Live Among People w/ Many gods

People Struggling FAMINE & Poverty > Land more Food than Can MEASURE

BIG Move > Sons of ISRAEL immigrate to LAND of EGYPT

From ONE WORLD to ANOTHER > And Sometimes WORLDS COLLIDE

1. Dead Meet the Living

a. Sad Dad

22 years Earlier BAD BOYS took Brothers Fancy Coat dipped in Goat BLOOD

Brought Coat to FATHER who SPOILED that Son with FANCY COAT

They took Joseph's robe and slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood.

And they sent the robe of many colors and brought it to their father and said,

“This we have found; please identify whether it is your son's robe or not”...“It is

my son's robe. A fierce animal has devoured him. Joseph is without doubt torn to

pieces.” Then Jacob tore his garments and put sackcloth on his loins and

mourned for his son many days.

Genesis 37.31-34

Over 8000 Days! 22 year! JOSEPH was LONG GONE but NOT Forgotten

Father would NOT Let Go > BLAMES his Brothers > PITIES himself

JACOB Not a Good MODEL of how to GRIEVE Well and Get ON with Life!

Then after 8030+ days, Jacob Sitting in House in Pajamas w/ Box of KLEENEX

Brothers COME CLEAN – ADMIT their BIG LIE > Our Brother is ALIVE!

...they...came to the land of Canaan to their father Jacob. And they told him,

“Joseph is still alive, and he is ruler over all the land of Egypt.” And his heart

became numb...And Israel said, “It is enough; Joseph my son is still alive. I will

go and see him before I die.”

Genesis 45.25-28

JACOB probably Nearly DIED when he HEARD this SHOCKING NEWS!

b. Sad Son

My First Time to PREACH or TEACH Series on JOSEPH & BROTHERS

I have Learned A LOT – I hope you have TOO!

Before I began this Study – Thought Bible said Nothing Bad about JOSEPH

As I Look More Carefully – Joseph was GOOD KID – but Had his PROBLEMS
 NOT his Fault Father JACOB wrongly FAVORED him OVER his 11 Brothers
 But Joseph TOOK ADVANTAGE of Preferential POSITION over the FAMILY
 Joseph more BRAT than BRIDGE-BUILDER / More Tattler than Truth-Teller

We Raised ONLY 3 Sons – Had to UMPIRE Fights – Can't Imagine 12 Sons!

So it is SAD but NOT SURPRISING for me to Read...

Joseph...seventeen years old...brought a bad report of them (*his brothers*) to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons...he made him a robe of many colors. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him.
 Genesis 37.1-4

Even MORE SAD their HATRED Grew to Point of SELLING Brother as Slave
 Joseph needed to be HUMBLLED – But HATRED went TOO FAR, Blind RAGE
 As far as they KNEW – END of HIS Life – Became End of their FAMILY Life
 Brothers had 22 years Remembering DARK DAY wishing Could UNDO DEED

Joseph TRIED HARD to make BEST of his NEW LIFE

SHAVED HEAD and WORE Gold BLING – Learned SPEAK New Language
 Never FORGOT HEBREW Man underneath CLOTHES & CULTURE of Egypt

PHARAOH of Egypt gave him Egyptian Wife – Daughter of PAGAN PRIESTS
 Gave 2 Sons HEBREW Names and Told them about COVENANT God of Israel

Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh. “For,” he said, “God has made me forget all my hardship and all my father's house.” Genesis 41.51

NAME Manasseh was PRAYER & HOPE > Wanted to Move On with his LIFE
But even PRECIOUS Baby BOY could Not Fully Remove LONGING for Home

Joseph's WORLD'S Collided One SURPRISING Day

Appointed by Pharaoh to Oversee Food > Own BROTHERS Come in Hungry

20 yrs Older – Head Shaved – DRESSED & SPEAKING like an Egyptian

NO IDEA this was KID Brother they SOLD to SLAVERS Long Ago

Joseph HEARS First News from home in 2 DECADES...

“We are all sons of one man...twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan, and behold, the youngest is this day with our father, and one is no more.” Genesis 42.11,13

Several MONTHS Later, Brothers are Back, Joseph Still hiding IDENTITY...

Joseph...said, “Is your father well, the old man of whom you spoke? Is he still alive?” They said, “Your servant our father is well; he is still alive.”

Genesis 43.26-29

He SEES his Brothers for a 3rd Time can No Longer KEEP his Secret...

Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?” Genesis 45.3

You can PUT on THRONE, Dress in GOLD, hold POWER of Life in LAND

But JOSEPH still SON who LOVES and MISSES his FATHER!

HEART Cries Out for REUNION and RESTORATION

c. Unspeakable Joy

Joseph FORGETS his EXALTED Position > Hitches Chariot to Meet his Father
Like PRODIGAL in Luke – FATHER and SON RUN to Meet One Another

v. 29 Then Joseph prepared his chariot and went up to meet Israel his father in Goshen. He presented himself to him and fell on his neck and wept on his neck a good while.

“PRESENTED HIMSELF” - Form of Word - THEOPHANY - Vision God

Joseph whom Jacob knew to BE DEAD for 20 yrs Stands ALIVE Before him

Joseph HAD TO Master his Emotions – Learned to STRUGGLE & SURVIVE
Went thru HARDSHIPS & AFFLICTIONS No One to COMFORT or Encourage
TEARS & Long EMBRACE was GOOD MEDICINE for Both Father and Son

v. 30 Israel said to Joseph, “Now let me die, since I have seen your face and know that you are still alive.”

Jacob had a previous experience of seeing a face, the result of which he was never again the same. The face that time was God’s...He had seen God’s face, yet he continued to live. Having seen Joseph’s face, he needs to live no longer”

V.P. Hamilton

Greatest JOY of PARENTS is the SUCCESS of your Children, esp. Spiritually
Ancient GREECE – Man had 3 Sons Competed in Original OLYMPIC Games
3 Sons VICTORIOUS in 3 Events – each WON LAUREL Wreath of Victors
Each Son came a Placed their VICTOR’S Laurel Wreath on FATHER’S Head
Spectators OVERWHELMED by Show of HONOR for a FATHER
Shout: “DIE Now! Die at this Moment! You can Never Die at Happier Moment”
Story > Says the FATHER so Overcome he DIED right there on the SPOT!

If SUCCESS of Children is cause of SUCH GREAT JOY

Then, we must STRIVE to be GOOD PARENTS > Point Kids to JESUS

WHAT did Jesus Do? LAID his LIFE Down for Us!

How will Your Kids SEE JESUS – When you Lay Down your LIFE for THEM?

Open your Computer – Watching Favorite Team – Reading Great Book....

Daddy, Daddy, Will you Come Play with ME? --- LATER, Daddy's BUSY!!

Every time we DIE TO SELF we SHOW the HEART of the GOSPEL

Parents Biggest HEARTBREAK is FAILURE of your Children > FAR from God

You may win HUNDREDS of People in your MINISTRY, but

If you LOSE your CHILDREN that will be SOURCE of GREAT PAIN

If THINK You & Children are HOPELESS – Not been Following our Studies!

Problems in FAMILY all Started by Bad Choices of Father

Selfish – Destructive – Lustful – Deceitful – Ran from Problems – Favoritism

Jacob's sons SIMEON and LEVI MASSACRED All MEN of the Whole CITY

JUDAH Married a CANAANITE Woman

REUBEN Slept with Father's CONCUBINE BILHAH

10 of Jacob's SONS – SOLD Brother JOSEPH Off into SLAVERY in EGYPT

With God ALL Things are POSSIBLE

BROTHERS Part of REUNION > They too were NOW FOUND & FORGIVEN

God makes BIGGEST Trouble-Making Brother NEW LEADER of Family

v. 28 He had sent Judah ahead of him...to show the way before him in Goshen

2. Family Meet Friends

Many SUCCESSFUL Children are Embarrassed by their Parents from Village

You're RICH & FAMOUS but Dad is Social Hillbilly & Mom is Uneducated

What if your FAMILY Surprised You – Fly In Here? – World's would Collide!

Joseph kept 5th Commandment BEFORE was Written – HONORS his FATHER

Joseph was WISE POLITICIAN > DELICATE & DETAILED Planner

How will NEW BOSS – Pharaoh of Egypt – Meet RENTS – Smell like Sheep
v. 34 “for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians.”

JACOB lived life of DECEPTION > Son Joseph OPEN & HONEST
Person says Christian LIED on Job Application > Pagan EMPLOYER Said To!

No Way to HIDE fact We are SHEPHERDS – What it is, is What it is!

TRUSTS God to Lead and Bless his Shepherd Family, Makes a WISE PLAN
a. Prepared his Brothers

Gonna Meet Pharaoh – WHAT to Say – HOW to Act & ANSWER Questions
vs. 31-34 Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's household, “I will go up and tell Pharaoh and will say to him, ‘My brothers and my father's household, who were in the land of Canaan, have come to me. And the men are shepherds, for they have been keepers of livestock, and they have brought their flocks and their herds and all that they have.’ When Pharaoh calls you and says, ‘What is your occupation?’ you shall say, ‘Your servants have been keepers of livestock from our youth even until now, both we and our fathers,’ in order that you may dwell in the land of Goshen, for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians.”

Did NOT want Family STUCK in Unfamiliar Capital around Strange People
God's Plan to let Nation of Israel – Live & GROW – SEPARATE from Egypt
NOT Corrupted by IDOLATRY – INTERMARRIAGE – Isolated with their God

b. Pleads with Pharaoh

Tells P. his FATHER & BROTHERS Come to Egypt – Staying in GOSHEN

v. 1 So Joseph went in and told Pharaoh, “My father and my brothers, with their flocks and herds and all that they possess, have come from the land of Canaan. They are now in the land of Goshen.”

BIG DEAL, Joseph had Favor, Doing Good Job, but Pharaoh HELD ALL Power
Still DANGEROUS to Go Before Pharaoh – Esp with such BIG REQUEST
BEST Region of your Land Occupied by FOREIGN SHEPHERDS!

c. Presented a Delegation

5 Brothers meet Pharaoh and Make FORMAL REQUEST to Settle in GOSHEN

vs. 2-4 And from among his brothers he took five men and presented them to Pharaoh. Pharaoh said to his brothers, “What is your occupation?” And they said to Pharaoh, “Your servants are shepherds, as our fathers were.” They said to Pharaoh, “We have come to sojourn in the land, for there is no pasture for your servants' flocks, for the famine is severe in the land of Canaan. And now, please let your servants dwell in the land of Goshen.”

There is nothing wrong in being specific about what we want – something many of us Africans tend to shy away from, preferring to imply it in what is said. Being direct and clear is not an offence, even if the request is not granted. The same principle applies when we approach God in prayer. He takes no offence when we tell him exactly what we desire. Whether he grants it or not, however, must be left to him, and his response must be accepted with appreciation. Samuel Ngewa

vs. 5,6 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Your father and your brothers have come to you. The land of Egypt is before you. Settle your father and your brothers in the best of the land. Let them settle in the land of Goshen, and if you know any able men among them, put them in charge of my livestock.”

Their feet have hardly touched Egyptian soil, and already they are tantalized with the possibility of being placed in charge of royal cattle. V.P. Hamilton

d. Produces his Father

v. 7 Then Joseph brought in Jacob his father and stood him before Pharaoh...

vs. 11,12 Then Joseph settled his father and his brothers 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. And Joseph provided his father, his brothers, and all his father's household with food, according to the number of their dependents.

Got BEST part of Land v. 11 “as Pharaoh COMMANDED”

Not ONLY got GREAT Land but given Great JOB – It all Came TO THEM!

Joseph Completely at EASE w/ EGYPTIAN Colleagues & his HEBREW Family
ASHAMED of Neither One of his Families, World's COMBINED, NOT Collide

This FAMILY could say with DAVID...and I hope MANY of US...

The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful
inheritance. Psalm 16.6

3. Patriarch Meets Pharaoh

OLD Jewish WANDERER meets PHARAOH in GLITTERING Gold

Old Man now in POVERTY & FAMINE > King OWNS GRAIN of the World

HISTORY Records MILITARY Campaign of One Pharaoh in that Era...

Traveled with 232 ASIAN PRINCES, 323 PRINCESSES, 270 COURT Women

SHIPS Built in Egypt – SAILED to CRETE, PHOENICIA, Up NILE River

Returned with Incense, Myrrh, Gum, Ivory, Gold, Alabaster

a. Blessing of Yahweh

vs. 7-10 ...and Jacob blessed Pharaoh. And Pharaoh said to Jacob, “How many are the days of the years of your life?” And Jacob said to Pharaoh, “The days of the years of my sojourning are 130 years. Few and evil have been the days of the years of my life, and they have not attained to the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their sojourning.” And Jacob blessed Pharaoh and went out from the presence of Pharaoh.

Looked at Words Last Week – Carried SOUR TONE of Jacob's BITTERNESS

Should have been More Full of HUMILITY, GRATITUDE, and PRAISE

He had Lived 130 years by God's MERCY and GRACE

But there are Several Things we can COMMEND about Jacob's Words...

Jacob Blessed Pharaoh...Twice!

BLESSED Pharaoh COMING IN and GOING OUT

Jacob TESTIFIED to NAME and NATURE of TRUE & Living GOD

Lifting up his hands, at the full height of his stature, without one preliminary word of salutation or gesture of compliment to the king, the old man pours out his soul in prayer – asking God’s blessing on the royal head – and in God’s name, pronouncing the customary blessing of Abraham’s house and seed.

Robert S. Candlish

POOR Shepherd BLESSED the WEALTHY, EXTRAVAGANT MONARCH
Egyptian THEOLOGY: Pharaoh MORE than MAN = god, Embodiment RA, Sun
Met SACRED Courts of Pharaoh, Would THINK Pharaoh would Give Blessing

Without doubt the lesser person is blessed by the greater. Hebrews 7.7

It was MELCHIZEDEK who BLESSED ABRAM > Received the Blessing
Pharaoh seems to ACCEPT the Blessing WITHOUT ANY PROTEST

IMPORTANCE Hebrews place on WORDS – Word Spoken is DEED Done!

JACOB heard BLESSING of Father Isaac

Isaac BLIND & Jacob DRESSED Like Brother ESAU – INTENDED Receiver

When ESAU Comes IN – TOO LATE! Word Spoken is DEED Done!

BLESSING Gone Out – STOLEN by Jacob the THIEF – was Jacob’s Forever

We tend to be dazzled by the world, particularly its wealth. In the presence of those the world thinks important we stand mute. We need to learn, as Jacob learned, that we as Christians have more to offer the world than the world, for all its wealth and ‘importance,’ has to offer us. James Boice

Lord of the Nations brings Blessing on the Nations

b. Time is Short - Egyptians PREOCCUPIED with DEATH

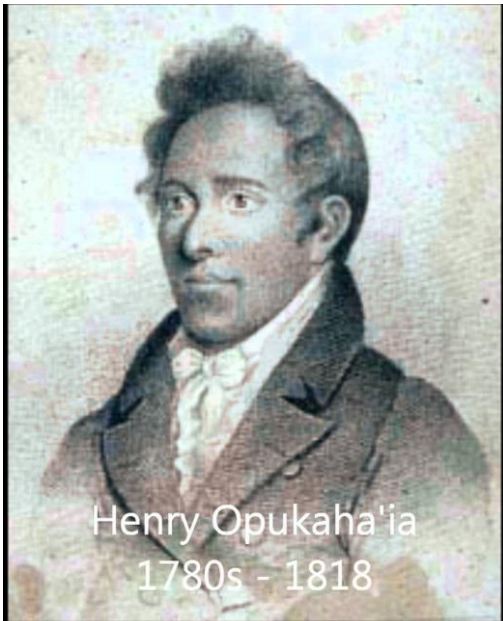
v. 8 Pharaoh said to Jacob, “How many are the days of the years of your life?”

Pharaoh’s CLAIMED be ETERNAL – Sought to IMMORTALIZE their Bodies

IDEAL Egyptian LIFESPAN was 110 – JACOB Exceeds Egypt by 20 yrs!

What are you DOING with the SHORT LIFE that God has GIVEN YOU?

Every Christian in Hawaii, Thank One Young Man who Brought Gospel Islands



Henry Opukaihia – HUMAN Reason

For the Christian CHURCH in HAWAII

Teenage Boy from Islands – Jumped on Merchant Ship – China > went on to USA

NEW England – CONNECTICUT

Befriended by TIMOTHY DWIGHT

President of Yale College, Pastor

Led to SAVING FAITH in Lord Jesus Christ

Quickly Preached in New England Churches >

PHENOMENON - Most WHITE New Eng's Never Seen BROWN Man

> esp. Preacher

God used Henry touch HEARTS > W/ Love for his Hawaiian People

Henry never made it > Died at 27 in NE > Dozens M's to HI in Henry's Place

For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh. The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away... So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Psalm 90.9-12

c. Life is Pilgrimage

Pharaoh's QUESTION about Jacob's Years, Jacob tells Pharaoh what Life IS vs. 8,9 Pharaoh said to Jacob, "How many are the days of the years of your life?" And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The days of the years of my sojourning are 130 years... not attained to the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their sojourning."

130 Yrs – Not as Long as PILGRIMAGES of Father & Grandfather – 180, 175

PILGRIM – TRAVELER with No PRESENT Home > WANDERER

WORLD has ONLY what it can SEE – Cars, Houses, Clothes, Phones, Money
PEOPLE are Looking for What Can't See – Truth, Justice, Peace, Love, Integrity

Alexander Solzhenitsyn IMPRISONED 11 yrs SOVIET Prison in SIBERIA

Unlike MOST Fellow Prisoners LIVED! Wrote experiences Gulag Archipeligo

HOW do you SURVIVE the Dehumanizing Experience? Suffering?

"From the moment you go to prison you must put your cozy past firmly behind you. At the very threshold, you must say to yourself: 'My life is over, a little early to be sure, but there's nothing to be done about it. I shall never return to freedom. I am condemned to die – now or a little later. But later on, in truth, it will be even harder, and so the sooner the better. I no longer have any property whatsoever. For me those I love have died, and for them I have died. From today on, my body is useless and alien to me. Only my spirit and conscience remain precious to me.'"
Alexander Solzhenitsyn

If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.
Hebrews 11.15,16

On PILGRIMAGE to a HEAVENLY City > Precarious, Landless Existence

We can do people NO GREATER GOOD than Tell others of JESUS CHRIST
 Only Jesus can DELIVER them from WRATH of God
 Take them into ETERNAL and ABUNDANT LIFE

What of Pharaoh's FATE? Not Told – Had 2 Great Witnesses of TRUE GOD
 JOSEPH who Saved his NATION / JACOB who Prayed for his SOUL

For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. 2 Corinthians 4.5-7

d. Old People can Grow 130 yr old JACOB – will LIVE ANOTHER 17 years
 17 years with JOSEPH GROWING – 17 MORE years w/ Joseph LEADING
 Before he DIES, Jacob gives Blessing to Joseph and his sons...

Israel stretched out his right hand and...he blessed Joseph and said, "The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life long to this day, the angel who has redeemed me from all evil..." Genesis 48.15-16

"He who is not busy bein' born is busy dyin'" Bob Dylan

Told Pharaoh Years Few & Difficult – God has been My Shepherd all My Days
 God's ANGEL Delivered me from ALL EVIL

v. 30 Israel said to Joseph, "Now let me die, since I have seen your face and know that you are still alive."

JACOB'S Marathon Pity Party > 40 yrs of GRIEF > Ended in that EMBRACE
 NOW I am READY to DIE > Jacob was CONTENT to Die, Life NOW Fulfilled

NUNC DIMITTIS – Song of Simeon @ Seeing BABY JESUS

Simeon...man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ...he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel." Luke 2.25-32

God's Delivering ANGEL –INCARNATE in Bethlehem – Lord & Savior JESUS

GREAT HOPE of Every Believer – SING this SONG – SEE this CHRIST

LIFE is SHORT – PURPOSE of this Life is to MEET GOD to Live with Him

Whole Point of BEING ALIVE is to Meet Jesus – Meet Him, READY to DIE!

Genesis 46 ²⁸He had sent Judah ahead of him to Joseph to show the way before him in Goshen, and they came into the land of Goshen. ²⁹Then Joseph prepared his chariot and went up to meet Israel his father in Goshen. He presented himself to him and fell on his neck and wept on his neck a good while. ³⁰Israel said to Joseph, “Now let me die, since I have seen your face and know that you are still alive.” ³¹Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's household, “I will go up and tell Pharaoh and will say to him, ‘My brothers and my father's household, who were in the land of Canaan, have come to me. ³²And the men are shepherds, for they have been keepers of livestock, and they have brought their flocks and their herds and all that they have.’ ³³When Pharaoh calls you and says, ‘What is your occupation?’ ³⁴you shall say, ‘Your servants have been keepers of livestock from our youth even until now, both we and our fathers,’ in order that you may dwell in the land of Goshen, for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians.”

47:1 So Joseph went in and told Pharaoh, “My father and my brothers, with their flocks and herds and all that they possess, have come from the land of Canaan. They are now in the land of Goshen.” ²And from among his brothers he took five men and presented them to Pharaoh. ³Pharaoh said to his brothers, “What is your occupation?” And they said to Pharaoh, “Your servants are shepherds, as our fathers were.” ⁴They said to Pharaoh, “We have come to sojourn in the land, for there is no pasture for your servants' flocks, for the famine is severe in the land of Canaan. And now, please let your servants dwell in the land of Goshen.” ⁵Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Your father and your brothers have come to you. ⁶The land of Egypt is before you. Settle your father and your brothers in the best of the land. Let them settle in the land of Goshen, and if you know any able men among them, put them in charge of my livestock.” ⁷Then Joseph brought in Jacob his father and stood him before Pharaoh, and Jacob blessed Pharaoh. ⁸And Pharaoh said to Jacob, “How many are the days of the years of your life?” ⁹And Jacob said to Pharaoh, “The days of the years of my sojourning are 130 years. Few and evil have been the days of the years of my life, and they have not attained to the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their sojourning.” ¹⁰And Jacob blessed Pharaoh and went out from the presence of Pharaoh. ¹¹Then Joseph settled his father and his brothers 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. ¹²And Joseph provided his father, his brothers, and all his father's household with food, according to the number of their dependents.

1. How was Jacob's review of his life wrong? How was it right?
2. How did God treat this family better than they deserved? How has he treated you better than you deserve?

3. What has Jesus taken from you? What has He given you? What is your future look like with Jesus?