

God's Story, Our Story

Lesson 12: The Patriarchs

Fathers of the Faith (Gen 24-50)



Gen 24:1-4
Gen 25:23,28

Gen 25:33-34
Gen 27:41

Gen 28:12-15

Gen 29

Gen 31:3,13; 32:9-12
"Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." (Gen 32:28)

Gen 33

Gen 37

Gen 39:5

Gen 41:50

Gen 41:47-49
Gen 41:53-57

1. Isaac marries Rebekah, who bears him twins - Esau and Jacob. Before they are born, God tells Rebekah that the older will serve the younger.
2. Esau forsakes his birthright for a pot of stew. When Isaac is old, Rebekah tricks him into giving the first blessing to Jacob instead of Esau. Esau hates Jacob and swears to kill him. Jacob flees to Haran to live with Rebekah's brother Laban.
3. On his way to Haran, Jacob sees in a dream a ladder reaching up to heaven, with angels ascending and descending on it. God repeats to Jacob the covenant that He made with Abraham.
4. Jacob finds Laban and works for 7 years for his daughter Rachel, whom he loves. At the end of 7 years Laban deceives Jacob, and gives him his other daughter Leah instead. Jacob works for another 7 years so that he may marry Rachael.
5. Jacob's two wives and their maids give birth to twelve sons:
Leah: Reuben, Simon, Levi, Judah
Bilhah (Rachel's maid): Dan, Nephtali
Zilpah (Leah's maid): Gad, Asher
Leah: Issachar, Zebulun.
Rachel: Joseph, Benjamin (Rachel dies giving birth)
6. God tells Jacob to return to Canaan. Jacob fears his brother Esau and prays that God would deliver him. During the night an angel wrestles with him. God renames Jacob "Israel."
7. Upon his return to Canaan, Jacob and Esau are reconciled - a foreshadowing of the reconciliation of Israel and the Church?
8. Joseph is Jacob's favorite. His brothers are jealous because Jacob made him a tunic of many colors, and because Joseph had two dreams in which his brothers bowed down to him.
9. Joseph's brothers plot to kill him but instead sell him for twenty shekels of silver. Joseph becomes overseer of an Egyptian's house (Potiphar). The Lord blesses the house.
10. Because of Potiphar's wife Joseph is thrown into prison where he interprets the dreams of a baker and a butler.
11. Two years later, Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream: 7 years of good crops will be followed by 7 years of famine. Pharaoh sets Joseph as second in command in Egypt. Joseph's Egyptian wife, Asenath, bears him Manasseh and Ephraim.
12. During the 7 years of good harvest, Joseph stores grain. After the famine begins, Joseph sells grain to the Egyptians and to others. From Canaan, Jacob sends his sons to Egypt to buy grain. When Joseph's brothers bow down before him, he

Gen 45:1-28
*I am Joseph your brother,
 whom you sold into Egypt.*

Gen 47:27

Gen 49
 Gen 50:24

recognizes them but they do not recognize him. Joseph treats them harshly until they repent for their past sin.

13. Joseph breaks down and reveals himself to his brothers. Joseph's brothers return to Canaan and bring their father Jacob with them back to Egypt. They settle in the land of Goshen.

14. Before his death, Jacob blesses his twelve sons, with Joseph's sons Manasseh and Ephraim. Judah receives a special blessing. On his deathbed, Joseph reminds his brothers that God will bring them out of Egypt, and back to Canaan.

Joseph and His Brothers

A type of Jesus and the Jewish People

Joseph	Jesus
Especially beloved by his father.	Called "my beloved Son" by the Father
Hated by his brothers.	Hated by his Jewish brothers.
Had prophetic dreams that predicted the future.	Was a prophet to his generation.
His father sent him to his brothers; Joseph obeyed though aware of their hostility.	The Father sent Jesus to his Jewish brothers. Jesus obeyed, knowing that they would kill him.
His brothers wanted to kill him, but then sold him to the Midianites for 20 pieces of silver.	The Jewish leaders sought to kill him; he was betrayed for 30 pieces of silver and was handed over to the Romans.
His brothers stripped him of his garment and threw him into a pit.	Jesus was stripped of his clothes, and was buried in the pit of the tomb.
In Egypt, Joseph faced and withstood temptation.	Jesus withstood being tempted by Satan.
Was falsely accused of sin.	Innocently punished for our sins
Spent over two years in prison before being raised by Pharaoh.	Spent 2 nights in the grave before God raised him in power.
Was appointed second to Pharaoh over Egypt.	King over the nations; sits at the right hand of God.
Provided grain to the Egyptians and to the world.	Jesus is the bread of life who sustains the world.
Joseph's brothers came to Egypt to buy some food because of the famine	The children of Israel starve spiritually, while Jesus offers them the Bread of Life.
Joseph recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him.	Jesus knows his Jewish brothers, but they do not recognize Him.
His brothers mistook him for an Egyptian and spoke to him through an interpreter.	The Jewish people treat Jesus as a gentile and fail to recognize Him as their brother.
Treated his brothers harshly until they repented.	Jesus is waiting until His family recognizes Him.
Joseph revealed himself to his brothers.	Jesus will one day reveal his true identity to Israel.
The betrayal of Joseph's brothers worked for their own good and the good of others.	God used the rejection of Jesus by the Jews to bring salvation to the gentiles.
Joseph invited his brothers to come and live in the land of Goshen.	Jesus reserves a place in His kingdom for His people, the Jewish people.