

Study 14: Joseph, Part 5 & Moses, Part 1 Genesis 48-50; Exodus 1

In one of our last studies, I stated that the death of an individual was mentioned in Scripture not when they *actually* died, but when their part in the narrative was over, and the next person was to become the focus. I also stated that the timing of their *actual* death was often significant. I haven't done a detailed study of this, but read about it, and you are welcome to check out the validity of it. According to Jewish tradition (*midrashim* - commentaries), it was just after the death of Abraham that Jacob was recorded as making the "red stew" for which Esau traded away his birthright. The death of Isaac is said to have taken place at the moment Joseph was standing before Pharaoh for the first time. (See chart)

Gen 48 21 Then Israel said to Joseph, "I am about to die, but God will be with you [plural] and take you [plural] back to the land of your [plural] fathers. 22 And to you I give one more ridge of land [the Hebrew for *ridge of land* is identical with the place name *Shechem*] than to your brothers, the ridge I took from the Amorites with my sword and my bow."

Gen 49 Jacob blesses his sons, then dies.

Gen 50 Joseph threw himself on his father and wept over him and kissed him. 2 Then Joseph directed the physicians in his service to embalm his father Israel. So the physicians embalmed him, 3 taking a full forty days, for that was the time required for embalming. And the Egyptians mourned for him seventy days.

4 When the days of mourning had passed, Joseph said to Pharaoh's court, "If I have found favor in your eyes, speak to Pharaoh for me. Tell him, 5 'My father made me swear an oath and said, "I am about to die; bury me in the tomb I dug for myself in the land of Canaan." Now let me go up and bury my father; then I will return.'"

6 Pharaoh said, "Go up and bury your father, as he made you swear to do."

7 So Joseph went up to bury his father. All Pharaoh's officials accompanied him—the dignitaries of his court and all the dignitaries of Egypt— 8 besides all the members of Joseph's household and his brothers and those belonging to his father's household. Only their children and their flocks and herds were left in Goshen. 9 Chariots and horsemen also went up with him. It was a very large company.

10 When they reached the threshing floor of Atad, near the Jordan, they lamented loudly and bitterly; and there Joseph observed a seven-day period of mourning for his father. 11 When the Canaanites who lived there saw the mourning at the threshing floor of Atad, they said, "The Egyptians are holding a solemn ceremony of mourning." That is why that place near the Jordan is called Abel Mizraim [*mourning of the Egyptians*].

12 So Jacob's sons did as he had commanded them: 13 They carried him to the land of Canaan and buried him in the cave in the field of Machpelah, near Mamre, which Abraham had bought along with the field as a burial place from Ephron the Hittite. 14 After burying his father, Joseph returned to Egypt, together with his brothers and all the others who had gone with him to bury his father.

15 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" 16 So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: 17 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

18 His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.

19 But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? 20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. 21 So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

22 Joseph stayed in Egypt, along with all his father's family. He lived a hundred and ten years 23 and saw the third generation of Ephraim's children. Also the children of Makir son of Manasseh were placed at birth on Joseph's knees [i.e. they were counted as his].

24 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die. But God will surely come to your aid and take you up out of this land to the land he promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." 25 And Joseph made the

Israelites swear an oath and said, “God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up from this place.”

26 So Joseph died at the age of a hundred and ten. And after they embalmed him, he was placed in a coffin in Egypt.

Themes set forth in Genesis chapters 37-50:

Covenant

Joseph (and, by extension, Rachel) restored to the family of Israel
Children become tribes – Covenant promises pass to Israel as a nation
New name (forgetfulness of father and land)
Land – double portion

Types & Shadows

Pit (cistern) as a type of death (Sheol/Hades)

Joseph as a type of Christ (See A.W. Pink's *Gleanings in Genesis*¹):

- Firstborn / beloved by his father
- Sinless (no mention of sins of Joseph)
- Hated for his words (John 5:18; 7:7; 8:40)
- Conspired against
- Sold for silver – the price of a slave (Zech 11:12-13; Matt 26:15; 27:3-10)
- Stripped
- Robe dipped in blood (Gen 37:31; 49:11; Isa 63:1-6; Rev 19:13)
- Blood presented to the father (Heb 9:12)
- Went to Egypt
- Falsely accused & given no defense
- Numbered with 2 transgressors (butler & baker; 2 thieves) – message blessing to one, judgment to the other
- Predicted the future and it came true
- Exalted and made Lord of the kingdom (Gen 41:40)
- 30 years old when began his work/ministry (Gen 41:46; Luke 3:23)
- Married a Gentile wife (Christ & the Church)
- Provided salvation to a multitude (Gen 45:5, 7)
- Gentile children adopted into Israel (Rom 11)

References to Joseph in the N.T.:

Acts 7:9-18 Stephen mentions Joseph in his recounting of the history of Israel during his trial before the Sanhedrin: 9 “Because the patriarchs were jealous of Joseph, they sold him as a slave into Egypt. But God was with him 10 and rescued him from all his troubles. He gave Joseph wisdom and enabled him to gain the goodwill of Pharaoh king of Egypt. So Pharaoh made him ruler over Egypt and all his palace.

11 “Then a famine struck all Egypt and Canaan, bringing great suffering, and our ancestors could not find food. 12 When Jacob heard that there was grain in Egypt, he sent our forefathers on their first visit. 13 On their second visit, Joseph told his brothers who he was, and Pharaoh learned about Joseph’s family. 14 After this, Joseph sent for his father Jacob and his whole family, seventy-five in all. 15 Then Jacob went down to Egypt, where he and our ancestors died. 16 Their bodies were brought back to Shechem and placed in the tomb that Abraham had bought from the sons of Hamor at Shechem for a certain sum of money.

17 “As the time drew near for God to fulfill his promise to Abraham, the number of our people in Egypt had greatly increased. 18 Then ‘a new king, to whom Joseph meant nothing, came to power in Egypt’ [Ex 1:8].

Heb 11:21-22 21 By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph’s sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff. 22 By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones.

Rev 7:8 mentions the tribe of Joseph (12,000 of the 144,000).

¹ This entire book may be found online at: http://www.pbministries.org/books/pink/Gleanings_Genesis/genesis.htm

Timeline of dates from God's promise to Abraham to the Exodus from Egypt

Patriarch	Age	Event	Passage	Years from Promise	Years to Exodus
Abraham	75	God makes the promise to Abraham and he leaves Haran.	Genesis 12:1–4	0	430
Abraham	75-85	God tells Abraham his descendants “will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there and they will be afflicted for 400 years.”	Genesis 15:13: Acts 7:6	0–10	420–430
Abraham	85	Abraham has lived in Canaan for 10 years and takes Hagar as his wife and she conceives Ishmael.	Genesis 16:3–4	10	420
Abraham	86	Ishmael is born.	Genesis 16:15–16	11	419
Abraham Ishmael	100 14	Isaac is born.	Genesis 21:5 -	25	405
Abraham Isaac Ishmael	105 5 19	Isaac is weaned and Ishmael mocks/persecutes Isaac.	Genesis 21:8–9: Galatians 4:29	30	400
Abraham Isaac	140 40	Isaac marries Rebekah.	Genesis 24:1–67 Genesis 25:20	65	365
Abraham Isaac	160 60	Esau and Jacob are born.	Genesis 25:26 -	85	345
Abraham Isaac Jacob	175 75 15	Abraham dies.	Genesis 25:7 - -	100	330
Isaac Jacob	151 91	Joseph is born.		176	254
Isaac Jacob Joseph	168 108 17	Joseph is sold by his brothers and taken to Egypt.	Genesis 37 - -	193	237
Isaac Jacob Joseph	180 120 29	Isaac dies.	Genesis 35: 28–29 - -	205	225
Jacob Joseph	121 30	Joseph is made second in command by Pharaoh.	Genesis 41:46 -	206	224
Jacob Joseph	130 39	Joseph reveals himself to his brothers two years into the famine with five years left. Jacob meets Pharaoh.	Genesis 45:4–6 Genesis 47:9	215	215
Jacob Joseph	147 56	Jacob dies.	Genesis 47:28–49:33 -	232	198
Joseph	110	Joseph dies.	Genesis 50:26	286	144
Moses	0	Only 64 years pass from the time Joseph dies to when Moses is born	Exodus 6:16–20		
Moses	3 months	Moses is placed in a basket and adopted by Pharaoh’s daughter	Exodus 2	350	80
Moses	80	Moses and Aaron speak to Pharaoh beginning the exodus from Egypt.	Exodus 7:7; Exodus 12:40–41; Galatians 3:16–17	430	0

Joseph and Jesus

Chapters 37 and 38

1. Joseph was a shepherd (37:2); Jesus is the Great Shepherd (John 10).
2. Joseph was opposed to and exposed evil (37:2); Jesus did the same.
3. Joseph was loved by his father (37:3-4); Jesus was beloved by the Father (Mat. 3:17; 17:5; John 10:17; Phil 2:9)
4. Joseph was hated by his brothers (37:4); Jesus was hated by His brothers (John 1:11; Luke 19:14).
5. Joseph was hated for his words (37:8); Jesus was hated for His words of truth. (John 7:7; 3:32)
6. Joseph was promised a remarkable future (37:7-12); Jesus looked passed the cross to the joy set before Him (Isaiah 9:6, 7; Luke 1:31-33; Hebrews 12:2).
7. Joseph foretold of his future sovereignty (37:7-12); Jesus did the same. (Mat. 26:64)
8. Joseph was envied by his brothers (37:11); Jesus was envied by His. (Mat. 27:17-18)
9. Joseph was sent by his father to his brothers (37:13); Jesus was sent to the “lost sheep of Israel” by His father (John 4:34; 5:30; 6:38-40; 12:48-50; 17:21)
10. Joseph seeks out his brothers (37:14-17); Jesus sought out His (Luke 19:10)
11. Joseph seeks the welfare of his brothers (37:14); Jesus came not to condemn but that the world might be saved through Him. (John 3:17)
12. Joseph seeks his brothers until he finds them; Jesus seeks us until He finds us. And this at the initiative of the (f)Father.
13. Joseph was conspired against (37:18); Jesus was also conspired against. (Mat. 12:14)
14. Joseph’s brothers did not believe his dreams (37:19, 29); Jesus’ brethren did not believe His words. (Mat. 27:39-43; John 3:18, 36)
15. Joseph was stripped of his coat (37:23); Jesus was stripped of His coat. (Mat. 27:27, 28; John 19:23)
16. Joseph was cast into a pit (37:24); Jesus was thrown into a grave.
17. Joseph was taken out of the pit, alive in his body (37:28); Jesus was bodily-resurrected from the tomb (pit).
18. Joseph’s brothers mingled hypocrisy with their hatred (37:27); the Jews did the same with Jesus (Mat. 27:35, 36; John 18:28, 31)
19. Joseph is sold for the price of a slave(37:38); Jesus was sold for thirty pieces of silver (the price of a slave).
20. Judah suggested the idea of selling his brother (37:26-28); the Greek name for Judah is Judas (Mat. 1:2-3).
21. Joseph’s blood sprinkled coat (goat blood) is presented to his father (37:31); Jesus is our scapegoat and His blood was presented to the Father as a sin offering. (Leviticus 16:8-10)

Chapter 39

22. Joseph becomes a servant (39:1); Jesus became a servant (Philippians 2:6, 7)
23. Joseph was a prosperous servant (39:2, 3); Jesus was also a prosperous Servant (Isaiah 52:13; 53:10)
24. Joseph’s master was well pleased with him (39:4); the Father was always pleased with what Jesus did (John 8:29).
25. Joseph, the servant, was made a blessing to others (39:5); Jesus was a blessing to the world.
26. Joseph was a goodly person (39:6); Jesus came as a servant into the world and yet lived a goodly (perfect) life.
27. Joseph was sorely tempted and did not sin(39:7-12); Jesus was tempted and did not sin (Mat. 4:1-11; Heb. 2:18; 4:15)
28. Joseph was falsely accused (39:16-18); Jesus was falsely accused (Mat. 16:59, 60).
29. Joseph attempted no defense (39:19); Jesus gave no defense at His trials (Isaiah 53:7).
30. Joseph was cast into prison, though he was innocent(39:20); Jesus is sentenced to death though Pilate found no fault in Him (John 19:4, 6).
31. Joseph thus suffered at the hands of the Gentiles (first by his brethren then by the Gentiles; Jesus was sold by His brethren then suffered at the hands of the Romans (Gentiles).
32. Joseph, the innocent one, suffered severely (Psalm 105:17, 18); Jesus suffered by crucifixion.
33. Joseph won the respect of his jailor (39:21); Jesus won the respect of a Roman centurion standing at the cross (Luke 23:47).

Chapter 40

34. Joseph was numbered with transgressors (40:1-3); as it was prophesied about Jesus (Isaiah 53:12) and as it was (Mark 15:28).
35. Joseph was the means of blessing to one, but the pronouncer of judgment on the other (40:16, 17, 19); as Jesus was a blessing to one of the thieves He was crucified between (Luke 23:43).
36. Joseph evidenced his knowledge of the future and gave credit to God alone (40:8); as Jesus did the same on earth (John 12:49).
37. Joseph desired to be remembered by the butler (40:14); as Jesus said, “This do in remembrance of Me.” (Luke 22:19)

Chapter 41

38. Joseph was put in prison (the tomb) but God would not allow him to remain there because God's purpose for Joseph was not yet fulfilled. So it was with Jesus Christ, God would not allow Him to remain in the tomb (Acts 2:24). Joseph changed his prison clothes for clothes of glory as did Jesus Christ (John 20:6, 7).
39. Joseph was delivered from prison by the hand of God (God sending a dream to Pharaoh and Joseph's testimony in 45:7-9); as God raised Jesus from the tomb (Acts 2:32; 10:40).
40. Joseph is seen now as the Revealer of secrets; compare 41:16 with the words of Jesus in John 17:8; 8:28; and 12:49. Compare 41:25 with God revealing what He would shortly do through Jesus Christ in Revelation 1:1.
41. Joseph warned of a coming danger, and urged his hearers to make suitable provision to meet it (41:33-36); as did Jesus Christ warn His hearers that death did not end all but there was a life beyond the grave that one should prepare and be ready for now.
42. Joseph is portrayed as a Wonderful Counselor in giving wisdom to Pharaoh (41:33-36); as Christ is known as the One "in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Col. 2:3).
43. Joseph's counsel commended itself to Pharaoh and his officers (41:37-39); as did Jesus' teaching while He walked on earth (Matt. 7:28-29; 13:54; and compare John 7:46 with Genesis 41:38).
44. Joseph is exalted, and set over all Egypt (41:39-40); as God highly exalted Jesus (1 Peter 3:22; Philippians 2:5-11).
45. Joseph was seated on the throne of another; as Jesus shares the Throne with the Father. "Today our Lord Jesus Christ shares the throne with the Father as Joseph shared the throne of Pharaoh. As Joseph ruled over Pharaoh's house with his word, so today our Lord Jesus Christ rules over Father as Joseph shared the throne of Pharaoh. As Joseph ruled over Pharaoh's house with his word, so today our Lord Jesus Christ rules over the Father's household, the household of faith, the Church, by and through His Word.
46. Joseph was exalted to the throne because of his personal worth; as Jesus was highly exalted for His personal worth (Philippians 2:6-9).
47. Joseph was invested with such insignia as became his new position (41:42); as was our Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 5:31; Hebrews 2:9; Revelation 1:13).
48. Joseph's authority and glory were publicly owned (41:43); as Peter publicly declared the Lordship of Jesus Christ on Pentecost (Acts 2:36; Philippians 2:10)
49. Joseph received from Pharaoh a new name (41:45); as God gave Jesus Christ a new name (Philippians 2:9, 10; Matthew 1:21; Acts 5:31). True is was the name "Jesus" given to Him at His birth. Jesus means Savior, but Jesus could not save His people from their sins until after His death, burial, and resurrection. As Joseph did not become his people's savior until after his "death," "burial," and "resurrection."
50. Joseph was thirty years old when he began his ministry (41:46); as Jesus was thirty when He began His public ministry (Luke 3:23).

Chapter 41

51. Joseph's exaltation was followed by a season of plenty (41:47-49); as their (is) a season of harvest now after Jesus' exaltation as LORD. This time period is known as "the time of the Gentiles." (Romans 11:25; John 12:24).
52. Joseph's exaltation was also followed by a period of famine (41:53-54); as 'the time of Gentiles' will come to an end and 'the time of Jacob's trouble' (Jeremiah 30:7) will begin. (See Daniel 12:7; Mark 13:19-20 (it will a very grievous time (as in Genesis 41:31)). It will be a time when the whole earth (a picture of all of Egypt) will be tried. (Revelation 3:10). See Amos 8:11-12 for the kind of famine coming (or may already be here) - a famine of the Word of God.
53. Joseph, alone, is now seen as dispersing bread to a perishing world (41:55); as Jesus is the One who alone disperses the Bread of Life (Acts 4:12; Matthew 17:5 '... hear Him.'
54. Joseph became a Saviour to all peoples (41:57; 54); as Jesus is the Savior to all peoples (John 3:16; Revelation 5:9).
55. Joseph has unlimited resources to meet the need of all the people (41:49); as we read of the riches of Christ's grace in passages such as Eph. 1:7; 2:7; 2:4; 1 Peter 1:3; Eph. 3:8; Col. 2:9; Romans 10:12.

Chapter 42

56. Joseph's family is driven out of their own land (42:1-3, 5); this is in fulfillment of God's prophecy in Genesis 15:13. And so, a few years after Joseph's brothers rejected him they are forced out of their country as were the Jews after a few years after rejecting Christ were scattered into the world by the Romans.
57. Joseph was unknown and unrecognized by his brethren (42:6, 8); as Jesus today is not recognized by the Jews. Joseph was exalted over all the house of Pharaoh, but Jacob knew it not. All these years he thought (assumed) that Joseph was dead! Today, Jews 'believe' Jesus to be dead and do not know that He has been exalted as LORD over all the world.
58. Joseph, however, saw and knew his brethren (42:7); so too, Jesus' eye is on the Jews even today (Jeremiah 16:17; Hosea 5:3).
59. Joseph punished his brethren (42:7, 17); as God (Jesus) is dealing harshly with the Jews today (Hosea 9:17; Matthew

23:35-36, 38-39. "Joseph was the cause of their troubles now. Joseph was punishing them for their past dealing with himself. The secret of all Judah's suffering during the past centuries is to be found in the fact that the rejected Messiah has been dealing 'roughly' with them."

60. Joseph made provision for his brethren while they were in a strange land (42:25); as God (Jesus) promised to provide for the Jews while they are scattered (Jeremiah 30:11; Ezekiel 11:16)

From [*Gleanings in Genesis*](#) by A. W. Pink.

We now come to the book of **Exodus**.

- Ex 1 Now these are the names of the children of Israel who came to Egypt; each man and his household came with Jacob: 2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah; 3 Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin; 4 Dan, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher. 5 All those who were descendants of Jacob were seventy [Dead Sea Scrolls and Septuagint read seventy-five (cp. Acts 7:14)] persons (for Joseph was in Egypt already). 6 And Joseph died, all his brothers, and all that generation. 7 But the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly, multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty; and the land was filled with them.
- 8 Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. 9 And he said to his people, "Look, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we; 10 come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and it happen, in the event of war, that they also join our enemies and fight against us, and so go up out of the land." 11 Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh supply cities, Pithom and Raamses. 12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were in dread of the children of Israel. 13 So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor. 14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage—in mortar, in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service in which they made them serve was with rigor.
- 15 Then the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, of whom the name of one was Shiprah and the name of the other Puah; 16 and he said, "When you do the duties of a midwife for the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstools, if it is a son, then you shall kill him; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live." 17 But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive. 18 So the king of Egypt called for the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this thing, and saved the male children alive?"
- 19 And the midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are lively and give birth before the midwives come to them."
- 20 Therefore God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and grew very mighty. 21 And so it was, because the midwives feared God, that He provided households for them.
- 22 So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, "Every son who is born [to the Hebrews] you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive."