

Passage: Genesis 47

Title: Giving the Blessings of the Lord to Others

Summary: Jacob's story is one of transformation. The deceiver became Israel, the prince with God. The schemer became the blessing. His final years in Egypt were marked by faith, maturity, and anticipation of God's promises. Your best chapter is yet to come. God is still working, still refining, still conforming you to the image of His Son. Be confident of this: He who began a good work in you will complete it (Philippians 1:6). So go into the world as Jacob went into Pharaoh's court. Speak blessing over the powerful and the powerless alike. Place God's name upon everyone you meet. And watch as He transforms both them and you in the process. You are a stranger and pilgrim here—but you carry the authority of heaven. Use it to bless.

Genesis more than history book / It is His-story

It all begins here in Genesis. In chapter 3 we will see the first mention of the Messiah who would be bruised for our iniquities (sin), chapter 5 the gospel laid out before us in the meaning of each name. We will see genealogy after genealogy, but they will all drop off until we come to just one genealogy, the genealogy leading up to the Messiah. This Old Testament, starting with Genesis, is more than the history of the children of Israel and Jewish Nation, this is His-story.

Theme of this Book – for this is why He had to come:

From Paradise to Prison – back to Paradise:

(Genesis 3:15 NKJV) And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

(Genesis 3:15 noted) And I (God) will put enmity (hostility/hatred) Between you (satan) and the woman (mankind), And between your seed (demons) and her Seed (Jesus); He (Jesus) shall bruise your (satan) head, And you (satan) shall bruise His (Jesus) heel."

Outline:

Part 1 – The History of Major World Events (chapters 1-11) (spanning 2000+ years)

- The Creation of the World and Man (1-2)
- The Fall of Man (3-5)
- The Flood of the World (6-9)
- The Tower of Babel: the Dispersion of Man (10-11)

Part 2 – The History of the Major Families (chapters 12-50) (spanning approximately 350 years)

- The Life of Abraham (11-25)
- The Life of Isaac (25-26)
- The Life of Jacob (27-36)
- The Life of Joseph (36-50)

Recap Joseph Revealed / Jacob Inquires of the Lord / 22 Yrs Later the Embrace

Last chapter we see Joseph revealing himself to his brothers, and what a shocker it must have been. He sends them back to get Jacob and the rest of the family as Joseph will preserve them for the remaining 5 years left in the 7 year famine. Jacob doesn't believe it until he saw the wagons coming. So he loads up the whole family, and head to Egypt. A few days into the journey Jacob stops, inquires of the Lord to make sure the Lord is in it and Jacob not making an emotional decision. God says go ahead, I am with you. Judah leads the way (his name means praise), and then we saw the wonderful reunion of the father and the son, after 22 years of thinking his son dead, Jacob embraces Joseph again.

Goshen / Jacobs Best Chapter

We have seen how Jacob and all his family have arrived in the land of Egypt. Joseph, as a move of strategy, brought them into the land of Goshen. This actually was the richest land in that day, but right now they are in the midst of a famine and no land is very valuable to the owner at this particular time. We are going to find that this is the best chapter in the life of Jacob so far. Jacob doesn't appear in a good light when we first meet him in Scripture. In fact, not until he makes his trip to Egypt do we begin to see that he has become a man of faith. This chapter, more than any other, reveals that.

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need

(Genesis 46:31 NKJV) Then Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's household, "I will go up and tell Pharaoh, and say to him, 'My brothers and those of my father's house, who were in the land of Canaan, have come to me.

(Genesis 46:32 NKJV) 'And the men are shepherds, for their occupation has been to feed livestock; and they have brought their flocks, their herds, and all that they have.'

(Genesis 46:33 NKJV) "So it shall be, when Pharaoh calls you and says, 'What is your occupation?'

(Genesis 46:34 NKJV) "that you shall say, 'Your servants' occupation has been with livestock from our youth even till now, both we and also our fathers,' that you may dwell in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians."

Shepherds an Abomination

Shepherds were an abomination to the Egyptians. Joseph tells his brothers to tell Pharaoh that they are shepherds and that they raise cattle. Actually, they had both cattle and sheep. We will find later that Pharaoh will give them the land of Goshen (away from the rest of the people of Egypt) and will ask them to take care of his sheep so that the children of Israel became the shepherds in the land of Egypt.

Jesus – Good – Great - Chief

It is interesting that the Word of God has had so much to say about shepherds. These people were shepherds who raised their own sheep, and they still do in the land of Israel. "Shepherd" is the figure of speech that is used to describe our Lord. He is the Good Shepherd who gives His life for the sheep. He is the Great Shepherd of His sheep who watches over them today. He is the Chief Shepherd who is yet to appear. He calls Himself the Shepherd.

(John 10:11 NKJV) "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

(Hebrews 13:20 NKJV) Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

(1 Peter 5:4 NKJV) and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

Egypt picture of World / Great Shepherd an Abomination to World

Egypt is a picture of the world in the Scriptures and isn't it still so today that to most people in their hearts He is an abomination to them. He is not received today; He gets in the way of their plans and desires, and the world says You stay over there and stay out of our schools, our government, take care of my dirty work and I'll call you when I need you.

(John 10:1 NKJV) "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

(John 10:2 NKJV) "But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

(John 10:3 NKJV) "To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

(John 10:4 NKJV) "And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

(John 10:5 NKJV) "Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

God's Chosen Among Them / Stay Over There / We Can Bless Them

These people had God's chosen living amongst them, yet they were considered an abomination too. God's children are living amongst the world today, and the world says stay over there, you religious moralist are getting in the way of my fun, plans, and desires. Too sad for them, but we will see in this chapter application for us on how to bless them.

(Genesis 47:1 NKJV) Then Joseph went and told Pharaoh, and said, "My father and my brothers, their flocks and their herds and all that they possess, have come from the land of Canaan; and indeed they are in the land of Goshen."

(Genesis 47:2 NKJV) And he took five men from among his brothers and presented them to Pharaoh.

(Genesis 47:3 NKJV) Then Pharaoh said to his brothers, "What is your occupation?" And they said to Pharaoh, "Your servants are shepherds, both we and also our fathers."

(Genesis 47:4 NKJV) And they said to Pharaoh, "We have come to dwell in the land, because your servants have no pasture for their flocks, for the famine is severe in the land of Canaan. Now therefore, please let your servants dwell in the land of Goshen."

OKJV

I like the Old King James translation of this passage:

*(Genesis 47:4 KJV) They said moreover unto Pharaoh, **For to sojourn in the land are we come; for thy servants have no pasture for their flocks; for the famine is sore in the land of Canaan: now therefore, we pray thee, let thy servants dwell in the land of Goshen.***

Sojourners / Passing Through / We Are Aliens – Look at Newspaper

Notice they didn't say, we have come to dwell or we have come to stay, we have only come to sojourn. The bible tells us concerning the fathers: Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; that they dwelled as strangers and pilgrims on this earth. We don't belong to this earth, we are just passing through. We are strangers and pilgrims here. It is sad when we start feeling at home in this corrupted society. The more I read the newspaper and watch Television, the more I realize that I am an alien. I don't belong in this mess. I am a stranger and a pilgrim here, I am just passing on looking for that city whose maker and builder is God. I am going to dwell in the house of the Lord forever:

(Hebrews 11:8 NKJV) By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

(Hebrews 11:9 NKJV) By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise;

*(Hebrews 11:10 NKJV) **for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.***

(Hebrews 11:13 NKJV) These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

(Hebrews 11:14 NKJV) For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland.

(Hebrews 11:15 NKJV) And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return.

*(Hebrews 11:16 NKJV) But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, **for He has prepared a city for them.***

Shepherds & Fisherman

Isn't it interesting how the Lord calls his disciples/followers to the liking of shepherds and fisherman. Two of the hardest jobs there are. I watched shepherds in a whole new light when in Nepal this week. They would have to walk miles for grazing, climb in ascent several hundred feet in elevation, and then at the end of the day carry on their backs grazing straw to take back to their home in case of rain because sheep/goats will not eat wet feed. I made me think of fisherman, and the calling we have. Fisherman time of Jesus considered one of, if not the, hardest job. You would fish all night as that is when you fished, and then have to clean your nets (of algae, fish scales and guts, seaweed), and then have to mend your nets of the tears else the next catch would slip right through. Then have to lay out the nets to dry because you cant put them away in a pile else they become brittle and knotted. So fish all night and then have to wash and dry before you could go home and nap, so you can do it all over in 8 hours. Lets just look at Luke 5 for a moment to glean some manna for us and fisherman:

Luke 5:1–11 (NKJV) ¹ So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, ² and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing *their* nets. ³ Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. ⁴ When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." ⁶ And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. ⁷ So they signaled to *their* partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ When Simon Peter saw *it*, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" ⁹ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." ¹¹ So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

Here are some takeaways:

- We need to keep our nets/vessels (hearts) clean and mended. We do that by the washing of the Word of God. Even when we are tired from toiling all night; imagine throwing and hauling 50-75 pounds of nets all night, throw and draw, throw and draw. You would say I just don't want to do this anymore, I am exhausted, but it is what must be done.
- Jesus can walk on water, He didn't need Peter's boat; He enlisted him so Peter could partner with Jesus and be part of the life and ministry of Jesus. So too do we.
- And I love this takeaway, that even after Peter challenges Jesus on how He should be the expert on teaching and Peter will be the expert on fishing, Jesus still shows him grace and invites him into the partnership. The last verse (v.11) wasn't just about the fishing of men..... it was about being with Jesus. So too for us!
- And..... a great word, that Peter says.... Nevertheless, at Your Word. I think there is pure power in that for us as. There are times God may say to you, love your spouse, and you say I just don't want to, I've been toiling in this marriage for months and years. But a believer has to come to the place in all things, nevertheless Lord at Your Word. And then you love sacrificially because God says to do it, and then you never know when you may enjoy that great catch either!

Psalm 119:9–11 (NKJV) ⁹ How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. ¹⁰ With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! ¹¹ Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.

Ephesians 5:26 (NKJV)

²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

Titus 3:5 (NKJV)

⁵ not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,

1 John 1:7–9 (NKJV)

⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

John 15:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

(Genesis 47:5 NKJV) Then Pharaoh spoke to Joseph, saying, "Your father and your brothers have come to you.

(Genesis 47:6 NKJV) "The land of Egypt is before you. Have your father and brothers dwell in the best of the land; let them dwell in the land of Goshen. And if you know any competent men among them, then make them chief herdsmen over my livestock."

Joseph man of Grace / Brings Brothers Before Throne / Jesus the Same

Look at Joseph, what a man of grace. Here he takes 5 brothers, the very same brothers who sold him into slavery, and he brings them before the throne of Pharaoh. Joseph a picture of Jesus, and the very thing Jesus will do for us. After all our failures, all the times we have knowingly chosen sin over obedience, all the times we have grieved Him, yet what will He do, he will present us faultless before the Father:

(Jude 1:24 NKJV) Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And **to present you faultless** Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,

(Jude 1:25 NKJV) To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.

Exceeding Joy / They are Mine

Notice it is with exceeding joy; He will be full of joy when He presents us. These are mine, my beloved, I am so pleased to say these are my family, they are with Me. Hang on to Jude 24, it is true, we have been cleansed by Calvary's Tree.

(Genesis 47:7 NKJV) Then Joseph brought in his father Jacob and set him before Pharaoh; and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.

(Genesis 47:8 NKJV) Pharaoh said to Jacob, "How old are you?"

(Genesis 47:9 NKJV) And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The days of the years of my pilgrimage are one hundred and thirty 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 pilgrimage."

Pharaoh put Back / 130-175-180 / Not Easy Life – Saves Saga of Life

Pharaoh is put back it seems, and he responds with how old are you. Jacob says I'm old, but I am not as old as my father and my father's father were when they died Abraham 175, Isaac 180), so I still have some living left. I am 130 years old, and the days haven't always been easy. But instead of giving his saga of Joseph being thought dead for 22 years, or the 20 years he spent slaving for his Uncle Laban, Joseph blesses the richest, most well-off man in the whole world. I like that too.

Bless World – Carry Burdens at Church

I say for us, let's bless the world, not burden the world, and we will come here (to the church) and we will carry each other burdens:

(Galatians 6:1 NKJV) Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

(Galatians 6:2 NKJV) Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

(Genesis 47:10 NKJV) So Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from before Pharaoh.

Greater blesses the Lesser

This is interesting for in Hebrews we are told in that cultural that the lesser would be blessed by the greater, yet here we see Jacob blessing the Number 1 in all the land, the world for that matter, yet here is this shepherd from the famine land of Canaan blesses the great Pharaoh:

(Hebrews 7:7 NKJV) Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is blessed by the better.

Not Greater Person – but Position / Jacob linked to Jehovah

Now Jacob does not think that he is greater than Pharaoh in his person, but he knew he was greater than Pharaoh in his position. Jacob knew he was linked to Jehovah, he was a child of God, he knew there was a linkage to God, and that he had a personal relationship with God.

Pharaoh's Position Passing Away

He knew in his position he was in a better place than Pharaoh, even with all his power, prestige, wealth, armies, woman, and reverence from the people. Jacob knew he was in a better position because it was all going to pass away.

Jacob Blesses Pharaoh

So Jacob says I am going to bless you today Pharaoh.

Scripture Blessings – Patriarchs – Prophets – Priests - Kings

In the Bible we see that blessings were reserved for the patriarchs, the prophets, the priests, the kings, they were the ones who blessed the people, bestowed blessings upon the people.

How's that Apply to You

Maybe you are saying so what, what does this apply to me, and why is this important to me. I'm not a patriarch, nor a prophet, nor a priest, nor a king. Really:

(1 Peter 2:9 NKJV) But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

(1 Peter 2:10 NKJV) who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Priesthood of Aaron / Numbers 6

We are all kings and priests, and what were royalty and priest to do, God tells us in Numbers 6, as He told the priesthood of Aaron:

(Numbers 6:22 NKJV) And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

(Numbers 6:23 NKJV) "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them:

(Numbers 6:24 NKJV) "The LORD bless you and keep you;

(Numbers 6:25 NKJV) The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you;

(Numbers 6:26 NKJV) The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace."

(Numbers 6:27 NKJV) "So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them."

Bless Them – Put God's Name Upon Them

See there, we are to bless them, and notice verse 27 it says we are to put the Lord's name upon the people, and then.....God will bless them.

Jacob Did / We Get To – We are Priest / Bless People at Work – Home - Store

That is what the priests did in that day, that is what Jacob does to Pharaoh. Maybe Jacob something just like Numbers 6, who knows but he pronounces a blessing upon Pharaoh that day. This is the very thing that you and I get to do as well. We get to do this because we are in the royal priesthood, and we get to pronounce blessings upon people at work, in our home, at the grocery store, everywhere we go we get to leave people with a blessing.

2 Ways – Words - Prayer

We do this in two ways; the words that we say, and the way that we pray.

The Words We Say

People Need to Hear His Name / Not Blaspheming – Trivialized / Leave Name with Them

People need to hear the Lord's name in a way that is not swearing, mockery, or blaspheming.

Everywhere we go around us we hear people mocking God, trivializing God, cursing Him, but you and I get to say, may the Lord bless you. We get to leave the name of the Lord with them, and God says He will bless all that we leave His name with. That is powerful my brethren, can you realize that power that is in your life.

Gayle Erwin / Watch Before Your Eyes / Speechless – Touched / Faced Presence Jesus

I had learned this principle from Pastor Gayle Erwin over 12 years ago, and have applied it to my life ever since, and it is amazing to watch it before your eyes. All the world is use to is the God word used in vain; but when you are at the store, or talking to someone at the game, and as you depart from them, and you say, "may the Lord bless, may He keep you, may His face shine upon", and then you walk away, they are left speechless. We live in a world that is contrary to hearing blessings of the Lord, and for that moment, they are faced with the presence of Jesus Christ in their lives. They may have never considered Him, or haven't thought about Him in days, weeks, or years, but we have been given the power in a simple blessing to bring them before Him.

You have Opportunity – Work – Store / We are Priests

You have the opportunity to go to work and as you leave your co-workers office, your bosses office, you can say to them, "the Lord bless you." It is radical for their lives, and it is doable, because we are priests of the royal priesthood, we have been given the power to do so.

Good Life – We Making Bricks / They Need the Blessing – Empty - Alone

You know what, the people around us, our co-workers and neighbors, those who it seems that their life is so good, maybe compared to our it is as we are making bricks in the sun and they are living in the palace with all the servants. But you know gang, these people are the ones that truly need the blessing. We might think they have it made, but really in their lives they are empty and alone, and so much in need of a blessing, to hear God cares, God loves you, and then to put His name in their ear, and God promises to bless them.

God Promises to Bless Them / Crazy Not to Do This

(Numbers 6:27 NKJV) "So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them."

Look at that Christian, God promises to bless them. Here is a guarantee from God to us, to the people we love, and the world around us, you leave them with my name in a blessing, and I will bless them. We would have to be crazy not to seize this promise for all that it is worth. It just takes a moment or two to do this to the people in this world and our life.

Give them What We Have - Jesus

We give them what we have, and we have the power to bless them. The Apostle Peter in Acts 3:

(Acts 3:1 NKJV) Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.

(Acts 3:2 NKJV) And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms from those who entered the temple;

(Acts 3:3 NKJV) who, seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked for alms.

(Acts 3:4 NKJV) And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, "Look at us."

(Acts 3:5 NKJV) So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them.

(Acts 3:6 NKJV) Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."

No Silver or Gold – Give them God

We may not have silver and gold, but we give the people what we do have, and that is Jesus Christ. They may not rise and walk, that is God's determination, but we can give them a blessing, and God promises to bless them.

The Way that we Pray

Pray Your Neighbourhood – That Car / Feel His Presence – Peace in Home

We can bless people in the way that we pray also. You can walk your neighbourhood and pray blessings upon each home. That person next to you in traffic, you can say Lord may Your grace be upon them, may your face shine upon them so much so that they feel your presence, bring peace upon their home that they may see you as the Prince of Peace.

Still Questioning / Blessing Flows – It Sticks

Maybe you are still saying why would I want to do that? First there is power in the blessing as we pronounce a blessing upon a person, and a prayer for them. We are talking to the people about the Lord, and talking to the Lord about the people. Listen, it will not only impact them, but it will also impact you. For you see the blessing that flows through you, sticks to you.

Bless those Who Curse You

You bless someone who is cursing you, God will bless you, even if your boss is nasty, or that person has mistreated you, you bless them, and God will bless you.

(Matthew 5:43 NKJV) "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'"

(Matthew 5:44 NKJV) "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

(Matthew 5:45 NKJV) "that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

(Luke 6:28 NKJV) "bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you.

(Matthew 5:11 NKJV) "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.

Bless Wife – Child / Wherever You Go Bless / Be Like Jacob in Pharaoh's Court

Bless you wife, bless you child too, give blessings everywhere you go, and your life will be impacted, and so too will theirs. What ever flows through you, sticks to you. If you are blessing people, you will be a blessing. Be like Jacob wherever you go, walk into the court of Pharaoh where ever you go and bless the people.

World needs to Know God's Gracious / Be the Channel / It Sticks – You'll be Blessed

The world needs to know that God is gracious and kind and desires to bless them. Be that channel that God's blessings flow through, and blessings will stick to you and you will be a most blessed person:

(Numbers 6:22 NKJV) And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

(Numbers 6:23 NKJV) "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them:

(Numbers 6:24 NKJV) "The LORD bless you and keep you;

(Numbers 6:25 NKJV) The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you;

(Numbers 6:26 NKJV) The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace."

(Numbers 6:27 NKJV) "So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them."

(Genesis 47:11 NKJV) And Joseph situated 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.

Rameses is a Region

The name Rameses, refers to the region there in Goshen, not the Pharaoh. It will be dozens of years later before the Pharaoh would take the name Rameses. He may have taken the name based on the land, we do not know. But we do know that the name of the land came before the name of that particular Pharaoh as we will see in Exodus.

Grace of Joseph – Bothers get best of Land / Based on What He did – not We did

Notice the grace of Joseph again, he gives the brothers who had sold him into slavery the best of the land. Joseph a picture of Jesus Christ, and He gives us the best. His best is not based on what we have done, but on who He is.

(Genesis 47:12 NKJV) Then Joseph provided his father, his brothers, and all his father's household with bread, according to the number in their families.

(Genesis 47:13 NKJV) Now there was no bread in all the land; for the famine was very severe, so that the land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished because of the famine.

3rd Year of Famine / No Grain / Land Wiped Out

Now throughout the land of Egypt, we are into the third year of the famine, there was no bread, no grain for bread, the famine was very severe so that all of the land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished because of the famine. The land was wiped out.

(Genesis 47:14 NKJV) And Joseph gathered up all the money that was found in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, for the grain which they bought; and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house.

People Clearing out Savings – Selling Possessions

Verse 14 - The people are clearing out their savings.

Verse 15-17, The people are clearing out their possessions:

(Genesis 47:15 NKJV) So when the money failed in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came to Joseph and said, "Give us bread, for why should we die in your presence? For the money has failed."

(Genesis 47:16 NKJV) Then Joseph said, "Give your livestock, and I will give you bread for your livestock, if the money is gone."

(Genesis 47:17 NKJV) So they brought their livestock to Joseph, and Joseph gave them bread in exchange for the horses, the flocks, the cattle of the herds, and for the donkeys. Thus he fed them with bread in exchange for all their livestock that year.

Without Money Worry - With Money Worry / Possessions can Posses You

Money and possessions; interesting how those without money worry about how they are going to get money, but the people with money worry about how they are going to hold on to it. And it is true that possessions can end up possessing you.

World spends 50% - USA 15% / 85% for Stuff / Stuff can Posses You / Blessings - Curse

Do you know that the average person in the world spends 50% of their income for food, but the average American only spends 15%. That means the average American has 85% of their income left for "stuff". Be careful about letting your possessions possess you, ie, I need that bigger house, the nicer car, more nick-knacks the home, more stuff for your body. They can be a blessing, they can also be a curse.

Do they Possess You – Or You Them / Sure Way to Tell

Do your possessions posses you, or do you posses them, I'll tell ya a sure way to tell:

(Malachi 3:8 NKJV) "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings.

(Malachi 3:9 NKJV) You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation.

(Malachi 3:10 NKJV) Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.

(Mark 12:42 NKJV) Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans.

(Mark 12:43 NKJV) So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury;

(Mark 12:44 NKJV) "for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood."

Examine Self – How much Trust Lord / Can't Afford / Leave Word – Leave Protection

You can examine yourself of how much you trust the Lord, with money. Do I trust you enough to let go of this and know that you will provide. People say to me, I can not afford to tithe, my answer is always the same, you can't afford not to. Remember, when you leave God's Word, then you leave His protection and provision in that area, whatever it is, whether it is telling a lie, sex, or tithing, once you leave the protection, you lose the protection. God will take care of you, He didn't die for your money, He died for you, and now He wants to conform you into His image and He can only do that by you letting go and trusting Him in all areas of your life:

*(2 Corinthians 12:14 NKJV) Now for the third time I am ready to come to you. And I will not be burdensome to you; **for I do not seek yours, but you.** For the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children.*

(2 Corinthians 12:15 NKJV) And I will very gladly spend and be spent for your souls; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I am loved.

My Case it Evened Out – Separate Yourself / God Could Adjust your Salary

Interestingly in my case, I was a new believer, I was still hitting the bars with my softball buddies, but God was working my heart. At the same time that God worked my heart in the area of tithing, so too was He working it in the other area. The Lord spoke clearly to me, I want you to separate from drinking, I do not want you to stumble others. I started to tithe at the same time, amazingly, and don't you already know it, my bar tab was equal to my tithing, I never even saw a blimp in my finances, and I haven't lost my car since. Some may say well I make a lot of money, and that is a lot to give, I just can't give that much - well just think if God lowered your income so as to make what you gave, a tithe. You can't out-give God, He will never be a debtor to man.

Money Talk

No one likes to talk about money, but it is a critical spiritual point in every believer's life. It is up to you, you can have all of God you want, but not one bit more.

When Gone – All Have is God / Joseph takes care of Them / Just & Unjust

When all your savings and possessions are gone, all you have left, is the Lord. As we see here in this story, a picture for us, all their stuff didn't matter for if it wasn't for Joseph there would not have been anything to buy with their stuff. That is the way it is for us too, if it wasn't for the Lord truly taking care of us, there wouldn't be anything for us to buy with our stuff. That goes for the saved and the unsaved:

(Matthew 5:44 NKJV) "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

*(Matthew 5:45 NKJV) "that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; **for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.***

(Genesis 47:18 NKJV) When that year had ended, they came to him the next year and said to him, "We will not hide from my lord that our money is gone; my lord also has our herds of livestock. There is nothing left in the sight of my lord but our bodies and our lands.

(Genesis 47:19 NKJV) "Why should we die before your eyes, both we and our land? Buy us and our land for bread, and we and our land will be servants of Pharaoh; give us seed, that we may live and not die, that the land may not be desolate."

(Genesis 47:20 NKJV) Then Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh; for every man of the Egyptians sold his field, because the famine was severe upon them. So the land became Pharaoh's.

(Genesis 47:21 NKJV) And as for the people, he moved them into the cities, from one end of the borders of Egypt to the other end.

Joseph Criticized / Joseph Agent of Pharaoh

This is something for which Joseph has been criticized. People say he took advantage of poverty and he bought up the land. In other words, he closed in on the mortgages and bought the land. I feel that this is an unfair criticism of Joseph. To begin with, he is the agent of Pharaoh. None of this is for himself; he is making no effort to enrich himself. He was not crooked in any sense of the word. He did not gain personally because of the famine.

He turned No One Away – Preserved All / Picture of Jesus

Notice also, Joseph turned no one away, he played no favorites, he didn't take the opportunity to wipe certain groups or factions that caused trouble, rather he received all, and preserved all. Again a picture of Jesus Christ who never turns anyone away:

(Matthew 5:42 NKJV) "Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away."

(John 6:37 NKJV) "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out."

(John 6:38 NKJV) "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me."

(Genesis 47:22 NKJV) Only the land of the priests he did not buy; for the priests had rations allotted to them by Pharaoh, and they ate their rations which Pharaoh gave them; therefore they did not sell their lands.

Pagan Priesthood – Did Own Thing

The pagan priesthood is left alone, to do their own thing.

Zechariah 14 / Famine in Land / Principle in Spiritual Life / Come Worship

(Zechariah 14:16 NKJV) And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

(Zechariah 14:17 NKJV) And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain.

(Zechariah 14:18 NKJV) If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain; they shall receive the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

Speaking of millennium, those nations that do not come to celebrate and worship the Lord, there will be drought and famine in their land. Principle that is true throughout spiritual life; we don't have to go celebrate communion, sing songs with the congregation, study the word with my brethren, we don't have to, but if we don't there will be famine and drought in our lives. The Lord says, come, come to Jerusalem and worship with me.

Ephesians 1 / Lord Gathering All things to Himself

(Ephesians 1:9 NKJV) having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,

(Ephesians 1:10 NKJV) that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth; in Him.

(Ephesians 1:11 NKJV) In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

That is what it is all about; the Lord is gathering everything to Himself, all things, that is what life is all about, God is gathering all things (on earth and in heaven) to Himself. We see it here in this story;

Joseph is gathering all things to the throne. In our life, our own money, possession, land, and ourselves are all being gathered together to Him, around Him, and for Him.

To Whatever Degree I Bring – the Degree I am in the Flow

Listen, to whatever degree you are bringing all those things, money, possession, land, and persons to the throne of the Father, will be the degree that I am in the flow of where God is taking all things. All things are coming together for Him, and the degree that I point all things to Him, will be the degree that I am in the flow of what He is doing.

If Tired & Weary – Maybe going against the Flow / Things in Light of Authority – it Flows

If you find yourself tired and weary in life, it may just be because you are going against the flow of what God is doing. It is all about Jesus, not about me. But when all things in your life are put in the light and authority of the One who is on the throne, you will find that life is just flowing along. Friendships, family, activities, hobbies, all those things must be brought into the Light and Authority of what the Lord is doing. Bondage, no way, freedom, for whatever Jesus is doing, is what I want to be doing.

(Genesis 47:23 NKJV) Then Joseph said to the people, "Indeed I have bought you and your land this day for Pharaoh. Look, here is seed for you, and you shall sow the land.

Give All – Joseph Provides

They give all up, and Joseph provides for them.

(Genesis 47:24 NKJV) "And it shall come to pass in the harvest that you shall give one-fifth to Pharaoh. Four-fifths shall be your own, as seed for the field and for your food, for those of your households and as food for your little ones."

(Genesis 47:25 NKJV) So they said, "You have saved our lives; let us find favor in the sight of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh's servants."

(Genesis 47:26 NKJV) And Joseph made it a law over the land of Egypt to this day, that Pharaoh should have one-fifth, except for the land of the priests only, which did not become Pharaoh's.

No One Complains – Found Favor / How Much Grace – How Less Complain

No one complains, no one says not fair, rather they say "we have found favor". Truly, when we see how much grace the Lord shows us, the less and less we complain about what we have and don't have, for we realize we are blessed to have anything, thank you Lord for these blessings you have given.

20% / 40% - June 3rd

Well 20% you may doesn't sound that good. How I would love to be at 20%, considering personal income tax, property tax, sales tax, we must be close to 40% with all those things combined. The average taxpayer will work until June 3rd this year to pay all their taxes.

(Genesis 47:27 NKJV) So Israel dwelt in the land of Egypt, in the country of Goshen; and they had possessions there and grew and multiplied exceedingly.

(Genesis 47:28 NKJV) And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years. So the length of Jacob's life was one hundred and forty-seven years.

(Genesis 47:29 NKJV) When the time drew near that Israel must die, he called his son Joseph and said to him, "Now if I have found favor in your sight, please put your hand under my thigh, and deal kindly and truly with me. Please do not bury me in Egypt,

(Genesis 47:30 NKJV) "but let me lie with my fathers; you shall carry me out of Egypt and bury me in their burial place." And he said, "I will do as you have said."

(Genesis 47:31 NKJV) Then he said, "Swear to me." And he swore to him. So Israel bowed himself on the head of the bed.

Serious Vow – Face to Face

Sitting on someone's hand was the most serious kind of vow. So serious that the person would sit on the others hand so they could not move away, so they would listen intently, face to face what the other person was saying to them.

Jacob a Sojourner / Believed God's Promise

Jacob knew he was just a sojourner there in Egypt, he believed the promises of God in giving him the land of Canaan and making him a great nation:

(Genesis 35:11 NKJV) Also God said to him: "I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall proceed from you, and kings shall come from your body.

(Genesis 35:12 NKJV) "The land which I gave Abraham and Isaac I give to you; and to your descendants after you I give this land."

Jacob Matures – So do We

This is probably Jacob's best chapter in the Bible. We see Him mature and leading as God desired of him. He boldly goes into Pharaoh's court and blesses the most powerful man on the planet. Here we see Him claiming the promises of God, seeking after one thing and one thing only. Take me home. Jacob could have said hey Joseph you are number 2 in the land, build me a monument and bury me in there. No rather he says take me home, I'll wait for His return there.

God is doing the Same for Us

Beloved God is doing the same for us. Maybe you, like me, wonder how we can still be doing stupid stuff, how come we are not further along in our walk, don't beat yourself up, just keep abiding, and He will continue His work in us and bring us into maturity. Beloved, your best chapter is yet to come:

(John 15:9 NKJV) "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.

(Philippians 1:6 NKJV) being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

Summary: Jacob's story is one of transformation. The deceiver became Israel, the prince with God. The schemer became the blessing. His final years in Egypt were marked by faith, maturity, and anticipation of God's promises. Your best chapter is yet to come. God is still working, still refining, still conforming you to the image of His Son. Be confident of this: He who began a good work in you will complete it (Philippians 1:6). So go into the world as Jacob went into Pharaoh's court. Speak blessing over the powerful and the powerless alike. Place God's name upon everyone you meet. And watch as He transforms both them and you in the process. You are a stranger and pilgrim here—but you carry the authority of heaven. Use it to bless.

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need

(Numbers 6:22 NKJV) And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

(Numbers 6:23 NKJV) "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them:

(Numbers 6:24 NKJV) "The LORD bless you and keep you;

(Numbers 6:25 NKJV) The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you;

(Numbers 6:26 NKJV) The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace."

(Numbers 6:27 NKJV) "So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them."