

Genesis 46-47 – 27 February 2020

“A Faith That Helps Others”

Introduction

After 13 yrs of a painful path of slavery for Joseph, God revealed what it was all for.

Joseph was sent ahead of his family into Egypt to gain power to preserve his family in Egypt during famine.

The brothers were just sent back to Jacob in Canaan to tell their father Jacob that Joseph is alive and they can all come to Egypt to be saved alive.

In chap 46-47, Jacob demonstrates great faith in leaving the land of promise, not knowing how they would ever gain it back.

The promises of Abraham, Isaac and now Jacob are all tied to the land of Canaan becoming theirs.

So here, Jacob will demonstrate the 4 attributes of Biblical faith that effectually help others as he waits for the promises of God to be completed.

Our outline is K.A.T.A. – kata is a Greek word and when put with a noun means *over and above*.

We want to have a *kata* faith – faith in gk is pistos
Katapistos means *to become a security* – or that ‘you’re demonstrating you trust and faith for others’!

If you remember this 4-point outline, you’ll have what you need to have a biblical faith a *katapistos* that will affect others for God’s glory.

1st Attribute of Biblical Faith that helps others is a **Knowledgeable faith (Chap 46:1-7)**

Read Chap 46:1

1. On his way to see Joseph, after all these years, but he 1st stops to commune w/ God.
 - a. Even though Joseph in 45:9 said “tarry not”

2nd Attribute of Biblical Faith that helps others is **an Abundant faith (Chap 46:8-27)**

Read Chap 46:8-27

1. So this is the listing of all of Israel's family.
2. Notice that Jacob brought his entire family.
 - a. He didn't leave some back in Canaan to keep a homestead or stake in the land.
 - b. Notice vs 6 – they brought everything.
3. An abundant faith goes ALL THE WAY.
 - a. You can't go $\frac{1}{2}$ way down the road of faith.
 - b. Read Rom 4:19-20 – Abe not weak in faith.
 - c. Exp: The Centurion of Matt 8
 - i. Didn't need Jesus to go to his house
 - ii. His trusted Jesus could do it, however!
4. We should have an abundant faith that goes all the way, b/c God makes promises that are abundant and go all the way.
 - a. Read II Cor 1:10
 - b. Read Heb 7:25

5. Judah's lineage is chosen – vs 12
 - a. This will be the Messianic line
6. The nation starts small
 - a. Like many great works of God, the nation starts small.
 - b. But God has a massive plan!

Let's look at the end of the chapter (Chap 46:28-34)

Read Chap 46:28-30

1. The joyful reunion that they never thought could be.
2. Read III John 4
 - a. There's no greater joy than to know that your children are alive and well and walking in the truth of the Word of God.

Read Chap 46:31-34

1. Emphasize the cattle, not sheep.
2. Used later to draw them out of slavery.

3rd Attribute of Biblical Faith that helps others is a
Thankful faith (Chap 47:1-10)

Read Chap 47:1-6

1. So, with great courtesy and respect they address Pharaoh not assuming his kindness.

Read Chap 47:7-10

1. So, the great humility and thankfulness of Jacob in blessing Pharaoh.
2. This ISN'T the plan Jacob had for his life.
 - a. It would be easy to be disgruntled.
 - b. By analogy
 - i. They just bought their 1st small house in the neighborhood they wanted.
 - ii. They were looking to buy the big house they really wanted.
 - iii. Then God tells them to go move in with some neighbors for a long while.
 - c. If looking for what you want, you get mad, if ok with God's plan, you get thankful.

Application

1. Turn to Col 2:6-7 – Be thankful that God's plan provides all that we need.
2. Read Dan 6:10 – Daniel prayed and thanked God in face of being fed to the lions.

Let's continue with the plan to help the Egyptians make it thru the famine (Chap 47:11-17)

Read Chap 47:11-15

1. So there's been 4 or 5 years of the famine and the people's money is all gone.
2. B/c of God's blessing Egypt still has food to offer.

Read Chap 47:16-17

1. Now Egypt will own the cattle and livestock of the land and rent it out.
2. This will allow Joseph's influence and authority to last a long time to protect Israel.

Now continuing the famine gets worse for the people
(Chap 47:18-26)

Read Chap 47:18-22

1. The desperate state has the people sell their land to the government. Now they just rent it.

Read Chap 47:23-26

1. This strengthens Joseph to provide for and help Israel be sustained for many years to come.
2. But this also strengthens the govt over the people tempting the govt to become corrupt.

4th Attribute of Biblical Faith that helps others is **an Active faith (Chap 47:27-31)**

Read Chap 47:27-31

1. As Jacob knew death was coming near, he made Joseph promise to bury him in Canaan.
2. Read Gen 46:4 – Jacob put his faith into action.

- a. He believed God when He said, Israel would come back to Canaan for a possession.
- b. Jacob knew what God told Abraham, his grandfather, in Gen 17:8 (Read it) and Jacob believed it.
 - i. The future of Israel would be in the land currently called Canaan.

3. Being buried in the cave of Machpelah in Hebron of Canaan showed that Jacob:
 - a. He identified with Abraham and Isaac
 - b. He identified with the land of Canaan
4. An active faith declares thru actions
 - a. Who you are
 - b. What you're living for

Application

1. Turn to James 2:17-20
 - a. Once faith effects your world-view or construct of life, then it goes forward and effect your practical actions.