

Dr. Ricky Cummings

Series: Rescued by God – A Study of Genesis 12-50**Sermon: The Parallels between Joseph and Jesus****Genesis 45:16-47:12**

Recall: Judah stepped in to save Benjamin from slavery and certain death. Jesus, who is called the Lion of the tribe of Judah, because he is a descendant of this very brother, came to do the same thing. He came to step in for us. He came to die in our places for our sin and to save us from slavery to sin and eternal death.

Genesis 45:16-20 (ESV) ¹⁶When the report was heard in Pharaoh's house, "Joseph's brothers have come," it pleased Pharaoh and his servants. ¹⁷And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Say to your brothers, 'Do this: load your beasts and go back to the land of Canaan, ¹⁸and take your father and your households, and come to me, and I will give you the best of the land of Egypt, and you shall eat the fat of the land.' ¹⁹And you, Joseph, are commanded to say, 'Do this: take wagons from the land of Egypt for your little ones and for your wives, and bring your father, and come. ²⁰Have no concern for your goods, for the best of all the land of Egypt is yours.'"

See Genesis 45:21-24

- Why did he give them new clothes?
- Why did he favor Benjamin?

Genesis 45:25-28 (ESV) ²⁵So they went up out of Egypt and came to the land of Canaan to their father Jacob. ²⁶And they told him, "Joseph is still alive, and he is ruler over all the land of Egypt." And his heart became numb, for he did not believe them. ²⁷But when they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said to them, and when he saw the wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of their father Jacob revived. ²⁸And Israel said, "It is enough; Joseph my son is still alive. I will go and see him before I die."

- Why didn't Dad believe them?

Parallels between Joseph and Jesus:

- Just like Joseph, Jesus was considered dead. Jesus rose from the dead to be second in command of the entire world.
- Just as Joseph ruled under the direction of Pharaoh, Jesus rules under the direction of his heavenly father.
- Just as Joseph absorbed the cost of his brother's sin and freed them from the endless cycle of guilt and shame, Jesus absorbed the cost of our sin and frees us from an endless cycle of guilt and shame.
- Just as Pharaoh was pleased with Joseph and desired to bless his brothers for Joseph's sake, God the Father was pleased with his son, Jesus, and his work on the cross and desires to bless us, his brothers, for Jesus' sake.
- Just as Joseph provided in Egypt, Jesus provides us with everything necessary to bring us home to the land of blessing called heaven. The cart that carries us there is the Holy Spirit who is the down payment Scripture says guarantees our inheritance and sustains us on our journey to our heavenly home.

Genesis 46:1-4 (ESV) ¹So Israel took his journey with all that he had and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. ²And God spoke to Israel in visions of the night and said, "Jacob, Jacob." And he said, "Here I am." ³Then he said, "I am God, the God of your father. Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for there I will make you into a great nation. ⁴I myself will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also bring you up again, and Joseph's hand shall close your eyes."

- Why did Jacob stop at Beersheba?
- What is the big question in Jacob's mind?

Genesis 15:13-14 (ESV) ¹³Then the LORD said to Abram, "Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. ¹⁴But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions.

Genesis 46:5-7 (ESV) ⁵Then Jacob set out from Beersheba. The sons of Israel carried Jacob their father, their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons that Pharaoh had sent to carry him. ⁶They also took their livestock and their goods, which they had gained in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob and all his offspring with him, ⁷his sons, and his sons' sons with him, his daughters, and his sons' daughters. All his offspring he brought with him into Egypt.

See Genesis 46:8-27

- The total number (70) is significant given the massive number of Israel who left Egypt in Ex. 12:37. Israel went to Egypt as a family of 70 people. They left Egypt as a nation of 600,000 men (not counting women and children).

See Genesis 46:28-34 and Genesis 47:1-12