

Genesis- Part 4 (Chapters 37-50)

Gen 37:1 Jacob lived in the land where his father had stayed, the land of Canaan.

Gen 37:2 This is the account of Jacob's family line. Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them.

Gen 37:3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him.

Gen 37:4 When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

Gen 37:5 Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more.

Gen 37:6 He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had:

Gen 37:7 We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it."

Gen 37:8 His brothers said to him, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said.

Gen 37:9 Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. "Listen," he said, "I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me."

Gen 37:10 When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, "What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?"

Gen 37:11 His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

Gen 37:12 Now his brothers had gone to graze their father's flocks near Shechem,

Gen 37:13 and Israel said to Joseph, "As you know, your brothers are grazing the flocks near Shechem. Come, I am going to send you to them." "Very well," he replied.

Gen 37:14 So he said to him, "Go and see if all is well with your brothers and with the flocks, and bring word back to me." Then he sent him off from the Valley of Hebron. When Joseph arrived at Shechem,

Gen 37:15 a man found him wandering around in the fields and asked him, "What are you looking for?"

Gen 37:16 He replied, "I'm looking for my brothers. Can you tell me where

they are grazing their flocks?"

Gen 37:17 "They have moved on from here," the man answered. "I heard them say, 'Let's go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers and found them near Dothan.

Gen 37:18 But they saw him in the distance, and before he reached them, they plotted to kill him.

Gen 37:19 "Here comes that dreamer!" they said to each other.

Gen 37:20 "Come now, let's kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him. Then we'll see what comes of his dreams."

Gen 37:21 When Reuben heard this, he tried to rescue him from their hands. "Let's not take his life," he said.

Gen 37:22 "Don't shed any blood. Throw him into this cistern here in the wilderness, but don't lay a hand on him." Reuben said this to rescue him from them and take him back to his father.

Gen 37:23 So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe--the ornate robe he was wearing--

Gen 37:24 and they took him and threw him into the cistern. The cistern was empty; there was no water in it.

Gen 37:25 As they sat down to eat their meal, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead. Their camels were loaded with spices, balm and myrrh, and they were on their way to take them down to Egypt.

Gen 37:26 Judah said to his brothers, "What will we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood?"

Gen 37:27 Come, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood." His brothers agreed.

Gen 37:28 So when the Midianite merchants came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.

Gen 37:29 When Reuben returned to the cistern and saw that Joseph was not there, he tore his clothes.

Gen 37:30 He went back to his brothers and said, "The boy isn't there! Where can I turn now?"

Gen 37:31 Then they got Joseph's robe, slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood.

Gen 37:32 They took the ornate robe back to their father and said, "We found this. Examine it to see whether it is your son's robe."

Gen 37:33 He recognized it and said, "It is my son's robe! Some ferocious

animal has devoured him. Joseph has surely been torn to pieces."

Gen 37:34 Then Jacob tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and mourned for his son many days.

Gen 37:35 All his sons and daughters came to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. "No," he said, "I will continue to mourn until I join my son in the grave." So his father wept for him.

Gen 37:36 Meanwhile, the Midianites sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard.

Gen 38:1 At that time, Judah left his brothers and went down to stay with a man of Adullam named Hirah.

Gen 38:2 There Judah met the daughter of a Canaanite man named Shua. He married her and made love to her;

Gen 38:3 she became pregnant and gave birth to a son, who was named Er.

Gen 38:4 She conceived again and gave birth to a son and named him Onan.

Gen 38:5 She gave birth to still another son and named him Shelah. It was at Kezib that she gave birth to him.

Gen 38:6 Judah got a wife for Er, his firstborn, and her name was Tamar.

Gen 38:7 But Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the LORD's sight; so the LORD put him to death.

Gen 38:8 Then Judah said to Onan, "Sleep with your brother's wife and fulfill your duty to her as a brother-in-law to raise up offspring for your brother."

Gen 38:9 But Onan knew that the child would not be his; so whenever he slept with his brother's wife, he spilled his semen on the ground to keep from providing offspring for his brother.

Gen 38:10 What he did was wicked in the LORD's sight; so the LORD put him to death also.

Gen 38:11 Judah then said to his daughter-in-law Tamar, "Live as a widow in your father's household until my son Shelah grows up." For he thought, "He may die too, just like his brothers." So Tamar went to live in her father's household.

Gen 38:12 After a long time Judah's wife, the daughter of Shua, died. When Judah had recovered from his grief, he went up to Timnah, to the men who were shearing his sheep, and his friend Hirah the Adullamite went with him.

Gen 38:13 When Tamar was told, "Your father-in-law is on his way to Timnah to shear his sheep,"

Gen 38:14 she took off her widow's clothes, covered herself with a veil to disguise herself, and then sat down at the entrance to Enaim, which is on

the road to Timnah. For she saw that, though Shelah had now grown up, she had not been given to him as his wife.

Gen 38:15 When Judah saw her, he thought she was a prostitute, for she had covered her face.

Gen 38:16 Not realizing that she was his daughter-in-law, he went over to her by the roadside and said, "Come now, let me sleep with you." "And what will you give me to sleep with you?" she asked.

Gen 38:17 "I'll send you a young goat from my flock," he said. "Will you give me something as a pledge until you send it?" she asked.

Gen 38:18 He said, "What pledge should I give you?" "Your seal and its cord, and the staff in your hand," she answered. So he gave them to her and slept with her, and she became pregnant by him.

Gen 38:19 After she left, she took off her veil and put on her widow's clothes again.

Gen 38:20 Meanwhile Judah sent the young goat by his friend the Adullamite in order to get his pledge back from the woman, but he did not find her.

Gen 38:21 He asked the men who lived there, "Where is the shrine prostitute who was beside the road at Enaim?" "There hasn't been any shrine prostitute here," they said.

Gen 38:22 So he went back to Judah and said, "I didn't find her. Besides, the men who lived there said, 'There hasn't been any shrine prostitute here.'"

Gen 38:23 Then Judah said, "Let her keep what she has, or we will become a laughingstock. After all, I did send her this young goat, but you didn't find her."

Gen 38:24 About three months later Judah was told, "Your daughter-in-law Tamar is guilty of prostitution, and as a result she is now pregnant." Judah said, "Bring her out and have her burned to death!"

Gen 38:25 As she was being brought out, she sent a message to her father-in-law. "I am pregnant by the man who owns these," she said. And she added, "See if you recognize whose seal and cord and staff these are."

Gen 38:26 Judah recognized them and said, "She is more righteous than I, since I wouldn't give her to my son Shelah." And he did not sleep with her again.

Gen 38:27 When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb.

Gen 38:28 As she was giving birth, one of them put out his hand; so the midwife took a scarlet thread and tied it on his wrist and said, "This one came out first."

Gen 38:29 But when he drew back his hand, his brother came out, and she

said, "So this is how you have broken out!" And he was named Perez.

Gen 38:30 Then his brother, who had the scarlet thread on his wrist, came out. And he was named Zerah.

Gen 39:1 Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there.

Gen 39:2 The LORD was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master.

Gen 39:3 When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD gave him success in everything he did,

Gen 39:4 Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned.

Gen 39:5 From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the LORD blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the LORD was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field.

Gen 39:6 So Potiphar left everything he had in Joseph's care; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate. Now Joseph was well-built and handsome,

Gen 39:7 and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"

Gen 39:8 But he refused. "With me in charge," he told her, "my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care.

Gen 39:9 No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?"

Gen 39:10 And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.

Gen 39:11 One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside.

Gen 39:12 She caught him by his cloak and said, "Come to bed with me!" But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.

Gen 39:13 When she saw that he had left his cloak in her hand and had run out of the house,

Gen 39:14 she called her household servants. "Look," she said to them, "this Hebrew has been brought to us to make sport of us! He came in here to sleep with me, but I screamed.

Gen 39:15 When he heard me scream for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house."

Gen 39:16 She kept his cloak beside her until his master came home.

Gen 39:17 Then she told him this story: "That Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to make sport of me.

Gen 39:18 But as soon as I screamed for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house."

Gen 39:19 When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, "This is how your slave treated me," he burned with anger.

Gen 39:20 Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined. But while Joseph was there in the prison,

Gen 39:21 the LORD was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden.

Gen 39:22 So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there.

Gen 39:23 The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph's care, because the LORD was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.

Gen 40:1 Some time later, the cupbearer and the baker of the king of Egypt offended their master, the king of Egypt.

Gen 40:2 Pharaoh was angry with his two officials, the chief cupbearer and the chief baker,

Gen 40:3 and put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, in the same prison where Joseph was confined.

Gen 40:4 The captain of the guard assigned them to Joseph, and he attended them. After they had been in custody for some time,

Gen 40:5 each of the two men--the cupbearer and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were being held in prison--had a dream the same night, and each dream had a meaning of its own.

Gen 40:6 When Joseph came to them the next morning, he saw that they were dejected.

Gen 40:7 So he asked Pharaoh's officials who were in custody with him in his master's house, "Why do you look so sad today?"

Gen 40:8 "We both had dreams," they answered, "but there is no one to interpret them." Then Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell me your dreams."

Gen 40:9 So the chief cupbearer told Joseph his dream. He said to him, "In my dream I saw a vine in front of me,

Gen 40:10 and on the vine were three branches. As soon as it budded, it blossomed, and its clusters ripened into grapes.

Gen 40:11 Pharaoh's cup was in my hand, and I took the grapes, squeezed them into Pharaoh's cup and put the cup in his hand."

Gen 40:12 "This is what it means," Joseph said to him. "The three branches are three days.

Gen 40:13 Within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your position, and you will put Pharaoh's cup in his hand, just as you used to do when you were his cupbearer.

Gen 40:14 But when all goes well with you, remember me and show me kindness; mention me to Pharaoh and get me out of this prison.

Gen 40:15 I was forcibly carried off from the land of the Hebrews, and even here I have done nothing to deserve being put in a dungeon."

Gen 40:16 When the chief baker saw that Joseph had given a favorable interpretation, he said to Joseph, "I too had a dream: On my head were three baskets of bread.

Gen 40:17 In the top basket were all kinds of baked goods for Pharaoh, but the birds were eating them out of the basket on my head."

Gen 40:18 "This is what it means," Joseph said. "The three baskets are three days.

Gen 40:19 Within three days Pharaoh will lift off your head and impale your body on a pole. And the birds will eat away your flesh."

Gen 40:20 Now the third day was Pharaoh's birthday, and he gave a feast for all his officials. He lifted up the heads of the chief cupbearer and the chief baker in the presence of his officials:

Gen 40:21 He restored the chief cupbearer to his position, so that he once again put the cup into Pharaoh's hand--

Gen 40:22 but he impaled the chief baker, just as Joseph had said to them in his interpretation.

Gen 40:23 The chief cupbearer, however, did not remember Joseph; he forgot him.

Gen 41:1 When two full years had passed, Pharaoh had a dream: He was standing by the Nile,

Gen 41:2 when out of the river there came up seven cows, sleek and fat, and they grazed among the reeds.

Gen 41:3 After them, seven other cows, ugly and gaunt, came up out of the Nile and stood beside those on the riverbank.

Gen 41:4 And the cows that were ugly and gaunt ate up the seven sleek, fat cows. Then Pharaoh woke up.

Gen 41:5 He fell asleep again and had a second dream: Seven heads of grain, healthy and good, were growing on a single stalk.

Gen 41:6 After them, seven other heads of grain sprouted--thin and scorched by the east wind.

Gen 41:7 The thin heads of grain swallowed up the seven healthy, full

heads. Then Pharaoh woke up; it had been a dream.

Gen 41:8 In the morning his mind was troubled, so he sent for all the magicians and wise men of Egypt. Pharaoh told them his dreams, but no one could interpret them for him.

Gen 41:9 Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, "Today I am reminded of my shortcomings.

Gen 41:10 Pharaoh was once angry with his servants, and he imprisoned me and the chief baker in the house of the captain of the guard.

Gen 41:11 Each of us had a dream the same night, and each dream had a meaning of its own.

Gen 41:12 Now a young Hebrew was there with us, a servant of the captain of the guard. We told him our dreams, and he interpreted them for us, giving each man the interpretation of his dream.

Gen 41:13 And things turned out exactly as he interpreted them to us: I was restored to my position, and the other man was impaled."

Gen 41:14 So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was quickly brought from the dungeon. When he had shaved and changed his clothes, he came before Pharaoh.

Gen 41:15 Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I had a dream, and no one can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it."

Gen 41:16 "I cannot do it," Joseph replied to Pharaoh, "but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires."

Gen 41:17 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "In my dream I was standing on the bank of the Nile,

Gen 41:18 when out of the river there came up seven cows, fat and sleek, and they grazed among the reeds.

Gen 41:19 After them, seven other cows came up--scrawny and very ugly and lean. I had never seen such ugly cows in all the land of Egypt.

Gen 41:20 The lean, ugly cows ate up the seven fat cows that came up first.

Gen 41:21 But even after they ate them, no one could tell that they had done so; they looked just as ugly as before. Then I woke up.

Gen 41:22 "In my dream I saw seven heads of grain, full and good, growing on a single stalk.

Gen 41:23 After them, seven other heads sprouted--withered and thin and scorched by the east wind.

Gen 41:24 The thin heads of grain swallowed up the seven good heads. I told this to the magicians, but none of them could explain it to me."

Gen 41:25 Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dreams of Pharaoh are one

and the same. God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do.

Gen 41:26 The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good heads of grain are seven years; it is one and the same dream.

Gen 41:27 The seven lean, ugly cows that came up afterward are seven years, and so are the seven worthless heads of grain scorched by the east wind: They are seven years of famine.

Gen 41:28 "It is just as I said to Pharaoh: God has shown Pharaoh what he is about to do.

Gen 41:29 Seven years of great abundance are coming throughout the land of Egypt,

Gen 41:30 but seven years of famine will follow them. Then all the abundance in Egypt will be forgotten, and the famine will ravage the land.

Gen 41:31 The abundance in the land will not be remembered, because the famine that follows it will be so severe.

Gen 41:32 The reason the dream was given to Pharaoh in two forms is that the matter has been firmly decided by God, and God will do it soon.

Gen 41:33 "And now let Pharaoh look for a discerning and wise man and put him in charge of the land of Egypt.

Gen 41:34 Let Pharaoh appoint commissioners over the land to take a fifth of the harvest of Egypt during the seven years of abundance.

Gen 41:35 They should collect all the food of these good years that are coming and store up the grain under the authority of Pharaoh, to be kept in the cities for food.

Gen 41:36 This food should be held in reserve for the country, to be used during the seven years of famine that will come upon Egypt, so that the country may not be ruined by the famine."

Gen 41:37 The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials.

Gen 41:38 So Pharaoh asked them, "Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?"

Gen 41:39 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you.

Gen 41:40 You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you."

Gen 41:41 So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt."

Gen 41:42 Then Pharaoh took his signet ring from his finger and put it on Joseph's finger. He dressed him in robes of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck.

Gen 41:43 He had him ride in a chariot as his second-in-command, and

people shouted before him, "Make way!" Thus he put him in charge of the whole land of Egypt.

Gen 41:44 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I am Pharaoh, but without your word no one will lift hand or foot in all Egypt."

Gen 41:45 Pharaoh gave Joseph the name Zaphenath-Paneah and gave him Asenath daughter of Potiphara, priest of On, to be his wife. And Joseph went throughout the land of Egypt.

Gen 41:46 Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from Pharaoh's presence and traveled throughout Egypt.

Gen 41:47 During the seven years of abundance the land produced plentifully.

Gen 41:48 Joseph collected all the food produced in those seven years of abundance in Egypt and stored it in the cities. In each city he put the food grown in the fields surrounding it.

Gen 41:49 Joseph stored up huge quantities of grain, like the sand of the sea; it was so much that he stopped keeping records because it was beyond measure.

Gen 41:50 Before the years of famine came, two sons were born to Joseph by Asenath daughter of Potiphara, priest of On.

Gen 41:51 Joseph named his firstborn Manasseh and said, "It is because God has made me forget all my trouble and all my father's household."

Gen 41:52 The second son he named Ephraim and said, "It is because God has made me fruitful in the land of my suffering."

Gen 41:53 The seven years of abundance in Egypt came to an end,

Gen 41:54 and the seven years of famine began, just as Joseph had said. There was famine in all the other lands, but in the whole land of Egypt there was food.

Gen 41:55 When all Egypt began to feel the famine, the people cried to Pharaoh for food. Then Pharaoh told all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph and do what he tells you."

Gen 41:56 When the famine had spread over the whole country, Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold grain to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe throughout Egypt.

Gen 41:57 And all the world came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe everywhere.

Gen 42:1 When Jacob learned that there was grain in Egypt, he said to his sons, "Why do you just keep looking at each other?"

Gen 42:2 He continued, "I have heard that there is grain in Egypt. Go down there and buy some for us, so that we may live and not die."

Gen 42:3 Then ten of Joseph's brothers went down to buy grain from Egypt.

Gen 42:4 But Jacob did not send Benjamin, Joseph's brother, with the others, because he was afraid that harm might come to him.

Gen 42:5 So Israel's sons were among those who went to buy grain, for there was famine in the land of Canaan also.

Gen 42:6 Now Joseph was the governor of the land, the person who sold grain to all its people. So when Joseph's brothers arrived, they bowed down to him with their faces to the ground.

Gen 42:7 As soon as Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them, but he pretended to be a stranger and spoke harshly to them. "Where do you come from?" he asked. "From the land of Canaan," they replied, "to buy food."

Gen 42:8 Although Joseph recognized his brothers, they did not recognize him.

Gen 42:9 Then he remembered his dreams about them and said to them, "You are spies! You have come to see where our land is unprotected."

Gen 42:10 "No, my lord," they answered. "Your servants have come to buy food."

Gen 42:11 We are all the sons of one man. Your servants are honest men, not spies."

Gen 42:12 "No!" he said to them. "You have come to see where our land is unprotected."

Gen 42:13 But they replied, "Your servants were twelve brothers, the sons of one man, who lives in the land of Canaan. The youngest is now with our father, and one is no more."

Gen 42:14 Joseph said to them, "It is just as I told you: You are spies!"

Gen 42:15 And this is how you will be tested: As surely as Pharaoh lives, you will not leave this place unless your youngest brother comes here.

Gen 42:16 Send one of your number to get your brother; the rest of you will be kept in prison, so that your words may be tested to see if you are telling the truth. If you are not, then as surely as Pharaoh lives, you are spies!"

Gen 42:17 And he put them all in custody for three days.

Gen 42:18 On the third day, Joseph said to them, "Do this and you will live, for I fear God:

Gen 42:19 If you are honest men, let one of your brothers stay here in prison, while the rest of you go and take grain back for your starving households.

Gen 42:20 But you must bring your youngest brother to me, so that your words may be verified and that you may not die." This they proceeded to do.

Gen 42:21 They said to one another, "Surely we are being punished

because of our brother. We saw how distressed he was when he pleaded with us for his life, but we would not listen; that's why this distress has come on us."

Gen 42:22 Reuben replied, "Didn't I tell you not to sin against the boy? But you wouldn't listen! Now we must give an accounting for his blood."

Gen 42:23 They did not realize that Joseph could understand them, since he was using an interpreter.

Gen 42:24 He turned away from them and began to weep, but then came back and spoke to them again. He had Simeon taken from them and bound before their eyes.

Gen 42:25 Joseph gave orders to fill their bags with grain, to put each man's silver back in his sack, and to give them provisions for their journey. After this was done for them,

Gen 42:26 they loaded their grain on their donkeys and left.

Gen 42:27 At the place where they stopped for the night one of them opened his sack to get feed for his donkey, and he saw his silver in the mouth of his sack.

Gen 42:28 "My silver has been returned," he said to his brothers. "Here it is in my sack." Their hearts sank and they turned to each other trembling and said, "What is this that God has done to us?"

Gen 42:29 When they came to their father Jacob in the land of Canaan, they told him all that had happened to them. They said,

Gen 42:30 "The man who is lord over the land spoke harshly to us and treated us as though we were spying on the land.

Gen 42:31 But we said to him, 'We are honest men; we are not spies.

Gen 42:32 We were twelve brothers, sons of one father. One is no more, and the youngest is now with our father in Canaan.'

Gen 42:33 "Then the man who is lord over the land said to us, 'This is how I will know whether you are honest men: Leave one of your brothers here with me, and take food for your starving households and go.

Gen 42:34 But bring your youngest brother to me so I will know that you are not spies but honest men. Then I will give your brother back to you, and you can trade in the land.'"

Gen 42:35 As they were emptying their sacks, there in each man's sack was his pouch of silver! When they and their father saw the money pouches, they were frightened.

Gen 42:36 Their father Jacob said to them, "You have deprived me of my children. Joseph is no more and Simeon is no more, and now you want to take Benjamin. Everything is against me!"

Gen 42:37 Then Reuben said to his father, "You may put both of my sons to death if I do not bring him back to you. Entrust him to my care, and I will

bring him back."

Gen 42:38 But Jacob said, "My son will not go down there with you; his brother is dead and he is the only one left. If harm comes to him on the journey you are taking, you will bring my gray head down to the grave in sorrow."

Gen 43:1 Now the famine was still severe in the land.

Gen 43:2 So when they had eaten all the grain they had brought from Egypt, their father said to them, "Go back and buy us a little more food."

Gen 43:3 But Judah said to him, "The man warned us solemnly, 'You will not see my face again unless your brother is with you.'

Gen 43:4 If you will send our brother along with us, we will go down and buy food for you.

Gen 43:5 But if you will not send him, we will not go down, because the man said to us, 'You will not see my face again unless your brother is with you.'"

Gen 43:6 Israel asked, "Why did you bring this trouble on me by telling the man you had another brother?"

Gen 43:7 They replied, "The man questioned us closely about ourselves and our family. 'Is your father still living?' he asked us. 'Do you have another brother?' We simply answered his questions. How were we to know he would say, 'Bring your brother down here'?"

Gen 43:8 Then Judah said to Israel his father, "Send the boy along with me and we will go at once, so that we and you and our children may live and not die.

Gen 43:9 I myself will guarantee his safety; you can hold me personally responsible for him. If I do not bring him back to you and set him here before you, I will bear the blame before you all my life.

Gen 43:10 As it is, if we had not delayed, we could have gone and returned twice."

Gen 43:11 Then their father Israel said to them, "If it must be, then do this: Put some of the best products of the land in your bags and take them down to the man as a gift--a little balm and a little honey, some spices and myrrh, some pistachio nuts and almonds.

Gen 43:12 Take double the amount of silver with you, for you must return the silver that was put back into the mouths of your sacks. Perhaps it was a mistake.

Gen 43:13 Take your brother also and go back to the man at once.

Gen 43:14 And may God Almighty grant you mercy before the man so that he will let your other brother and Benjamin come back with you. As for me, if I am bereaved, I am bereaved."

Gen 43:15 So the men took the gifts and double the amount of silver, and Benjamin also. They hurried down to Egypt and presented themselves to Joseph.

Gen 43:16 When Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the steward of his house, "Take these men to my house, slaughter an animal and prepare a meal; they are to eat with me at noon."

Gen 43:17 The man did as Joseph told him and took the men to Joseph's house.

Gen 43:18 Now the men were frightened when they were taken to his house. They thought, "We were brought here because of the silver that was put back into our sacks the first time. He wants to attack us and overpower us and seize us as slaves and take our donkeys."

Gen 43:19 So they went up to Joseph's steward and spoke to him at the entrance to the house.

Gen 43:20 "We beg your pardon, our lord," they said, "we came down here the first time to buy food.

Gen 43:21 But at the place where we stopped for the night we opened our sacks and each of us found his silver--the exact weight--in the mouth of his sack. So we have brought it back with us.

Gen 43:22 We have also brought additional silver with us to buy food. We don't know who put our silver in our sacks."

Gen 43:23 "It's all right," he said. "Don't be afraid. Your God, the God of your father, has given you treasure in your sacks; I received your silver." Then he brought Simeon out to them.

Gen 43:24 The steward took the men into Joseph's house, gave them water to wash their feet and provided fodder for their donkeys.

Gen 43:25 They prepared their gifts for Joseph's arrival at noon, because they had heard that they were to eat there.

Gen 43:26 When Joseph came home, they presented to him the gifts they had brought into the house, and they bowed down before him to the ground.

Gen 43:27 He asked them how they were, and then he said, "How is your aged father you told me about? Is he still living?"

Gen 43:28 They replied, "Your servant our father is still alive and well." And they bowed down, prostrating themselves before him.

Gen 43:29 As he looked about and saw his brother Benjamin, his own mother's son, he asked, "Is this your youngest brother, the one you told me about?" And he said, "God be gracious to you, my son."

Gen 43:30 Deeply moved at the sight of his brother, Joseph hurried out and looked for a place to weep. He went into his private room and wept there.

Gen 43:31 After he had washed his face, he came out and, controlling himself, said, "Serve the food."

Gen 43:32 They served him by himself, the brothers by themselves, and the Egyptians who ate with him by themselves, because Egyptians could not eat with Hebrews, for that is detestable to Egyptians.

Gen 43:33 The men had been seated before him in the order of their ages, from the firstborn to the youngest; and they looked at each other in astonishment.

Gen 43:34 When portions were served to them from Joseph's table, Benjamin's portion was five times as much as anyone else's. So they feasted and drank freely with him.

Gen 44:1 Now Joseph gave these instructions to the steward of his house: "Fill the men's sacks with as much food as they can carry, and put each man's silver in the mouth of his sack.

Gen 44:2 Then put my cup, the silver one, in the mouth of the youngest one's sack, along with the silver for his grain." And he did as Joseph said.

Gen 44:3 As morning dawned, the men were sent on their way with their donkeys.

Gen 44:4 They had not gone far from the city when Joseph said to his steward, "Go after those men at once, and when you catch up with them, say to them, 'Why have you repaid good with evil?

Gen 44:5 Isn't this the cup my master drinks from and also uses for divination? This is a wicked thing you have done.'"

Gen 44:6 When he caught up with them, he repeated these words to them.

Gen 44:7 But they said to him, "Why does my lord say such things? Far be it from your servants to do anything like that!

Gen 44:8 We even brought back to you from the land of Canaan the silver we found inside the mouths of our sacks. So why would we steal silver or gold from your master's house?

Gen 44:9 If any of your servants is found to have it, he will die; and the rest of us will become my lord's slaves."

Gen 44:10 "Very well, then," he said, "let it be as you say. Whoever is found to have it will become my slave; the rest of you will be free from blame."

Gen 44:11 Each of them quickly lowered his sack to the ground and opened it.

Gen 44:12 Then the steward proceeded to search, beginning with the oldest and ending with the youngest. And the cup was found in Benjamin's sack.

Gen 44:13 At this, they tore their clothes. Then they all loaded their donkeys and returned to the city.

Gen 44:14 Joseph was still in the house when Judah and his brothers came in, and they threw themselves to the ground before him.

Gen 44:15 Joseph said to them, "What is this you have done? Don't you know that a man like me can find things out by divination?"

Gen 44:16 "What can we say to my lord?" Judah replied. "What can we say? How can we prove our innocence? God has uncovered your servants' guilt. We are now my lord's slaves--we ourselves and the one who was found to have the cup."

Gen 44:17 But Joseph said, "Far be it from me to do such a thing! Only the man who was found to have the cup will become my slave. The rest of you, go back to your father in peace."

Gen 44:18 Then Judah went up to him and said: "Pardon your servant, my lord, let me speak a word to my lord. Do not be angry with your servant, though you are equal to Pharaoh himself.

Gen 44:19 My lord asked his servants, 'Do you have a father or a brother?'

Gen 44:20 And we answered, 'We have an aged father, and there is a young son born to him in his old age. His brother is dead, and he is the only one of his mother's sons left, and his father loves him.'

Gen 44:21 "Then you said to your servants, 'Bring him down to me so I can see him for myself.'

Gen 44:22 And we said to my lord, 'The boy cannot leave his father; if he leaves him, his father will die.'

Gen 44:23 But you told your servants, 'Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you will not see my face again.'

Gen 44:24 When we went back to your servant my father, we told him what my lord had said.

Gen 44:25 "Then our father said, 'Go back and buy a little more food.'

Gen 44:26 But we said, 'We cannot go down. Only if our youngest brother is with us will we go. We cannot see the man's face unless our youngest brother is with us.'

Gen 44:27 "Your servant my father said to us, 'You know that my wife bore me two sons.

Gen 44:28 One of them went away from me, and I said, "He has surely been torn to pieces." And I have not seen him since.

Gen 44:29 If you take this one from me too and harm comes to him, you will bring my gray head down to the grave in misery.'

Gen 44:30 "So now, if the boy is not with us when I go back to your servant my father, and if my father, whose life is closely bound up with the boy's life,

Gen 44:31 sees that the boy isn't there, he will die. Your servants will bring the gray head of our father down to the grave in sorrow.

Gen 44:32 Your servant guaranteed the boy's safety to my father. I said, 'If

I do not bring him back to you, I will bear the blame before you, my father, all my life!

Gen 44:33 "Now then, please let your servant remain here as my lord's slave in place of the boy, and let the boy return with his brothers.

Gen 44:34 How can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? No! Do not let me see the misery that would come on my father."

Gen 45:1 Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, "Have everyone leave my presence!" So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers.

Gen 45:2 And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's household heard about it.

Gen 45:3 Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still living?" But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

Gen 45:4 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt!

Gen 45:5 And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you.

Gen 45:6 For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping.

Gen 45:7 But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

Gen 45:8 "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt.

Gen 45:9 Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay.

Gen 45:10 You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me--you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have.

Gen 45:11 I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.'

Gen 45:12 "You can see for yourselves, and so can my brother Benjamin, that it is really I who am speaking to you.

Gen 45:13 Tell my father about all the honor accorded me in Egypt and about everything you have seen. And bring my father down here quickly."

Gen 45:14 Then he threw his arms around his brother Benjamin and wept, and Benjamin embraced him, weeping.

Gen 45:15 And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them. Afterward his brothers talked with him.

Gen 45:16 When the news reached Pharaoh's palace that Joseph's brothers had come, Pharaoh and all his officials were pleased.

Gen 45:17 Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Tell your brothers, 'Do this: Load your animals and return to the land of Canaan,

Gen 45:18 and bring your father and your families back to me. I will give you the best of the land of Egypt and you can enjoy the fat of the land.'

Gen 45:19 "You are also directed to tell them, 'Do this: Take some carts from Egypt for your children and your wives, and get your father and come.

Gen 45:20 Never mind about your belongings, because the best of all Egypt will be yours.'"

Gen 45:21 So the sons of Israel did this. Joseph gave them carts, as Pharaoh had commanded, and he also gave them provisions for their journey.

Gen 45:22 To each of them he gave new clothing, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred shekels of silver and five sets of clothes.

Gen 45:23 And this is what he sent to his father: ten donkeys loaded with the best things of Egypt, and ten female donkeys loaded with grain and bread and other provisions for his journey.

Gen 45:24 Then he sent his brothers away, and as they were leaving he said to them, "Don't quarrel on the way!"

Gen 45:25 So they went up out of Egypt and came to their father Jacob in the land of Canaan.

Gen 45:26 They told him, "Joseph is still alive! In fact, he is ruler of all Egypt." Jacob was stunned; he did not believe them.

Gen 45:27 But when they told him everything Joseph had said to them, and when he saw the carts Joseph had sent to carry him back, the spirit of their father Jacob revived.

Gen 45:28 And Israel said, "I'm convinced! My son Joseph is still alive. I will go and see him before I die."

Gen 46:1 So Israel set out with all that was his, and when he reached Beersheba, he offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac.

Gen 46:2 And God spoke to Israel in a vision at night and said, "Jacob! Jacob!" "Here I am," he replied.

Gen 46:3 "I am God, the God of your father," he said. "Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make you into a great nation there.

Gen 46:4 I will go down to Egypt with you, and I will surely bring you back again. And Joseph's own hand will close your eyes."

Gen 46:5 Then Jacob left Beersheba, and Israel's sons took their father

Jacob and their children and their wives in the carts that Pharaoh had sent to transport him.

Gen 46:6 So Jacob and all his offspring went to Egypt, taking with them their livestock and the possessions they had acquired in Canaan.

Gen 46:7 Jacob brought with him to Egypt his sons and grandsons and his daughters and granddaughters--all his offspring.

Gen 46:8 These are the names of the sons of Israel (Jacob and his descendants) who went to Egypt: Reuben the firstborn of Jacob.

Gen 46:9 The sons of Reuben: Hanok, Pallu, Hezron and Karmi.

Gen 46:10 The sons of Simeon: Jemuel, Jamin, Ohad, Jakin, Zohar and Shaul the son of a Canaanite woman.

Gen 46:11 The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath and Merari.

Gen 46:12 The sons of Judah: Er, Onan, Shelah, Perez and Zerah (but Er and Onan had died in the land of Canaan). The sons of Perez: Hezron and Hamul.

Gen 46:13 The sons of Issachar: Tola, Puah, Jashub and Shimron.

Gen 46:14 The sons of Zebulun: Sered, Elon and Jahleel.

Gen 46:15 These were the sons Leah bore to Jacob in Paddan Aram, besides his daughter Dinah. These sons and daughters of his were thirty-three in all.

Gen 46:16 The sons of Gad: Zephon, Haggi, Shuni, Ezbon, Eri, Arodi and Areli.

Gen 46:17 The sons of Asher: Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi and Beriah. Their sister was Serah. The sons of Beriah: Heber and Malkiel.

Gen 46:18 These were the children born to Jacob by Zilpah, whom Laban had given to his daughter Leah--sixteen in all.

Gen 46:19 The sons of Jacob's wife Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin.

Gen 46:20 In Egypt, Manasseh and Ephraim were born to Joseph by Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On.

Gen 46:21 The sons of Benjamin: Bela, Beker, Ashbel, Gera, Naaman, Ehi, Rosh, Muppim, Huppim and Ard.

Gen 46:22 These were the sons of Rachel who were born to Jacob--fourteen in all.

Gen 46:23 The son of Dan: Hushim.

Gen 46:24 The sons of Naphtali: Jahziel, Guni, Jezer and Shillem.

Gen 46:25 These were the sons born to Jacob by Bilhah, whom Laban had given to his daughter Rachel--seven in all.

Gen 46:26 All those who went to Egypt with Jacob--those who were his direct descendants, not counting his sons' wives--numbered sixty-six persons.

Gen 46:27 With the two sons who had been born to Joseph in Egypt, the members of Jacob's family, which went to Egypt, were seventy in all.

Gen 46:28 Now Jacob sent Judah ahead of him to Joseph to get directions to Goshen. When they arrived in the region of Goshen,

Gen 46:29 Joseph had his chariot made ready and went to Goshen to meet his father Israel. As soon as Joseph appeared before him, he threw his arms around his father and wept for a long time.

Gen 46:30 Israel said to Joseph, "Now I am ready to die, since I have seen for myself that you are still alive."

Gen 46:31 Then Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's household, "I will go up and speak to Pharaoh and will say to him, 'My brothers and my father's household, who were living in the land of Canaan, have come to me.

Gen 46:32 The men are shepherds; they tend livestock, and they have brought along their flocks and herds and everything they own.'

Gen 46:33 When Pharaoh calls you in and asks, 'What is your occupation?'

Gen 46:34 you should answer, 'Your servants have tended livestock from our boyhood on, just as our fathers did.' Then you will be allowed to settle in the region of Goshen, for all shepherds are detestable to the Egyptians."

Gen 47:1 Joseph went and told Pharaoh, "My father and brothers, with their flocks and herds and everything they own, have come from the land of Canaan and are now in Goshen."

Gen 47:2 He chose five of his brothers and presented them before Pharaoh.

Gen 47:3 Pharaoh asked the brothers, "What is your occupation?" "Your servants are shepherds," they replied to Pharaoh, "just as our fathers were."

Gen 47:4 They also said to him, "We have come to live here for a while, because the famine is severe in Canaan and your servants' flocks have no pasture. So now, please let your servants settle in Goshen."

Gen 47:5 Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Your father and your brothers have come to you,

Gen 47:6 and the land of Egypt is before you; settle your father and your brothers in the best part of the land. Let them live in Goshen. And if you know of any among them with special ability, put them in charge of my own livestock."

Gen 47:7 Then Joseph brought his father Jacob in and presented him before Pharaoh. After Jacob blessed Pharaoh,

Gen 47:8 Pharaoh asked him, "How old are you?"

Gen 47:9 And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The years of my pilgrimage are a hundred and thirty. My years have been few and difficult, and they do not equal the years of the pilgrimage of my fathers."

Gen 47:10 Then Jacob blessed Pharaoh and went out from his presence.

Gen 47:11 So Joseph settled his father and his brothers in Egypt and gave them property in the best part of the land, the district of Rameses, as Pharaoh directed.

Gen 47:12 Joseph also provided his father and his brothers and all his father's household with food, according to the number of their children.

Gen 47:13 There was no food, however, in the whole region because the famine was severe; both Egypt and Canaan wasted away because of the famine.

Gen 47:14 Joseph collected all the money that was to be found in Egypt and Canaan in payment for the grain they were buying, and he brought it to Pharaoh's palace.

Gen 47:15 When the money of the people of Egypt and Canaan was gone, all Egypt came to Joseph and said, "Give us food. Why should we die before your eyes? Our money is all gone."

Gen 47:16 "Then bring your livestock," said Joseph. "I will sell you food in exchange for your livestock, since your money is gone."

Gen 47:17 So they brought their livestock to Joseph, and he gave them food in exchange for their horses, their sheep and goats, their cattle and donkeys. And he brought them through that year with food in exchange for all their livestock.

Gen 47:18 When that year was over, they came to him the following year and said, "We cannot hide from our lord the fact that since our money is gone and our livestock belongs to you, there is nothing left for our lord except our bodies and our land.

Gen 47:19 Why should we perish before your eyes--we and our land as well? Buy us and our land in exchange for food, and we with our land will be in bondage to Pharaoh. Give us seed so that we may live and not die, and that the land may not become desolate."

Gen 47:20 So Joseph bought all the land in Egypt for Pharaoh. The Egyptians, one and all, sold their fields, because the famine was too severe for them. The land became Pharaoh's,

Gen 47:21 and Joseph reduced the people to servitude, from one end of Egypt to the other.

Gen 47:22 However, he did not buy the land of the priests, because they received a regular allotment from Pharaoh and had food enough from the allotment Pharaoh gave them. That is why they did not sell their land.

Gen 47:23 Joseph said to the people, "Now that I have bought you and your land today for Pharaoh, here is seed for you so you can plant the ground.

Gen 47:24 But when the crop comes in, give a fifth of it to Pharaoh. The other four-fifths you may keep as seed for the fields and as food for yourselves and your households and your children."

Gen 47:25 "You have saved our lives," they said. "May we find favor in the eyes of our lord; we will be in bondage to Pharaoh."

Gen 47:26 So Joseph established it as a law concerning land in Egypt--still in force today--that a fifth of the produce belongs to Pharaoh. It was only the land of the priests that did not become Pharaoh's.

Gen 47:27 Now the Israelites settled in Egypt in the region of Goshen. They acquired property there and were fruitful and increased greatly in number.

Gen 47:28 Jacob lived in Egypt seventeen years, and the years of his life were a hundred and forty-seven.

Gen 47:29 When the time drew near for Israel to die, he called for his son Joseph and said to him, "If I have found favor in your eyes, put your hand under my thigh and promise that you will show me kindness and faithfulness. Do not bury me in Egypt,

Gen 47:30 but when I rest with my fathers, carry me out of Egypt and bury me where they are buried." "I will do as you say," he said.

Gen 47:31 "Swear to me," he said. Then Joseph swore to him, and Israel worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.

Gen 48:1 Some time later Joseph was told, "Your father is ill." So he took his two sons Manasseh and Ephraim along with him.

Gen 48:2 When Jacob was told, "Your son Joseph has come to you," Israel rallied his strength and sat up on the bed.

Gen 48:3 Jacob said to Joseph, "God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and there he blessed me

Gen 48:4 and said to me, 'I am going to make you fruitful and increase your numbers. I will make you a community of peoples, and I will give this land as an everlasting possession to your descendants after you.'

Gen 48:5 "Now then, your two sons born to you in Egypt before I came to you here will be reckoned as mine; Ephraim and Manasseh will be mine, just as Reuben and Simeon are mine.

Gen 48:6 Any children born to you after them will be yours; in the territory they inherit they will be reckoned under the names of their brothers.

Gen 48:7 As I was returning from Paddan, to my sorrow Rachel died in the land of Canaan while we were still on the way, a little distance from Ephrath. So I buried her there beside the road to Ephrath" (that is, Bethlehem).

Gen 48:8 When Israel saw the sons of Joseph, he asked, "Who are these?"

Gen 48:9 "They are the sons God has given me here," Joseph said to his father. Then Israel said, "Bring them to me so I may bless them."

Gen 48:10 Now Israel's eyes were failing because of old age, and he could hardly see. So Joseph brought his sons close to him, and his father kissed them and embraced them.

Gen 48:11 Israel said to Joseph, "I never expected to see your face again, and now God has allowed me to see your children too."

Gen 48:12 Then Joseph removed them from Israel's knees and bowed down with his face to the ground.

Gen 48:13 And Joseph took both of them, Ephraim on his right toward Israel's left hand and Manasseh on his left toward Israel's right hand, and brought them close to him.

Gen 48:14 But Israel reached out his right hand and put it on Ephraim's head, though he was the younger, and crossing his arms, he put his left hand on Manasseh's head, even though Manasseh was the firstborn.

Gen 48:15 Then he blessed Joseph and said, "May the God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked faithfully, the God who has been my shepherd all my life to this day,

Gen 48:16 the Angel who has delivered me from all harm --may he bless these boys. May they be called by my name and the names of my fathers Abraham and Isaac, and may they increase greatly on the earth."

Gen 48:17 When Joseph saw his father placing his right hand on Ephraim's head he was displeased; so he took hold of his father's hand to move it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head.

Gen 48:18 Joseph said to him, "No, my father, this one is the firstborn; put your right hand on his head."

Gen 48:19 But his father refused and said, "I know, my son, I know. He too will become a people, and he too will become great. Nevertheless, his younger brother will be greater than he, and his descendants will become a group of nations."

Gen 48:20 He blessed them that day and said, "In your name will Israel pronounce this blessing: 'May God make you like Ephraim and Manasseh.'" So he put Ephraim ahead of Manasseh.

Gen 48:21 Then Israel said to Joseph, "I am about to die, but God will be with you and take you back to the land of your fathers.

Gen 48:22 And to you I give one more ridge of land than to your brothers, the ridge I took from the Amorites with my sword and my bow."

Gen 49:1 Then Jacob called for his sons and said: "Gather around so I can tell you what will happen to you in days to come.

Gen 49:2 "Assemble and listen, sons of Jacob; listen to your father Israel.

Gen 49:3 "Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, the first sign of my strength, excelling in honor, excelling in power.

Gen 49:4 Turbulent as the waters, you will no longer excel, for you went up onto your father's bed, onto my couch and defiled it.

Gen 49:5 "Simeon and Levi are brothers-- their swords are weapons of violence.

Gen 49:6 Let me not enter their council, let me not join their assembly, for they have killed men in their anger and hamstringed oxen as they pleased.

Gen 49:7 Cursed be their anger, so fierce, and their fury, so cruel! I will scatter them in Jacob and disperse them in Israel.

Gen 49:8 "Judah, your brothers will praise you; your hand will be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons will bow down to you.

Gen 49:9 You are a lion's cub, Judah; you return from the prey, my son. Like a lion he crouches and lies down, like a lioness--who dares to rouse him?

Gen 49:10 The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his.

Gen 49:11 He will tether his donkey to a vine, his colt to the choicest branch; he will wash his garments in wine, his robes in the blood of grapes.

Gen 49:12 His eyes will be darker than wine, his teeth whiter than milk.

Gen 49:13 "Zebulun will live by the seashore and become a haven for ships; his border will extend toward Sidon.

Gen 49:14 "Issachar is a rawboned donkey lying down among the sheep pens.

Gen 49:15 When he sees how good is his resting place and how pleasant is his land, he will bend his shoulder to the burden and submit to forced labor.

Gen 49:16 "Dan will provide justice for his people as one of the tribes of Israel.

Gen 49:17 Dan will be a snake by the roadside, a viper along the path, that bites the horse's heels so that its rider tumbles backward.

Gen 49:18 "I look for your deliverance, LORD.

Gen 49:19 "Gad will be attacked by a band of raiders, but he will attack them at their heels.

Gen 49:20 "Asher's food will be rich; he will provide delicacies fit for a king.

Gen 49:21 "Naphtali is a doe set free that bears beautiful fawns.

Gen 49:22 "Joseph is a fruitful vine, a fruitful vine near a spring, whose branches climb over a wall.

Gen 49:23 With bitterness archers attacked him; they shot at him with hostility.

Gen 49:24 But his bow remained steady, his strong arms stayed limber, because of the hand of the Mighty One of Jacob, because of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel,

Gen 49:25 because of your father's God, who helps you, because of the Almighty, who blesses you with blessings of the skies above, blessings of the deep springs below, blessings of the breast and womb.

Gen 49:26 Your father's blessings are greater than the blessings of the ancient mountains, than the bounty of the age-old hills. Let all these rest on the head of Joseph, on the brow of the prince among his brothers.

Gen 49:27 "Benjamin is a ravenous wolf; in the morning he devours the prey, in the evening he divides the plunder."

Gen 49:28 All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father said to them when he blessed them, giving each the blessing appropriate to him.

Gen 49:29 Then he gave them these instructions: "I am about to be gathered to my people. Bury me with my fathers in the cave in the field of Ephron the Hittite,

Gen 49:30 the cave in the field of Machpelah, near Mamre in Canaan, which Abraham bought along with the field as a burial place from Ephron the Hittite.

Gen 49:31 There Abraham and his wife Sarah were buried, there Isaac and his wife Rebekah were buried, and there I buried Leah.

Gen 49:32 The field and the cave in it were bought from the Hittites."

Gen 49:33 When Jacob had finished giving instructions to his sons, he drew his feet up into the bed, breathed his last and was gathered to his people.

Gen 50:1 Joseph threw himself on his father and wept over him and kissed him.

Gen 50:2 Then Joseph directed the physicians in his service to embalm his father Israel. So the physicians embalmed him,

Gen 50:3 taking a full forty days, for that was the time required for embalming. And the Egyptians mourned for him seventy days.

Gen 50:4 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,

Gen 50:5 '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.'"

Gen 50:6 Pharaoh said, "Go up and bury your father, as he made you swear to do."

Gen 50:7 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--

Gen 50:8 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.

Gen 50:9 Chariots and horsemen also went up with him. It was a very large company.

Gen 50:10 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.

Gen 50:11 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.

Gen 50:12 So Jacob's sons did as he had commanded them:

Gen 50:13 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.

Gen 50:14 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.

Gen 50:15 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?"

Gen 50:16 So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died:

Gen 50:17 '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.

Gen 50:18 His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.

Gen 50:19 But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God?

Gen 50:20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

Gen 50:21 So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

Gen 50:22 Joseph stayed in Egypt, along with all his father's family. He lived a hundred and ten years

Gen 50:23 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.

Gen 50:24 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."

Gen 50:25 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." **Gen 50:26** So Joseph died at the age of a hundred and ten. And after they embalmed him, he was placed in a coffin in Egypt.