

# **Jacob's Family Moves to Egypt**

*Fruits of Forgiveness and Reconciliation*

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# What We Will Learn

- Fruits of forgiveness and reconciliation
- Family moved to Egypt to join Joseph
- Survived severe famine
- Multiplied and prospered
- At his death, Joseph prayed for Israelite return to Canaan
- Genesis 45 through 50

# Joseph invited his father, brothers, and entire family to relocate to Egypt


Genesis 45 (NIV)

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.

6 For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will not be plowing and reaping.

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.

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.



## Genesis 45 (NIV)

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.'

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.

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.'

# Pharaoh offered same invitation

Genesis 45 (NIV)

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

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

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.'

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.

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



## Jacob accepted the invitation

Genesis 45 (NIV)

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


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

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.

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

# Family Arrives in Egypt

- Israel set out for Egypt with entire family and belongings
- They prayed at Beersheba
- Jacob's descendants that went to Egypt numbered seventy
- Joseph met father for first time since age 17
- Genesis 46:1–7 and 26–30



## Genesis 46 (NIV)


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.

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

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.

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."






## Genesis 46 (NIV)

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.

6 They also took with them their livestock and the possessions they had acquired in Canaan, and Jacob and all his offspring went to Egypt.

7 He took with him to Egypt his sons and grandsons and his daughters and granddaughters—all his offspring.



## Genesis 46 (NIV)

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

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.


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

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.

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


# Family Settles in Egypt

- Family delegation met with Pharaoh
- Pharaoh admitted them to settle in Goshen
- Jacob met with and blessed Pharaoh
- Jacob was 130 years old
- Genesis 47:1–12



## Genesis 47 (NIV)

- 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."
- 2 He chose five of his brothers and presented them before Pharaoh.
- 3 Pharaoh asked the brothers, "What is your occupation?" "Your servants are shepherds," they replied to Pharaoh, "just as our fathers were."
- 4 They also said to him, "We have come to live here awhile, because the famine is severe in Canaan and your servants' flocks have no pasture. So now, please let your servants settle in Goshen."




## Genesis 47 (NIV)

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

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."

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

8 Pharaoh asked him, "How old are you?"



## Genesis 47 (NIV)

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."

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

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.

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

# Jacob Prophesied to His Children

- Israelites prospered in Goshen
- Jacob died at age of 147
  - Demanded to be taken home after death
  - Prophesied to his children
  - Life defined by your gift and how you use it
- Mourned for 70 days in Egypt
- Buried in Canaan

# Death of Joseph

- Joseph died at age of 110
- Confirmed forgiveness of his brothers
- Comforted Israelites that God will lead them out of Egypt
- Demanded they take his bones with them when they leave



# Family Reconciliation Opened Opportunities for Israel

- Joseph sought and found true forgiveness and reconciliation with his brothers
- Family moved to Egypt
- Survived the famine
- Prospered in Egypt
- Did reconciliation really make a difference?

# Reconciliation Made A Difference

- Reconciliation removed an impediment
- Opened channel to God's promise
- God creates opportunities
  - A person chooses to develop
  - Or abandon the opportunities
- Parable of the Talents
- Matthew 25:14–28



## Matthew 25 (NIV)

14 "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them.

15 To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey.

16 The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more.

17 So also, the one with the two talents gained two more.

18 But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

19 "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them.



## Matthew 25 (NIV)

20 The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.'

21 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

22 "The man with the two talents also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.'

23 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'



## Matthew 25 (NIV)

24 "Then the man who had received the one talent came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed.

25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

26 "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed?

27 Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

28 " 'Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents.

# God Creates Opportunities For Person to Develop

- Personal choices→
  - Determine what happens to opportunities
- Make the right choice→
  - Develop opportunity
  - Reap the fruits
- Make the wrong choice→
  - Abandon opportunity
  - Opportunity is taken away

# Choose Reconciliation

- Joseph chose reconciliation
- Brothers regained his trust
- Positive interactions resumed
- If he did not choose reconciliation
  - Israel and family would not have been invited to Egypt
  - Different course of history

# Choose Reconciliation

- Choose reconciliation → resume positive interactions
- Reject reconciliation → impediment to positive interactions
- What's on the other side?
  - Small, maybe inconsequential
  - Fulfillment of God's promise



# Choose Reconciliation

- Reconciliation needs forgiveness
- Forgiveness needs repentance
- Search yourself for what you did wrong
- Repent
- Show yourself to be a trustworthy partner
- Must reside in and come from the heart
- Enjoy fruits of reconciliation
- They are too delicious to abandon