

OT-OV

Lesson 61

1. Last week I taught in part the Doctrine of Joseph; when time expired we were studying the relocation of Israel's (Jacob's) family, servants, livestock etc. to Egypt.
2. I want to review some of that learned and then we will begin new material on page three.

The Doctrine of Joseph

1. Joseph was the eleventh son of Jacob and the first son of his favorite wife Rachel.
2. Joseph was a shepherd like his brothers. Early on his brothers resented him because Jacob often showed his partiality. Jacob's partiality was demonstrated by his giving to Joseph a long robe of patterned cloth and many colors.
3. Fuel was added to the flames of hatred by Joseph's sharing with his brothers certain dreams by which the Lord had shown him that he would rule over his brothers and yes even his father.
4. The jealousy of the brothers led them to take action against him. When Joseph was sent to check on the herding activities of the brothers, he found them at Dothan with the flocks.
 - 4.1 They sold him to the traders and callously deceived Jacob into believing Joseph had been killed by wild animals; they brought to Jacob the robe, which they had dipped in the blood of a goat.
5. In Egypt the merchants sold Joseph to Potiphar, an officer of the king, the captain of the guard. The Lord blessed Joseph with success in his work, so that he was promoted to the office of overseer of the house, a typical Egyptian title and function.
6. The wife of Potiphar was attracted to the young official and continually sought to seduce him (Gen 39:9-10). Joseph was true to his ideals and rejected her propositions on the basis that his compliance would be both wickedness and a sin against God.
7. Potiphar accepted his wife's dramatic testimony, and Joseph was consigned to a prison for political offenders.
8. In prison he was brought into contact with two officials from the royal court.
9. He interpreted their dreams and as a result of interpreting the dream of the cupbearer, he was released from prison for the purpose of interpreting one of Pharaoh's dreams.

9.1 Joseph informed the Pharaoh his dream predicted a future drought and famine. Joseph suggested that provision be made for the bad years by collecting one-fifth of the produce during the years of abundance.

10. This proposal met with the approval of the king and his advisers, with the result that Joseph was given an office second only to that of the king.

11. Joseph was given an Egyptian name and was married to Asenath, the daughter of Potiphera, a Hamite. Asenath bore two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim.

12. Joseph made adequate preparation for the years of famine, so that not only all Egypt but also people from neighboring lands came to buy grain from Joseph. Here the progress of the earlier prophecies of Joseph's dreams becomes apparent, for among those who came to Egypt to purchase grain were Joseph's brothers.

12.1 Joseph recognized them but they did not know him; consequently he was able to subject them to a series of tests. He interrogated them, accused them of being spies, and finally put them in prison for three days.

12.2 As proof of their honesty he demanded that they leave one of their number as a hostage and return to Canaan to get their youngest brother, Benjamin, who they said was yet in Canaan.

12.3 After several tests given by Joseph to his brothers, Joseph arranged to disclose his identity to them.

13. The sensitive and understanding character of Joseph is clear from the immediate assurance given to his brothers, such assurance showing he had forgiven them and was concerned for their welfare.

14. Beyond even this, Joseph saw the hand of God in his career, for God had designed to preserve Israel through him.

15. Joseph then made arrangements for informing his father of the good turn of events and for moving the entire family to Egypt. Joseph went to Goshen to meet his father and began plans to settle his relatives in that area. Goshen was an area located in the most eastern section of the Delta of the Nile.

16. After 17 years of residence in Egypt Jacob died. Joseph had his body removed to Canaan where he was buried in the cave of Machpelah near Hebron.

17. After Jacob's death Joseph's brothers feared that he would yet take vengeance upon them, but again he insisted that God in His providence had intended all of this for good.

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.

18. Joseph died in Egypt at the ideal Egyptian age of 110 years. He too was mummified and placed in a sarcophagus or wooden mummy case (Gen 50:26).

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 sons of Israel 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.

19. He had requested that when the Israelites left Egypt they should take his remains with them.

20. This was faithfully performed by Moses at the time of the exodus. (Exo 13:19).

Exo 13:17 When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them on the road through the Philistine country, though that was shorter. For God said, "If they face war, they might change their minds and return to Egypt."

Exo 13:18 So God led the people around by the desert road toward the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of Egypt armed for battle.

Exo 13:19 Moses took the bones of Joseph with him because Joseph had made the sons of Israel swear an oath. He had said, "God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up with you from this place."

21. Joseph was buried at Shechem in a plot of ground which Jacob had acquired. (Jos 24:32).

Jos 24:32 And Joseph's bones, which the Israelites had brought up from Egypt, were buried at Shechem in the tract of land that Jacob bought for a hundred pieces of silver from the sons of Hamor, the father of Shechem. This became the inheritance of Joseph's descendants.

22. Joseph is not mentioned in the Egyptian records. It is of interest, however, that the name Joseph-El appears as a Palestinian place name in the lists of cities conquered by Thutmose III.

23. Many believe there is little record in Egyptology concerning Joseph because he ruled under one of the Hyksos Kings, not Egyptians.

24. I think we are now ready for the Doctrine of Moses.

Doctrine of Moses

1. The Hebrew name is MOSHEH, meaning to pull out or draw out; in Egyptian it means simply a child, a son. Pharaoh's daughter named him child or son.

2. Moses belonged to the tribe of Levi; he was the son of Amran by his wife Jochebed. The other members of the family were Aaron, his elder brother and Miriam his sister.

3. The life of Moses is divided into three equal segments of approximately 40 years each:

3.1 His life in Egypt

3.2 The period of exile in Arabia and

3.3 His governing of Israel.

4. Life in Egypt:

4.1 Moses was born in approximately 1520 B.C. and according to secular history, he was born at Heliopolis, an ancient city located six miles north east of Cairo; his birth, according to Josephus, was foretold to Pharaoh by the Egyptian magicians and by God to Amran in a dream.

4.2 At the time of his birth, it had been decreed by the Pharaoh, "slay all male Hebrew children." His mother however was by some means able to conceal him; she hid him for some three months.

Exo 1:10 Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land.

Exo 1:16 And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him; but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.

4.3 When concealment was no longer possible she placed him in a small boat, or basket of papyrus and deposited him among the reeds of the Nile in hopes that someone would discover him and provide appropriate protection.

4.4. The daughter of Pharaoh who may well have been the famous queen Hatshepsut, came to the river to bathe where she saw the basket and had it brought to her.

4.4.1 According to the Grolier Encyclopedia: "Hatshepsut ... an Egyptian queen of the 18th dynasty, was the only woman to rule Egypt as a pharaoh. After the death of her husband, THUTMOSE II in BC 1504, she assumed power, first as regent for his son THUTMOSE III, and then (1503 BC) as pharaoh. She encouraged commercial expansion and sponsored a major building program; the monuments of her reign include the temple at Deir el-Bahri. Toward the end of her reign she lost influence to Thutmose III."

4.5 The princess elected to rear the child as her own, she must not have been able to resist since it was said that the baby Moses was most beautiful.

4.5.1 Moses' sister, who had been left to oversee the result, was at hand, to recommend the baby's own mother as a Hebrew nurse; Moses' mother was then hired by the princess.

4.6 Moses was adopted by the king's daughter and for many years he was considered an Egyptian.

4.7 In the Old Testament, this period of time is blank, but in the New Testament, he is represented as educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, mighty in words and deed.

Acts 7:22 And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds.

4.8 When Moses was forty years old he resolved to cast his lot with his brethren.

Acts 7:23 And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel.

4.9 Seeing an Israelite suffering at the hand of an Egyptian overseer and thinking he was alone Moses slew the Egyptian and buried the corpse in the sand.

Acts 7:24-26 And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian: For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not. And the next day he showed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another? But he that did his neighbor wrong thrust him away, saying, who made thee a ruler and a judge over us?

4.10 It became evident to Moses that the time for the deliverance of his people had not yet arrived and that safety was to be found only in flight.

EXO 2:11-15 And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out unto his brethren, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting an Hebrew, one of his brethren. And he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that there was no man, he slew the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand. And when he went out the second day, behold, two men of the Hebrews strove together: and he said to him that did the wrong, Wherefore smitest thou thy fellow? And he said, who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known. Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian: and he sat down by a well.

End Lesson