

Genesis 46-47

An overview of Chapter 46

Israel sets out to see his son in Egypt. On the way he stops at Beersheba to offer sacrifices to God, where both his father and grandfather worshipped God. God speaks with him and tells him to go to Egypt and tells him that he will become a great nation there.

Israel makes make the trip and takes all that he has, 66 children and grandchildren, and all his livestock.

At long last Israel is reunited with his favorite son and they have a good cry. Joseph arranges a meeting with Pharaoh and his family. He coaches them so they don't say something that will change Pharaoh's mind about them staying in his land.

An overview of Chapter 47

When Pharaoh meets the hand selected members of Joseph's family; he asks them to take over the care of his livestock. The pharaoh gives Joseph's family the best of the land and Israel blesses Pharaoh.

Meanwhile, the famine continues and Joseph has collected all the money in Egypt and Canaan in exchange for the food he stored in the years of abundance. Next Joseph collects all the livestock in Egypt and Canaan in exchange for food. When all the livestock is gone the people sell their land and themselves to Joseph so that they can eat and live. Because Joseph acted wisely based on the information God had provided him Pharaoh now owns all the land and the people in Egypt except Joseph's family and the priests of the land.

Joseph moves all the new slaves into cities and then employs them in the farming industry. The people are supposed to give Pharaoh 20 percent of all the produce that they grow.

Israel and his family have many children and get rich. As he gets closer to his death, Israel makes Joseph promise to bury him in the same place as his father and grandfather. Joseph promises, which prompts the 147 year old man to bow down and worship God.

Reflection

Do you occasionally stop what you are doing so you can worship God? Who in your family do you need to be reunited with? Notice the relationship between provision and freedom, are you more willing to give up your personal freedoms provision for yourself and your family? Which is harder for you to give up, money, stuff, or freedom? When you think about your death does it cause you to worship God?

For Further Study

Bowing in worship: Genesis 24:26, 48; Psalm 95:6

Shepherd: Genesis 29:9, Psalm 78:70-72, Matthew 9:36, 1Peter 5:1-4