



Vayigash– He Approached Gen. 44:18-47:27

Haftarah – Ezekiel 17:15-28

B’rit Hadashah- Luke 6:12-16

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The Steps of the Righteous are Ordered by God

Parshah Overview:¹

Judah approaches Joseph to plead for the release of **Benjamin**, offering himself as a slave to the Egyptian ruler in Benjamin’s stead. Upon witnessing his brothers’ **loyalty** to one another, Joseph reveals his **identity** to them. “I am Joseph,” he declares. “Is my father still alive?”

The brothers are overcome by shame and **remorse**, but Joseph comforts them. “It was not you who sent me here,” he says to them, “but G-d. It has all been ordained from Above to save us, and the entire region, from famine.”

The brothers rush back to Canaan with the news. **Jacob** comes to Egypt with his sons and their families—**seventy souls** in all—and is reunited with his beloved son after 22 years. On his way to Egypt he receives the divine promise: “**Fear not** to go down to Egypt; for I will there make of you a great nation. I will go down with you into Egypt, and I will also surely bring you up again.”

Joseph gathers the **wealth of Egypt** by selling food and seed during the famine. Pharaoh gives Jacob’s family the fertile county of **Goshen** to settle, and the children of Israel prosper in their Egyptian **exile**.

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Gen 45:1 Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him. He cried, "Make everyone go out from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers.

Gen 45:2 And he wept aloud, so that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it.

Gen 45:3 And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

Gen 45:4 So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.

Gen 45:5 And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.

Gen 45:6 For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest.

Gen 45:7 And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.

Gen 45:8 So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Gen 45:9 Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry.

Gen 45:10 You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have.

Gen 45:11 There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.'

Gen 45:12 And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you.

Gen 45:13 You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here."

Gen 45:14 Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck.

Gen 45:15 And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

Gen 45:16 When the report was heard in Pharaoh's house, "Joseph's brothers have come," it pleased Pharaoh and his servants.

Gen 45:17 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Say to your brothers, 'Do this: load your beasts and go back to the land of Canaan,

Many times, in life we cannot see the complete plan of God until it manifests itself fully. In the meantime, we need to walk by faith (trust) that God is leading our paths and our lives to fill His will for His Kingdom and His Glory.

In Genesis 45:5 God's plan for Joseph is fully revealed.

Gen 45:5 And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.

Joseph is a perfect example of what it means to walk by faith and not by sight. His story takes up a good portion of Genesis. There are so many lessons we can learn from his life, which is a type a shadow of Messiah Yeshua.

From Gleanings in Genesis, by Arthur W. Pink and Nathan Lawrence of Hoshana Rabbah.org

- **45:7–9**, Joseph was delivered from prison by the hand of Elohim. How did Yeshua get out of his “prison” of the grave? (Acts 2:24,32; 10:40)
- **41:14; 45:7–9**, Joseph was exalted from prison (death) to throne—to number two in command at the right hand of the king. What happened to Yeshua? (Acts 2:33-34; 5:31; 7:55-56; Eph 1:20; Phil 2:6–9; Heb 1:13; 1Pet 3:22) If you are “risen with Yeshua the Messiah” and are “in Yeshua” what will likewise happen to you? (Eph 2:5–6)
- **41:16,25,28**, Joseph is seen as a revealer of secrets. What was Yeshua’s mission on earth? (John 17:8; 8:28; 12:49)
- **41:27**, Joseph warned of a coming danger, and urged his hearers to make suitable provision to meet it. What did Yeshua warn his hearers about? (Matt 11:11–24; 12:36; 15:13; 21:44; 25:31–46; John 3:15– 21,36; 5:24–30; 15:2,6)
- **41:42–43**, In his new royal position, Joseph was publicly recognized. He wore royal garments, a gold chain and a ring of authority. All were to bow to Joseph. Read the description of the glorified Yeshua in Revelation 1:12–16 and 5:13. Every knee must likewise bow to the exalted Yeshua. (Phil 2:10)
- **41:45–46**, Joseph started his life’s work and was given an Egyptian wife when he was 30 years old. What happened in Yeshua’s life when he was 30 years old? Yeshua started his ministry and was (re)married (literally, betrothed, in a Hebraic sense) to Israel, his spiritual bride (made up of those who have the faith of Yeshua and keep his commandments, Rev 12:17; 14:12), when he and his disciples drank the third Cup of Redemption (which corresponds to the Cup of Acceptance in the Jewish wedding ceremony) at the Passover Seder just prior to his crucifixion (Matt 26:27–29). Who arranged Joseph’s marriage? (Gen 41:45) Who arranged Yeshua’s marriage? Who arranged Yeshua’s wedding? Read the Parable of the Wedding Banquet in Matthew 22 starting in verse two.
- **41:46**, Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh to carry forth his mission in Egypt. In Scripture, what does Egypt spiritually represent? From whence did Yeshua come when sent on his earthly mission to spiritual Egypt? (John 13:3; 16:28)
- **41:6**, Joseph traveled throughout the land of Egypt fulfilling his ministerial responsibilities. Did Yeshua also have an itinerant ministry? (Matt 4:23; 9:35)
- **41:55**, Joseph alone dispensed bread to a perishing and hungry world and to his own brethren. Did Yeshua’s ministry fulfill this prophetic shadow-picture as well? (Read John 6:48–58.)
- **41:56-57**, Joseph became a savior to those who were famished in all the surrounding countries. Who did Yeshua come to save? (John 3:16; 2 Pet 3:9; Rev 5:9). Who was and is the Savior of the whole world? (John 4:42; 1Tim 4:10; Tit 3:4; 1 John 4:14)

- **41:49**, Joseph had unlimited resources to meet the need of the all those who were hungry. Are the resources of Yeshua limited to meet the needs of all those who would come to him? (Eph 1:7; 2:4; 3:8; Col 2:9; Rom 10:12; 1Pet 1:3)

As we shared last week, Joseph did not let bitterness control his life and destiny. What are ways bitterness can enter in our lives?

What is holding you back from being free for God? The further you walk in Torah, the more you will be tempted/tested. James 1:25 – Torah reveals your life!

- Many great men and woman of the Bible experienced a season of bitterness- Example Naomi-Book of Ruth 1
- Every leader is vulnerable to bitterness- bitterness brings lack and decrease, spirit, soul and body. We must move on- how does bitterness enter into our life?
- Bitterness can come when you believe God has been unfair to you.
- People are quick to blame YHWH for their problems instead of looking inward and asking where did I open the door to ha-satan? Why am I bitter towards YHWH?
- Example – Korach was a bitter man who thought he should be the leader and went against YHWH’s choice of Moses
- Numbers 16 – Rebellion is due to bitter root judgments
- Ruth 1:19-21- Disrespect from others will often birth bitterness. Ex. Hamon (Book of Esther) was a bitter man. We need to ask ourselves, can we look at ALL people without being bitter? If we can’t we have a root of bitterness-Bitterroot judgment’s.
- Esther 3:5 – Hamon’s bitterness. The success of others will birth bitterness if you feel unfulfilled and insignificant or misplaced in your own assignment.
- 11 Samuel 6:16-23- Michel (Davids wife)
- We need to learn to “ignore” our offenses- It’s normal to feel hurt, but we can get past that!
- When you lose your sense of “significance” you can become bitter. i.e. loss of jobs, divorce, leadership disappointments, failure in ministry etc.

**We need to learn to bless people, encourage them, lift them up and forgive
whatever you sow you will reap.**