

I. Introduction and review: *This world is not my home.* Heb. 13:14

II. Israel goes to Egypt 46:1-47:10

A. Israel seeks God's blessing for his sojourning. 46:1-4

1. He worships at Beersheeba, where his fathers worshiped. v. 1 21:33 26:25 28
2. God speaks to Jacob. v. 2-3a *When does God speak next?* Ex. 3:6
3. Why might Jacob be afraid to leave Canaan? 12:10-20 26:1-5 28:13-15 31:3
4. God gives Israel wonderful promises. v. 3b-4 12:2 Mt. 28:20
In what sense will Jacob return to Canaan? 47:30 15:14 Heb. 11:13-16

B. The house of Israel travels to Goshen. 46:5

1. Why does Moses record the names of those who entered Egypt?
2. The seventy in the chosen family who entered Egypt will become hundreds of thousands in four hundred years. Gen. 15:5 17:4 22:17-18 Num. 1:46
3. How could so few multiply so fast? 47:27 Ex. 1:5-7 Ps. 105:23-24 127:1f

C. Jacob and Joseph are joyfully reunited. 46:28-30

1. Jacob's prior sorrow is replaced by overwhelming joy. v. 28-29 37:25 42:36
2. He is at finally peace, even as he faces death. v. 30 37:35 42:38 45:28

D. Joseph's family meets Pharaoh. 46:31-47:6

1. Joseph prepares his brothers for their audience with Pharaoh. 46:31-34
2. Why is it good that shepherds were loathsome to Egyptians? 46:34b 43:32 Ex. 8:26
3. The meeting goes as Joseph expected. 47:1-6 Pr. 21:5
4. Pharaoh's initial show of hospitality makes the later mistreatment of the Hebrews inexcusable. Ex. 1:8

E. Jacob stands before Pharaoh: A meeting of great kings. 47:7-10

1. Which king is greater? v. 7b,9 Heb. 7:7
2. Why does Jacob bless Pharaoh? 12:2-3 48:15,20 49:25,28 27:4f
3. Jacob views his life as a hard pilgrimage. v. 8-9 12:10 17:8 20:1 32:4 35:27 37:1
Heb. 11:9-10,13-16 Deut. 26:5
4. Later his perspective on his life improves. 48:15-16

III. Joseph wisely delivers his people from the famine. 47:11-27 Pr. 8:15 Ps. 105:20-22

A. Joseph provides for his family. v. 11-12 Ruth 4:15 Ps. 55:22

B. Joseph saves Egypt. 47:13-26 Ecc. 9:10 Col. 3:17,23 Ro. 12:11 I Co. 10:31

1. Was Joseph's economic policy oppressive?
2. Joseph offers generous terms. v. 23-25 41:34 Lev. 25:39-43
3. The grateful people proclaim Joseph to be their savior! v. 25a
4. The Egyptians will prove themselves to be ungrateful in the long run. Ex. 1:8f
5. Why does Joseph exempt the pagan priests from taxation? v. 26 Ex. 12:12

C. While Egypt suffers, Israel multiplies and prospers. 47:27 17:6 46:3 48:4 Ps. 105:23f

1. Contrast Israel's increase and gain with Egyptians' loss of land and freedom.
2. They multiply in number and in wealth because of God's blessing. 12:2 13:16 15:5
17:2,4,-6,16 22:17 26:4,24 28:3,14 35:11
3. Later they will be unwelcome immigrants.

IV. How does this passage apply to us?

- A. Your life is a pilgrimage. 47:9 Heb. 11:13-16,9-10 13:14 I Pe. 1:1 2:11 Dt. 26:5**
 - 1. Don't get too settled in this world because your true home is heaven. I Cor. 4:11f**
 - 2. God wants you to be separated from the world. Rom. 12:1-2 I John 2:15 Js. 4:4**
 - 3. The world may also despise you. 46:34 John 15:18-19**
 - 4. God will guide you on your pilgrimage. II Ti. 3:16-17**

- B. God provides for His pilgrim people in this hostile world. Phil. 4:19**
 - 1. His covenant people should trust Him and not be afraid. Mt. 6:25**
 - 2. Our fruitfulness and prosperity are blessings from God! 47:27 Dt. 8:18 I Ti. 6:17**
 - 3. God turns the hearts of those in authority to favor His people. Pr. 21:1 Ro. 13:1f**
 - 4. God even provides for His enemies. Mt. 5:45 Acts 17:25**

- C. God's people should be a blessing to the world as Joseph was in Egypt. Pr. 22:29**
 - 1. We can be a blessing to our ungodly nation(s). (Daniel Nehemiah Esther).**
 - 2. Bless our earthly rulers by praying for them. 47:9 Jer. 29:7 I Ti. 2:1**
 - 3. We can also be a blessing in our places of work. Col. 3:22f**
 - 4. Should believers use their influence to represent the interests of God's people?**

- D. We should have concern for refugees (strangers and aliens). Dt. 10:18-19 Heb. 13:4**

- E. Those in authority should rule wisely. Pr. 8:15 I Ti. 5:17 Heb. 13:17**

- F. Honor your parents as Joseph honors his father. 46:29 47:7 Ex. 20:12.**

V. How does this passage point us to Christ?

- A. He who was dead is alive and reigns as an exalted Savior. Acts 2:32-34 Phil. 2:6-11 Ro. 4:25**
- B. He rules wisely. Prov. 8:15-16 I Cor. 1:24,30 Rev. 19:16 Acts 5:31**

- C. He is the Savior Who supplies the Bread of Life to His people. 47:25 John 6:35**

- D. Those he has saved proclaim His salvation and gladly serve Him. 47:25 Re. 5:9-10 I Th. 1:9**

- E. God is enabling us to be spiritually fruitful and prosperous in a hostile environment where many despise the Shepherd. 46:34 47:27**

- F. Christ is our hope. Heb. 13:14 11:13-16 John 8:56**

VI. Concluding applications.

Discussion questions

- 1. Why does Jacob worship God at Beersheeba?**
- 2. Why does Moses record the names of the seventy who entered Egypt?**
- 3. Who is the greater king, Jacob or Pharaoh? Why?**
- 4. Was Joseph's economic policy a fair one?**
- 5. What can we learn from Joseph about the involvement of believers in pagan governments?**
- 6. How is your life a pilgrimage? How does that affect how you live?**
- 7. Why shouldn't you worry about provision in this life?**
- 8. What should our attitude be towards aliens and refugees?**
- 9. How can you be a blessing to the world as Joseph was in Egypt?**
- 10. How does this passage point to Christ?**