

Dreamer: The Life of Joseph A Study in Genesis 37-50

The Reunion
Genesis 46:28-34
August 15, 2021

He presented himself to him and fell on his neck and wept on his neck a good while. Israel said to Joseph, "Now let me die, since I have seen your face and know that you are still alive." - Genesis 46:29-30

I. A NEW HOME IN GOSHEN

- After more than twenty years, Joseph is finally reunited with his beloved father. It is, understandably, an emotional reunion (Gen. 46:28-30).
- For the past many years, Israel (Jacob) has spoken mostly about pain and death. Now he is revived, and the bitterness is replaced with hope (Gen. 42:2, 36, 38, 43:14, 46:30).
- Joseph advises his father and brothers how they are to speak before Pharaoh. It is a truthful ploy to protect his family (Gen. 46:31-34).

II. IN BUT NOT OF

- The land of Goshen offers a refuge for Israel. A place where they may dwell insulated from the Egyptian culture at large and where they can prosper.
- Israel and his sons lived in Egypt. Joseph saw to it that they were not of Egypt.
- The Kingdom of God, although within our midst, is not a part of this present world (Luke 17:21; John 18:33-37).
- Christ followers are not of this world any more than Jesus was of this world (John 17:13-21).
- Our citizenship is in heaven as Christ followers, and we should live as such (Rom. 13:21; 2 Cor. 10:4; Phil. 3:20).
- We seek first God's kingdom and the righteousness that accompanies it. God fills in the rest (Matt. 6:33).

KNOW: Jacob and Joseph are reunited and relocated to the land of Goshen in Egypt. Here Joseph cares for his family while protecting them from the influences of Egyptian society.

DO: Live in the world, but do not become of the world.

Suggested Reading:

The Mark of the Christian by Francis Schaeffer (LifePoint Library #248.4)

A Christian Manifesto by Francis Schaeffer

Live Not By Lies by Rod Dreher

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read Genesis 46:28-34

1. How do you think Jacob felt when he saw his beloved son Joseph? What about seeing Joseph who now looks completely Egyptian?
2. What is Joseph's ploy with Pharaoh? What is he trying to accomplish?
3. How can Joseph rightfully look like, live with, and rule over Egyptians when he goes to such great lengths to protect his family from the same lifestyle? Does this seem hypocritical to you? Why or why not?
4. What does it look like to be in the world but not of the world?
5. How did Jesus model being part of this world and yet separated from it?
6. What steps can we take to live in this world but not love it?