

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS**  
**JANUARY 24, 2024**  
**GENESIS 50:7-21**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. As Genesis 49 comes to a close, we read about the death of an historic figure.
  - a) Jacob dies at the age of 147 in Egypt, and Joseph fell on his father weeping. (Gen. 50.1)
  - b) Joseph and all the land of Egypt mourned for seventy days as the body of Jacob was being prepared for burial. (Gen. 50.2,3)
2. Before he died, Jacob made Joseph swear to bury him in the land of Canaan.
  - a) Joseph asked permission from Pharaoh to travel to Canaan *“when the days of mourning were past”* (Gen. 50.4,5). Mourning (baka): “to weep, wail, cry” [Mounce]
  - b) **GENESIS 50.6:** *“And Pharaoh said, ‘Go up and bury your father, as he made you swear.’”*

**I. JOSEPH BURIES HIS FATHER**

- A. There is a large caravan.
  1. There were several officials representing Egypt.
    - a) **GENESIS 50.7:** *“with him went up all the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his house, and all the elders of the land of Egypt.”*
    - b) Servants and elders (dignitaries) refer to those who served in Egypt’s government.
  2. There was the entire household of Jacob.
    - a) **GENESIS 50.8:** *“as well as all the house of Joseph, his brothers, and his father’s house.”* Exempted: The livestock and the little ones.
    - b) **GENESIS 50.9:** *“it was a very great gathering.”*
  3. Joseph did not weep alone, and he did not bury his father alone. (cf. 1 Cor. 12.26)
- B. The large caravan had an influence on the inhabitants of the land of Canaan.
  1. **GENESIS 50.10:** *“When they came to the threshing floor of Atad.”* Atad was about halfway between Jericho and the Jordan River.
  2. **GENESIS 50.10:** *“they mourned him there with a great and very solemn lamentation”*
  3. There are three different Hebrew words translated as “mourn”
    - a) Weep (baka): “weep, wail, cry” (Gen. 50.1,3,4)
    - b) Mourn (spd; misped): “sing, lament” (Gen. 50.10)
    - c) Mourn (ebel): “mourning ceremony; funeral” (Gen. 50.10)
  4. **GENESIS 50.11:** *“And when the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, saw the mourning at the threshing floor of Atad...”*
  5. The world can see how much we love one another. (John 13.34,35; Phil. 2.14,15)

**II. JOSEPH REASSURES HIS BROTHERS**

- A. Joseph’s brothers carried their guilt and fear with them.
  1. **GENESIS 50.15:** *“When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead”*
    - a) How long had their father been dead? (Gen. 50.3,7,12-14)
    - b) **GENESIS 50.15:** *“they said, ‘Perhaps Joseph will hate us, and may actually repay us for all the evil which we did to him.’”* (cf. Gen. 42.21,22)
  2. Joseph’s brother begged for forgiveness.
    - a) **GENESIS 50.16:** It was a request from Joseph’s father.
    - b) **GENESIS 50.17,18:** *“Now, please, forgive the trespass of your servants”*
- B. Joseph forgives his brothers. (Gen. 50.19-21)