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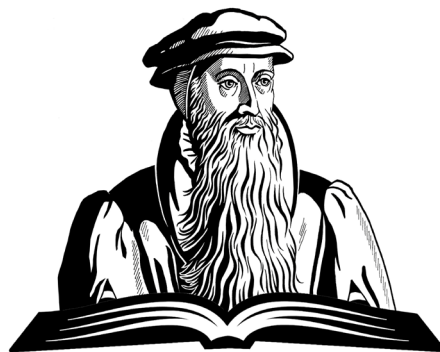
**BIBLE FOR
6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

Old Testament

Lesson 27:

Jacob Comes to Joseph

Lecture Presenter: Mr. Daniel Van Brugge



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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Module

BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Old Testament

113 LESSONS

77 Lessons presented by Mr. Daniel Van Brugge

36 Lessons presented by Dr. Daniel Sweetman

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| 02. Creation: The Work of an Almighty God | 27. Jacob Comes to Joseph |
| 03. Man: A Special Place in God's Creation | 28. God Heard Their Cry |
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Lesson 27

Jacob Comes to Joseph

Genesis chapters 46 through 50

Memory Verse

“But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive. Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.”

Genesis 50:20–21

Joseph, the Preserver

Joseph endured much suffering in this life. However, that suffering was not purposeless. It was through suffering that Joseph came to be the second most important person in Egypt. As the second most important person, Joseph would save many people. Not only were the lives of many Egyptians saved, but all the children of Jacob.

When the children of Jacob arrived in the land of Egypt, Joseph watched over and cared for them. Through Joseph’s watchful eye, they obtained the best of the land of Egypt. Through Joseph’s care, their numbers grew. Throughout all the days of his life, Joseph’s hand was over the whole family of Jacob.

Joseph is a type of the Lord Jesus Christ. Those that come unto Christ he “will in no wise cast out” (John 6:37). Christ does not turn away the hungry. He has compassion on the multitude. He too watches over his covenant people.

Jacob’s Eye of Faith

In all the troubles to be found in the life of Jacob, Jacob had an eye of faith. That is, he had an eye to the promises of God. There are two instances in these chapters to which we would draw your attention.

First, Jacob’s faith is seen when Joseph sent for his father, to bring him into Egypt. Jacob loved his son; he loved his son very much. However, no matter how great the desire was in his heart, he did not forget his God. He knew that the land in which he dwelt, and not Egypt, was the land that the covenant God had promised unto his fathers. With this thought in mind, he came to Beersheba and sacrificed to God. That night, in the “visions of the night” God wonderfully reaffirmed the promise to Jacob. God had not forgotten his promise. (Genesis 46:2). God took away Jacob’s fear of leaving the land of promise to go to the land of Egypt. God told Jacob that he would both go with him into Egypt, and that Jacob would return to the land that God had promised.

Second, Jacob's faith is seen when his death draws near. In his death, Jacob had an eye of faith to the promise of God. No matter how much was provided for Jacob in Egypt, Egypt was not his home. As his death drew near, Jacob had no desire to be buried in the land of Egypt. Rather, he had an eye toward the land of promise. With that hope, Jacob made Joseph swear to bury him in the land where his fathers were buried, the land which God had promised.

Joseph: Faithful to the End

After burying Jacob in the cave of Machpelah, the sons of Jacob returned to Egypt. As they returned, a thought arose in their hearts. Was the love of Joseph true? Did Joseph really love his brothers? or did he only say he loved them for the sake of Jacob his father? Now that their father was dead, would Joseph turn against them? (Genesis 50:15–17).

When we consider how terribly the brothers had treated Joseph in the past, we can understand why they felt this way. However, such thoughts were also a slight against the character of Joseph. They doubted Joseph's faithfulness to his promise.

What does Joseph say to his brothers when they approach him with their doubts? He does not say that their past deeds were excusable. However, he shows them something greater. Their deeds were evil, "but God meant it unto good...to save much people alive" (Genesis 50:20). Joseph does not allow them to wallow in their fear and doubt. Instead, he spoke kindly to them and encouraged them with the words, "Fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones" (Genesis 50:21).

Review Questions

1. After receiving the joyful news that his son Joseph was still alive, what did Jacob do at Beersheba, on his way to Egypt?

Genesis 46

2. "And _____ spake unto _____ in the _____ of th night, and said, Jacob, Jacob. And he said, Here am I. And he said, I am _____, the _____ of thy _____: _____ not to go down into _____; for I will there make of thee a _____ nation."

3. When the family of Jacob came to Egypt, they settled in the land of _____.
- a. Goshen
 - b. Cairo
 - c. Alexandria
 - d. Giza
 - e. Memphis

4. When Jacob was brought before Pharaoh, Pharaoh asked Jacob his age. More than just his age, what did Jacob say about his life? _____

5. As the famine worsened, the people first sold their cattle for grain, and then their land for grain. Which class of people did not sell their land to Joseph for food? Why not?

6. How many years did Jacob live in Egypt before he died? _____

7. After Jacob blessed the sons of Joseph, he told Joseph that he would give him one portion above his brothers. Where does Jacob say he got this portion?

8. Before he dies, Jacob calls his sons, so that he may tell them what will befall them in the last days. Match the description with the son of Jacob (one description is used twice).

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| ___ Joseph | a. Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel. |
| ___ Judah | b. He shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel. |
| ___ Benjamin | c. He shall dwell at the haven of the sea; and he shall be for a haven of ships; and his border shall be unto Zidon. |
| ___ Levi | d. He is as a hind let loose: he giveth goodly words. |
| ___ Reuben | e. Instruments of cruelty are in their habitations...Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel: I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel. |
| ___ Gad | f. He shall ravin as a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil. |
| ___ Simeon | g. His bread shall be fat, and he shall yield royal dainties. |
| ___ Asher | |
| ___ Naphtali | |

- ___ Issachar h. A scepter would not depart from him, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gather of the people be.
- ___ Zebulun i. He is as a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall.
- ___ Dan j. A troop shall overcome him: but he shall overcome at the last.
- k. He became a servant unto tribute.

Discussion Questions

1. Joseph is often referred to as a type of the Lord Jesus Christ. In Genesis 47:25, we read that the poor, starving people of Egypt said to Joseph, “Thou hast saved our lives: let us find grace in the sight of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh’s servants.” They see Joseph as a savior. Describe how Joseph was a savior to them. Compare him to the Lord Jesus Christ, the greater Joseph.

Describe: _____

Compare: _____

2. As Jacob was about to die, he said to his son Joseph, “Bury me not, I pray thee, in Egypt: but I will lie with my fathers, and thou shalt carry me out of Egypt, and bury me in their burying place” (Genesis 47:29–30). Explain how an eye of faith is evident in Jacob’s request.

3. Read Genesis 48:4–5. Explain the blessing of the covenant in regard to Ephraim and Manasseh.

4. Read Genesis 48:11 and explain how God had exceeded the expectations of Jacob.

5. After Jacob had died and was buried, his brothers feared that Joseph's heart would turn against them for the evil that they had done to him. Upon hearing the words of his brothers (Genesis 50:17), Joseph wept. Why did Joseph weep? Consider Genesis 50:21 in your answer.

6. When Jacob died, Joseph's brothers were afraid that he would turn against them. In order to find a place, they offered to be servants. Joseph rejected this idea. Compare the attitude of the brothers with that of the younger brother in the story of the prodigal son found in Luke 15:11-32.
