

**Series "In The Beginning...God"**  
**"Bless You"**  
**Genesis 47:1-31**  
**Study-77**

We often use the phrase "**Bless you!**" or "**God Bless you!**" What do we really mean? We read that Jacob uses the term **twice** in his blessing of Pharaoh.

**7 and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.**

**10 And Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from his presence.**

**Genesis 47-50 The Final Days Of Jacob And Joseph:**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "God Is The God Of All Blessings In Which God Uses Believers To Bless Both Righteous And Unrighteous."

**1. Verses 1-10 God Bless Pharaoh:**

**2. Verses 11-26 God Bless Egypt:**

**3. Verses 27-31 God Bless Israel:**

**1. Verses 1-10 God Bless Pharaoh:**

**Genesis 47:1 Then Context** - the story continues from **Genesis 46:31-34** Jacob and all of his family have come to Egypt. Jacob's great reunion with Joseph. Joseph then prepares them for a meeting with Pharaoh regarding the place that they will live. **Genesis 46:31-32**

**Joseph was a picture of Jesus Christ.**

**That he became the mediator between his family and Pharaoh.**

**Genesis 46:33**

**"When Pharaoh calls you and says, 'What is your occupation?'**

**"And it shall come about when Pharaoh calls you and says,**

Notice that Joseph knew what was going to happen

**Genesis 46:34 for every shepherd is loathsome to the Egyptians."**

**Joseph wanted his family to be despised!**

**Joseph went in and told Pharaoh, and said, Genesis 45:16-20**

Pharaoh had told Joseph that his family could come and live in Egypt

**1 Corinthians 10:13 provide a way of escape**

**Genesis 47:2 He took five men from among his brothers**

The number **five** – symbolizes "*grace*" saved, forgiven, reconciled, and adopted!

**Genesis 47:3 "What is your occupation?" (Just like Joseph said)**

**Genesis 47:4 "We have come to sojourn in the land**

They did not say to settle permanently

**please let your servants live in the land of Goshen."**

Notice the humble request of the brothers.

**Genesis 47:5-6 "The land of Egypt is at your disposal; settle your father and your brothers in the best of the land, NLT Proverbs 21:1**

**you know any capable men among them, then put them in charge of my livestock."** One moment, they were despised shepherds, placed as royal herdsmen.

**capable men** – *"to weave, to make strong, men of strength."* The concept of taking twine or cord and twisting it together to make a strong, reliable rope.

**Genesis 47:7** I don't think there has been such a contrast.

**Jacob** - 130 years of age. His skin is dark from all the years of being outdoors with the flocks of animals. He is a country boy and standing before one of the greatest men on earth. Spiritually, Jacob has lived for and served the One True and Living God.

**Pharaoh** – Pharaohs were young in age. The Pharaoh was an indoor person, covered with gold and precious gems! The most powerful man in the world at that time. Considered a god, sun-god Ra, had around thousands of gods.

**and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.**

**(Twice Jacob blessed Pharaoh) Jacob's boldness and insight into what he has and what this great man does not have!**

**(Jacob Rises To The Heights)**

**bless** – The root; *to kneel; to bless God (as an act of adoration), to man, "to invoke a blessing" "to stand with outstretched arms and to bless in the name of the true and living God."*

**We must note how Jacob treated this non-believer that was a great leader! Respect and honor. 1 Peter 2:11-17**

**"We as Christians have more to offer the world than the world has to offer to us!" The Gospel, the knowledge of the truth! God in us!**

**Genesis 47:8 "How many years have you lived?"**

Pharaohs did not live that long.

**Genesis 47:9 one hundred and thirty;** (Short compared to eternity)

**Notice the 3-point description of life:**

**1. few** - Matters not how long we live it is still short. **James 4:14; Psalm 90:12**

**2. and unpleasant have been the years of my life,** Life can be difficult! Jacob is telling the truth that life has burdens that are hard to bear.

**unpleasant** – *"misery, or distress"* **Much of the drama of Jacob's life was self-inflicted.**

**Genesis 48:15-16** Jacob sees the Lord as faithful.

**nor have they attained the years that my fathers Abraham** lived 175 years, **Genesis 25:7, Isaac** 180 years **Genesis 35:28 Genesis 47:28; Jacob's life 147**

**3. my fathers lived during the days of their sojourning."**

The term **sojourning** – (used twice) means pilgrimage. That is a description of life. **Hebrews 11:13**

**Genesis 47:10 And Jacob blessed Pharaoh, (2<sup>nd</sup> Time)**

If we have Jesus, we are rich! We have more than the wealthy.

**2. Verses 11-26 God Bless Egypt:**

**Genesis 47:11-12 the best of the land,**

Family of Israel had this great grazing area for their livestock.

They had all the food that was needed, and it was all provided to them free.

**Genesis 47:13** This is the remaining 5 years of the famine. (**Genesis 45:6**)

**Genesis 47:14 Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house.**

**We should be a blessing in the world for those that we work for and serve. Genesis 41:38 in whom is a divine spirit?"**

**Verses 15-17 Egypt Acquires The Egyptians' Livestock: Genesis 47:15-17**  
**The people's idea! Better than starvation and anarchy!**

**Society Advocates Entitlement: Proverbs 16:26**

**Verses 18-20 Egypt Acquires The Land, People Become Tenants:**  
**Genesis 47:18-20**

**The people's idea to become the property of Egypt!**  
**(Free Tenants that paid 20%)**

**Egyptians' Relocated To The Cities:**

**Genesis 47:21** There was no seed to sow, so the farmers and the people moved into the cities to work, to fill the need.

**Egyptian Priests Unaffected By Famine: Genesis 47:22**

Religion was big business in Egypt.

(God will judge these false gods in Exodus, 10 Plagues)

**Verses 23-26 Egyptians Taxed 20% Of Their Income: Genesis 47:23-25**

Notice the gratitude of the people **"You have saved our lives! Romans 13:1-2**

**Genesis 47:26**

**Greatest Most Blessed Politician In History Is Joseph In Egypt: Proverbs 8:15**

**3. Verses 27-31 God Bless Israel:**

**Genesis 47:27**

This was the fulfillment of what God had said to Jacob. **Genesis 46:3**

**Genesis 47:28** The best years of Jacob's life.

His sons were walking with God and with each other.

**Genesis 47:29** Covenant promise **Genesis 24:2,9**

**Jacob Did Not Lose Sight Of God's Promise:**

**Please do not bury me in Egypt, (Egypt – "the world").**

**Let Us See Beyond Death!**

**Genesis 47:30** Our funeral is the last witness and testimony that we will give.

**Genesis 47:31 bowed in worship at the head of the bed.**

It can be "*staff*" or "*bed*" in Hebrew.

**Hebrews 11:21 his staff. Genesis 48:2 the bed. Leaned on his staff.**

**Application:**

1. Jacob, With Great Boldness, Blesses Pharaoh, Knowing That God Blesses Us To Make Us A Blessing.
2. Christians Have More To Offer The World Than The World Has To Offer To Us: We Have The Gospel, The Knowledge Of The Truth, God In Us.
3. Like Jacob, Let Us See Beyond Death.