

Preserving the Promise > Genesis 47:1-12

47:1-6 Request. Joseph brings his father Jacob (also called Israel), and his brothers back to Egypt as they flee the ongoing famine. By God's providence, their request to remain in a particular region, removed from the strongest effects of Egyptian influence, is granted.

47:7-12 Blessing. Joseph's father meets with Pharaoh and sums up his life with the sobering reality that much of it has been difficult. But ultimately, God has taken care of him. Jacob's blessing of Pharaoh not only shows his continued trust in the Lord, but it also reminds us of the promise God gave to Abraham: that he would both receive blessing and be a blessing to many others.

Context: The events of this passage fulfill what Joseph had prepared his brothers for back in **chapter 46**. But there is also something deeper going on: God is continuing to keep His promises, just as we've seen through each generation.

Argument: Everything that has happened, including the entire family of Jacob moving to Egypt, has been a part of God's plan to preserve them and – in future generations – to bring about blessing.

Gospel: Ultimately, the blessing for the whole world will come in the person and work of Jesus Christ, who is in the family line of Israel. He is the pinnacle of God's promises.

Applications: Do you believe in a God who is this generous? What has "resting" in Him looked like for you lately? What needs to happen in your heart this week so that His promises would bring you to joyful worship of Him?

Here is how I will apply these truths: _____
