

THE KLAMPETS COME TO TOWN

INTRODUCTION

God gives us permission to live and have a plan. We don't need to live as the rest of our culture does living week to week with no eye towards our legacy. Jesus did not get out of the grave for us to be like everyone else. He called us to be a blessing.

DISCUSSION

What things cause you to get sidetracked from the mission God has called you to?

EXPLANATION

What are the top three things your mind constantly thinks about?
Are there things in your life, that aren't necessarily bad, but take up too much of your time?
Are there any people who take up too much of your time or resources?

APPLICATION

Read Hebrews 12:1-2 and Romans 13:11-14.
When Joseph brought his brothers to Egypt, he had them leave all their old things behind, symbolically showing the new life they were entering.
If Joseph was moving you, what would he have you leave behind?
If you would leave it behind then, what stops you from leaving it behind now?

MISSION

What things are more important, in your own life (time wise), than the gospel?
Why? Is there a way to change that?

HOMEWORK FOR NEXT WEEK

Read Genesis 47:27-48
Would people who you live with (roommate, spouse, kids), say you were a blessing?
Why or why not?
Would the people you work with (or go to school with) say you were a blessing?
Why or why not?



GENESIS

— THE FINAL CHAPTERS —

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PART 66 GENESIS 45:8-47:12

Psalm 33:11
Genesis 45:8-28

Genesis 46:1-34
Genesis 47:1-12

John 5:39-40
Luke 24:27

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

BAD MOVIE NIGHT
5/25 - 'Plan Nine from
Outerspace' at 6:30pm

ELEMENT MOMS
5/22, 2pm @ Sunrise Park
5/30, 10am @ Rice Ranch

TEXT-IN YOUR VOTE
For Film & Theology
805-310-4229

YOUTH MAGIC MOUNTAIN
June 1st, \$35
youth@ourelement.org



GENESIS THE FINAL CHAPTERS: PART 66

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Psalm 33:11 “The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.”

Now that family relationships are being restored, Joseph moves his entire family to Egypt to take care of them during the famine. He wants to settle his family in the land of Goshen which would be one of the most desirable for herdsman.

The precise location of Goshen is disputed. It was probably a region in the eastern delta area of the Nile and is not the same Goshen that is mentioned in Joshua chapter 10. Joseph chooses the region of Goshen because of its suitability for herdsman and its close proximity to him, but most importantly, the location also lessened the likelihood of Jacob’s family being absorbed into Egyptian society (as Joseph had been). By Joseph putting them in Goshen, it enabled them retain their ethnic and religious distinctiveness.

Joseph lavishes gifts on his brothers, treating Benjamin with exceptional generosity, and sends them away with additional gifts for his father. He sends them with three hundred shekels of silver; previously Joseph had been sold into slavery for a mere 20 shekels.

He also tells them, “Do not quarrel on the way.” This may have been necessary for his brothers, but Moses records it in light of his purpose to promote unity among the people of God who are reading the narrative.

Unsurprisingly, Jacob struggles to believe that Joseph not only is alive, but is also ruler over all ... of Egypt. He struggles because his sons have lied to him about Joseph already, the truth is even harder to imagine. Through time he is persuaded that this is true, especially by the gifts that Joseph has sent.

This is a great story with a great reveal. But why does any of it happen? Because JESUS was their God. People were willing to change, become honest and repent. The whole point of this family and nation becomes one to bring Jesus Christ to the world.

Before Jacob leaves for Egypt, God speaks to him in a vision at night because previously God had prohibited Isaac from going to Egypt during a time of famine.

Abraham went to Egypt during a famine and sinned greatly; Jacob may well have been reluctant to go there. So, God has to tell him it is OK this time, and God says, **“I myself will go down with you.”**

Jacob took with him to Egypt everything that he possessed, including all the members of his family. We then get a register of Jacob’s family that is organized according to his wives, beginning with Leah’s children, and proceeding to those of Zilpah, Rachel, and Bilhah.

Jacob’s family settles in Egypt, and Joseph uses his God-given administrative skills to ensure that his family will be safe while there. Through skillful preparation and diplomacy, Joseph ensures that Pharaoh confirms this choice of territory.

The narrator again shows that Judah took the lead in the family’s move. Judah’s role as the leader of his brothers anticipates the blessing that his father will bestow on him in chapter 49.

Joseph gives advice to his brothers knowing that they will be summoned into Pharaoh’s presence. He does this to ensure that they will be given the land of Goshen. He instructs them what to say and how to act so that no one will bother them. They tell Pharaoh that they are keepers of livestock to not only ensure Pharaoh that they are not a security threat, but would also keep the Egyptians away because shepherds are an “abomination” to Egyptians. The precise reason for the Egyptians’ aversion toward shepherds is not known, although it may have a religious dimension related to the offering of sacrifices.

Practically, as a people, we can live like Joseph or the brothers. So many people work for the weekend and not the future. The brothers had no savings or investments; not one had their life together except Joseph. It is sad that they need to beg for bread when there were 11 able bodied men in this family.

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