



A World

Without

Christmas



Joseph's Story

Genesis 37-50

1 Jacob lived in the land of his father's sojournings, in the land of Canaan. 2 These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was pasturing the flock with his brothers. He was a boy with the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives. And Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. 3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a robe of many colors. 4 But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him.

5 Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they hated him even more. 6 He said to them, "Hear this dream that I have dreamed: 7 Behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf arose and stood upright. And behold, your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf." 8 His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Or are you indeed to rule over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.

9 Then he dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers and said,
“Behold, I have dreamed another dream. Behold, the sun, the moon,
and eleven stars were bowing down to me.” 10 But when he told it to his
father and to his brothers, his father rebuked him and said to him,
“What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall I and your mother
and your brothers indeed come to bow ourselves to the ground before
you?” 11 And his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the
saying in mind. – Genesis 37:1-11 (ESV)

CHAPTER 37

(17 Years Old)

- Joseph is his father's favorite son and the youngest of 12.
- He has two different visions of him ruling over his family.
- His brothers hated him. Wanted to kill him. Sold him into slavery instead.

CHAPTER 38

- Joseph's brother Judah gets a tangential story of falling into gross sexual sin.
- Judah's moral failure in Chapter 38 acts as a foil to Joseph's story in Chapter 39.

CHAPTER 39

- The Lord was with Joseph x4 (v 2, 3, 21, and 23).
- Joseph prospered as the overseer of Potiphar's house.
- Potiphar's wife attempts to seduce Joseph and fails. Joseph runs away from her.
- Potiphar's wife lies about Joseph and gets him thrown into jail.
- Joseph is placed in charge of all the other prisoners.

CHAPTER 40

- The Cupbearer and Baker both have visions that Joseph is able to accurately interpret.
- The Cupbearer is restored to his position at Pharaoh's side.
- The Baker is executed by Pharaoh.
- Joseph asks the Cupbearer to remember him and help him get out of jail.

CHAPTER 41

(30 Years Old)

- Pharaoh has a dream that no one in all of Egypt can interpret.
- The Cupbearer finally remembers Joseph and recommends him to Pharaoh.
- Joseph interprets the dreams as 7 years of plenty and 7 years of famine.
- Joseph then presents a plan to save Egypt.
- Pharaoh promotes Joseph to second in all of Egypt.

CHAPTER 42

(37 Years Old)

- Jacob sends 10 sons to buy grain in Egypt (not Benjamin).
- Joseph sees his brothers and accuses them of being spies. To prove they are not they must return with their brother Benjamin. Simeon stays as collateral.
- The now 9 brothers go home and report to Jacob. He is upset and refuses to send Benjamin.

CHAPTER 43

- Jacob and his family eat all the food they bought and need to go back for more.
- The brothers convince the father to send Benjamin with them this time.
- They arrive in Egypt and Joseph continues to pretend he doesn't know them and invites them to dinner.

CHAPTER 44

- After the meal Joseph sends them all on their way with the grain they came to buy.
- Unknown to the brothers Joseph has a cup from table placed in Benjamin bag.
- He tricks them into agreeing to be a slave if they are caught stealing.
- Judah pleads with Joseph to take Benjamins place.

CHAPTER 45

- Joseph finally reveals himself to his brothers.
- Joseph and Pharaoh invite the brothers to go home and gather their families and come and live in the land of Goshen.
- Joseph can see his brothers are afraid of him.

5 And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. 6 For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. 7 And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. 8 So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. – Genesis 45:5-8 (ESV)

CHAPTER 46

- Jacob has a vision where God tells him to take his family to Egypt and promises to make him into a great nation and bring back out of Egypt.
- The whole family travels down to Egypt and we get genealogies for everyone.
- Jacob and Joseph reunite after 20 years!

CHAPTER 47

- Jacob's family is settled in the land of Goshen.
- Jacob blesses Pharaoh.
- Joseph family is provided for throughout the famine.
- Over the course of the famine everyone else in Egypt has traded all of their silver, livestock, land, and freedom for food.

CHAPTER 48

- Jacob blesses Joseph's two boys, Manasseh and Ephraim.
- The younger brother, Ephraim receives the bigger blessing .

CHAPTER 49

- Jacob gives his last speech where he speaks of and prophecies over each of his children.
- Judah's prophecy in verses 8-12 points to the line of kings coming from his lineage (both King David and King Jesus).
- Jacob gives instructions for his burial back in the land of Canaan.

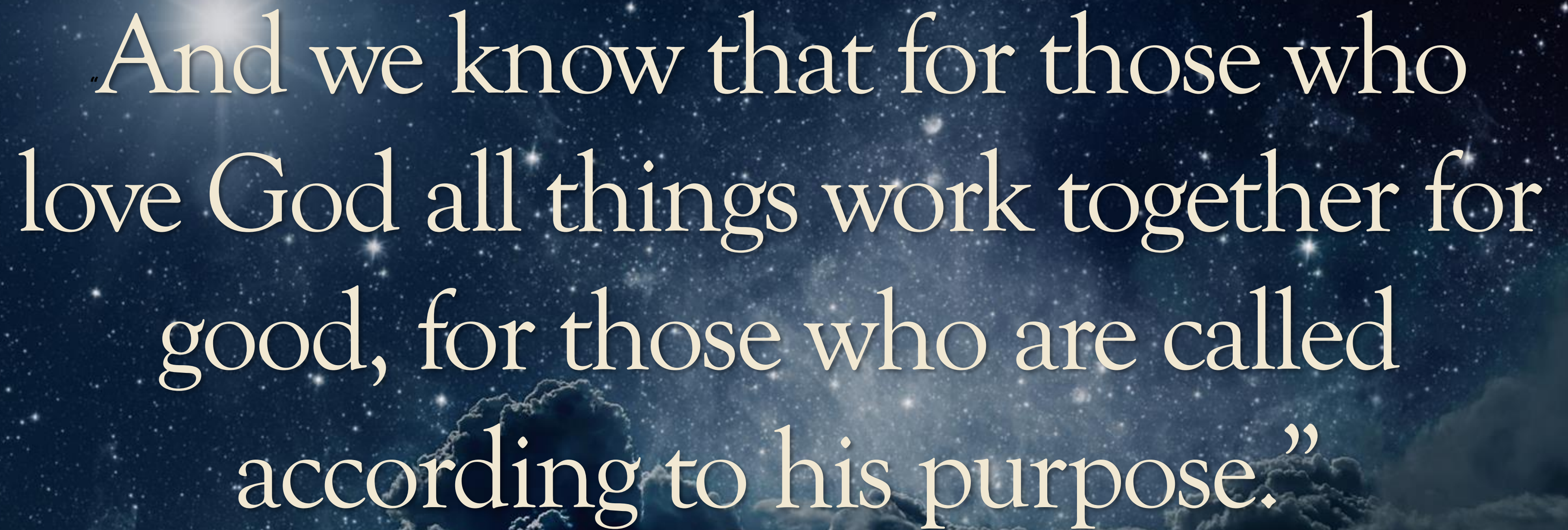
CHAPTER 50

- Joseph has Jacob embalmed and then they had a procession back to the land of Canaan to bury him.
- They returned home but now Joseph's brothers feared for their lives now that their father was dead.

16 So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this command before he died: 17 ‘Say to Joseph, “Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.”’ And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.”

19 But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? 20 As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. 21 So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

- Genesis 50:16-21

A night sky with a starburst in the upper left and clouds at the bottom.

“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.”

- Romans 8:28



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