

GENESIS

Part Two



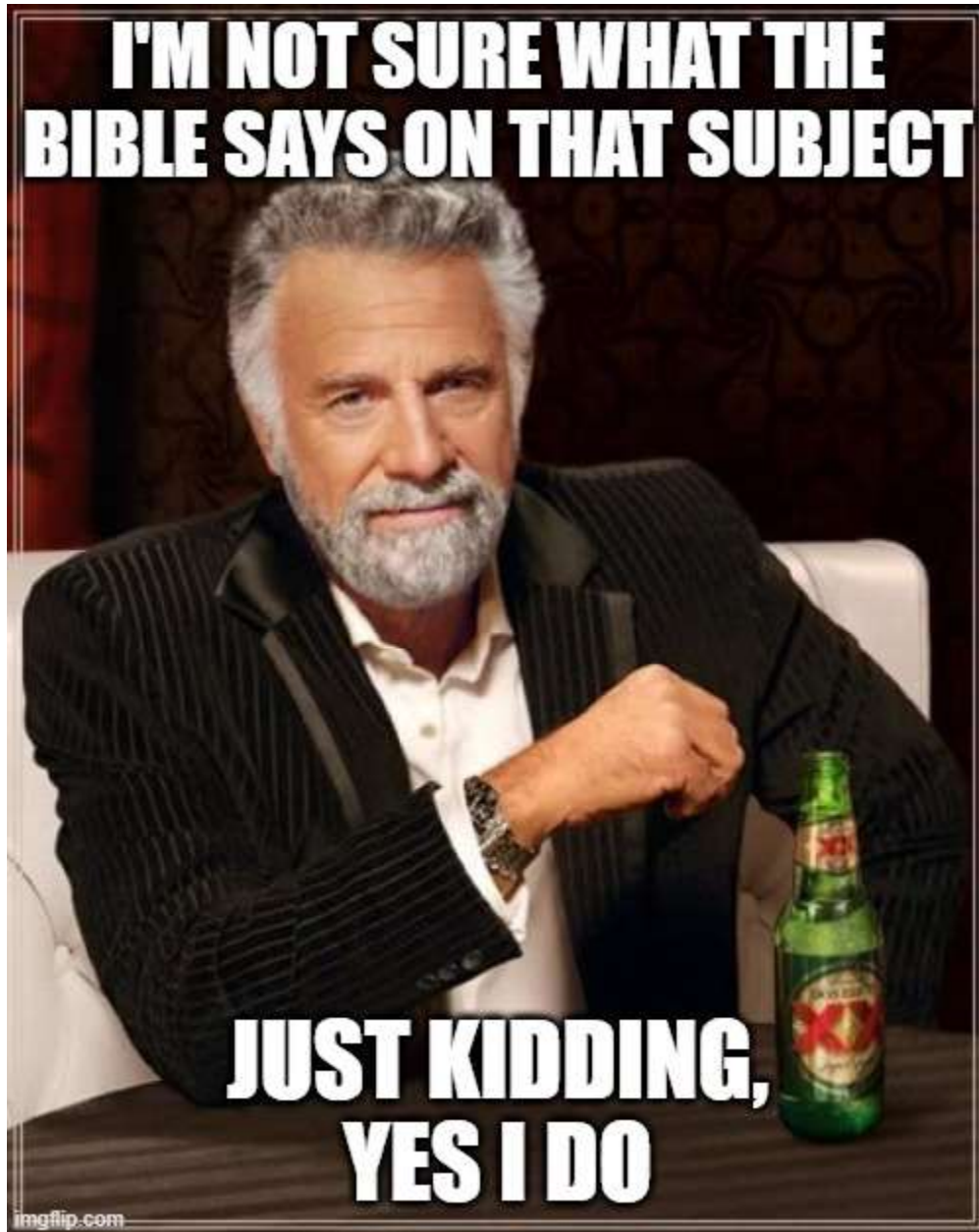
R.U.S.H. BIBLE STUDY

KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT FAST

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY FIRST EDITION 2020

v.25

DAVID HOBRATH



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TEACHER:

Section seven, authored by Isaac.

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STUDENT:

CH. 12

Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

² And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

³ And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

⁴ So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.

⁵ And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came. (KJV)



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TEACHER:

Abraham and Lot go to the Promised Land. Now in Canaan, there was a very bad famine, so they went to Egypt.

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STUDENT:

¹⁰ But there was a famine in Canaan, and it was so bad that Abram went farther south to Egypt, to live there for a while. ¹¹ When he was about to cross the border into Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, "You are a beautiful woman. ¹² When the Egyptians see you, they will assume that you are my wife, and so they will kill me and let you live. ¹³ Tell them that you are my sister; then because of you they will let me live and treat me well." ¹⁴ When he crossed the border into Egypt, the Egyptians did see that his wife was beautiful. ¹⁵ Some of the court officials saw her and told the king how beautiful she was; so she was taken to his palace. ¹⁶ Because of her the king treated Abram well and gave him flocks of sheep and goats, cattle, donkeys, slaves, and camels. (GNT)

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STUDENT:

¹⁷ But because the king had taken Sarai, the LORD sent terrible diseases on him and on the people of his palace. ¹⁸ Then the king sent for Abram and asked him, "What have you done to me? Why didn't you tell me that she was your wife? ¹⁹ Why did you say that she was your sister, and let me take her as my wife? Here is your wife; take her and get out!" ²⁰ The king gave orders to his men, so they took Abram and put him out of the country, together with his wife and everything he owned. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

This is what happens when you compromise your calling. He would not have perished in Canaan's drought. God promised him and his children many things. None of his children were born yet! So he moves to Egypt, compromises his marriage, and gets kicked out of Egypt anyway. They go North out of Egypt, back to Canaan, and because they grew so large and prosperous, they needed elbowroom so they could grow. Let's skip through chapter 13 and read the highlights.

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CH. 13

STUDENT:

Abram went north out of Egypt to the southern part of Canaan with his wife and everything he owned, and Lot went with him. ² Abram was a very rich man, with sheep, goats, and cattle, as well as silver and gold.

⁵ Lot also had sheep, goats, and cattle, as well as his own family and servants. ⁶ And so there was not enough pasture land for the two of them to stay together, because they had too many animals.

⁸ Then Abram said to Lot, "We are relatives, and your men and my men shouldn't be quarreling. ⁹ So let's separate. Choose any part of the land you want. You go one way, and I'll go the other." (GNT)

STUDENT:

¹⁰ Lot looked around and saw that the whole Jordan Valley, all the way to Zoar, had plenty of water, like the Garden of the LORD or like the land of Egypt. (This was before the LORD had destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.) ¹¹ So Lot chose the whole Jordan Valley for himself and moved away toward the east. That is how the two men parted. ¹² Abram stayed in the land of Canaan, and Lot settled among the cities in the valley and camped near Sodom, ¹³ whose people were wicked and sinned against the LORD. (GNT)

STUDENT:

¹⁴ After Lot had left, the LORD said to Abram, "From where you are, look carefully in all directions. ¹⁵ I am going to give you and your descendants all the land that you see, and it will be yours forever. ¹⁶ I am going to give you so many descendants that no one will be able to count them all; it would be as easy to count all the specks of dust on earth! ¹⁷ Now, go and look over the whole land, because I am going to give it all to you." ¹⁸ So Abram moved his camp and settled near the sacred trees of Mamre at Hebron, and there he built an altar to the LORD. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Lot moves by Sodom and Gomorrah, and sets up camp, Abraham moves to the Promised Land and sets up an altar to God. The land is filled with ungodly kings and peoples, and was often at war. Lot and his family are taken as slaves along with all their possessions, and Abraham rescues them. As a result the Kings of the area, set out to meet Abraham.

CH. 14

STUDENT:

¹⁷ When Abram came back from his victory over Chedorlaomer and the other kings, the king of Sodom went out to meet him in Shaveh Valley (also called King's Valley). ¹⁸ And Melchizedek, who was king of Salem and also a priest of the Most High God, brought bread and wine to Abram, ¹⁹ blessed him, and said, "May the Most High God, who made heaven and earth, bless Abram! ²⁰ May the Most High God, who gave you victory over your enemies, be praised!" And Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth of all the loot he had recovered.

²¹ The king of Sodom said to Abram, "Keep the loot, but give me back all my people."

²² Abram answered, "I solemnly swear before the LORD, the Most High God, Maker of heaven and earth, ²³ that I will not keep anything of yours, not even a thread or a sandal strap. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Who is Melchizedek? Modern scholars have hinted he may have been a theophany, (a manifestation of deity in human form). I believe Melchizedek was Shem, the son of Noah. Shem was still alive and all contemporary, early Chazalic literature names Melchizedek as Shem. Not doctrinal, just interesting to research.

In chapter 15 God reveals His plans for Abraham's descendants, and His covenant with Abraham.

STUDENT:

CH. 15

After this, Abram had a vision and heard the LORD say to him, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I will shield you from danger and give you a great reward."² But Abram answered, "Sovereign LORD, what good will your reward do me, since I have no children?.... one of my slaves will inherit my property."

.....⁴"This slave Eliezer will not inherit your property; your own son will be your heir." "Look at the sky and try to count the stars; you will have as many descendants as that."⁶ Abram put his trust in the LORD, and because of this the LORD was pleased with him and accepted him.⁷ Then the LORD said to him, "I am the LORD, who led you out of Ur in Babylonia, to give you this land as your own."⁸ But Abram asked, "Sovereign LORD, how can I know that it will be mine?" (GNT)

STUDENT:

⁹He answered, "Bring me a cow, a goat, and a ram, each of them three years old, and a dove and a pigeon." ¹⁰Abram brought the animals to God, cut them in half, and placed the halves opposite each other in two rows; but he did not cut up the birds. ¹¹Vultures came down on the bodies, but Abram drove them off. (GNT)

STUDENT:

¹²When the sun was going down, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and fear and terror came over him. ¹³The LORD said to him, "Your descendants will be strangers in a foreign land; they will be slaves there and will be treated cruelly for four hundred years. ¹⁴But I will punish the nation that enslaves them, and when they leave that foreign land, they will take great wealth with them. ¹⁵You yourself will live to a ripe old age, die in peace, and be buried. ¹⁶It will be four generations before your descendants come back here, because I will not drive out the Amorites until they become so wicked that they must be punished." (GNT)

STUDENT:

¹⁷When the sun had set and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch suddenly appeared and passed between the pieces of the animals. ¹⁸Then and there the LORD made a covenant with Abram. He said, "I promise to give your descendants all this land from the border of Egypt to the Euphrates River,....." (GNT)

STUDENT:

CH. 16

Abram's wife Sarai had not borne him any children. But she had an Egyptian slave woman named Hagar, ²and so she said to Abram, "The LORD has kept me from having children. Why don't you sleep with my slave? Perhaps she can have a child for me." Abram agreed with what Sarai said. ³So she gave Hagar to him to be his concubine. (This happened after Abram had lived in Canaan for ten years.) ⁴Abram had intercourse with Hagar, and she became pregnant. When she found out that she was pregnant, she became proud and despised Sarai. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Hagar runs away because Sarai retaliates. Hagar meets an angel, and the angel sends her back. He also prophesies over the unborn child.

STUDENT:

"I will give you so many descendants that no one will be able to count them. ¹¹You are going to have a son, and you will name him Ishmael, because the LORD has heard your cry of distress. ¹²But your son will live like a wild donkey; he will be against everyone, and everyone will be against him. He will live apart from all his relatives."¹⁵Hagar bore Abram a son, and he named him Ishmael. ¹⁶Abram was eighty-six years old at the time. (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 17 God sets the sign of the Covenant with Abram as circumcision and changes his name to Abraham.

CH. 17

STUDENT:

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am the Almighty God. Obey me and always do what is right. ²I will make my covenant with you and give you many descendants." "I make this covenant with you: I promise that you will be the ancestor of many nations. ⁵Your name will no longer be Abram, but Abraham,... (GNT)

STUDENT:

⁶I will give you many descendants, and some of them will be kings. You will have so many descendants that they will become nations. ⁷"I will keep my promise to you and to your descendants in future generations as an everlasting covenant. I will be your God and the God of your descendants. ⁸I will give to you and to your descendants this land in which you are now a foreigner. The whole land of Canaan will belong to your descendants forever, and I will be their God." (GNT)

STUDENT:

⁹God said to Abraham, "You also must agree to keep the covenant with me, both you and your descendants in future generations. ¹⁰You and your descendants must all agree to circumcise every male among you." ¹⁵God said to Abraham, "You must no longer call your wife Sarai; from now on her name is Sarah. ¹⁶I will bless her, and I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she will become the mother of nations, and there will be kings among her descendants." (GNT)

STUDENT:

¹⁷Abraham bowed down with his face touching the ground, but he began to laugh when he thought, "Can a man have a child when he is a hundred years old? Can Sarah have a child at ninety?" ¹⁸He asked God, "Why not let Ishmael be my heir?" ¹⁹But God said, "No. Your wife Sarah will bear you a son and you will name him Isaac. I will keep my covenant with him and with his descendants forever. It is an everlasting covenant....." ²⁴Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised, ²⁵and his son Ishmael was thirteen. ²⁶They were both circumcised on the same day.... (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 18 the promise of a son is repeated to Abraham and Sarah, and death is promised to Sodom and Gomorrah.

CH. 18

STUDENT:

The LORD appeared to Abraham at the sacred trees of Mamre. As Abraham was sitting at the entrance of his tent during the hottest part of the day, ²he looked up and saw three men standing there. As soon as he saw them, he ran out to meet them. Bowing down with his face touching the ground, ³he said, "Sirs, please do not pass by my home without stopping; I am here to serve you. ⁴Let me bring some water for you to wash your feet; you can rest here beneath this tree. ⁵I will also bring a bit of food; it will give you strength to continue your journey. You have honored me by coming to my home, so let me serve you." They replied, "Thank you; we accept." (GNT)

TEACHER:

God visits with Abraham. Sarah prepares a meal, and Abraham serves them. They ask "where is Sarah?" He tells them "in the tent." They tell Abraham she will have a son in 9 months. Sarah hears from the tent and laughs because she hadn't had a cycle in quite some time. After the meal, 2 of the men go towards Sodom, because they have heard bad things are happening there. God tarries with Abraham a bit longer. Abraham pleads for the city. God promises that He will not destroy the twin cities if there are 10 righteous souls found. In chapter 19 the 2 angels reach the city gates of Sodom. Lot convinces them to stay in his house, knowing that they would not be safe on the streets. Let's read.

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STUDENT:

⁴ Before the guests went to bed, the men of Sodom surrounded the house. All the men of the city, both young and old, were there. ⁵ They called out to Lot and asked, "Where are the men who came to stay with you tonight? Bring them out to us!" The men of Sodom wanted to have sex with them. ⁶ Lot went outside and closed the door behind him. ⁷ He said to them, "Friends, I beg you, don't do such a wicked thing! ⁸ Look, I have two daughters who are still virgins. Let me bring them out to you, and you can do whatever you want with them. But don't do anything to these men; they are guests in my house, and I must protect them." (GNT)

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TEACHER:

What is wrong with this guy? Thoughts?

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STUDENT:

⁹ But they said, "Get out of our way, you foreigner! Who are you to tell us what to do? Out of our way, or we will treat you worse than them." They pushed Lot back and moved up to break down the door. ¹⁰ But the two men inside reached out, pulled Lot back into the house, and shut the door. ¹¹ Then they struck all the men outside with blindness, so that they couldn't find the door. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

And this is why we have a 2nd amendment.

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STUDENT:

¹² The two men said to Lot, "If you have anyone else here—sons, daughters, sons-in-law, or any other relatives living in the city—get them out of here, ¹³ because we are going to destroy this place. The LORD has heard the terrible accusations against these people and has sent us to destroy Sodom." ¹⁴ Then Lot went to the men that his daughters were going to marry, and said, "Hurry up and get out of here; the LORD is going to destroy this place." But they thought he was joking. (GNT)

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STUDENT:

¹⁵ At dawn the angels tried to make Lot hurry. "Quick!" they said. "Take your wife and your two daughters and get out, so that you will not lose your lives when the city is destroyed." ¹⁶ Lot hesitated. The LORD, however, had pity on him; so the men took him, his wife, and his two daughters by the hand and led them out of the city. ¹⁷ Then one of the angels said, "Run for your lives! Don't look back and don't stop in the valley. Run to the hills, so that you won't be killed." (GNT)

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TEACHER:

As Lot was getting ready to run, the angel says something insightful. In verse 21 he says in 2 different translations

"I can't do anything until you get there" (GNT)

"I cannot do anything until you reach it." (NIV)

Despite Lot's failures, the Lord remains faithful. You and I have no right to doubt God has given up on us.

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STUDENT:

²³ The sun was rising when Lot reached Zoar. ²⁴ Suddenly the LORD rained burning sulfur on the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah ²⁵ and destroyed them and the whole valley, along with all the people there and everything that grew on the land. ²⁶ But Lot's wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt.

²⁷ Early the next morning Abraham hurried to the place where he had stood in the presence of the LORD. ²⁸ He looked down at Sodom and Gomorrah and the whole valley and saw smoke rising from the land, like smoke from a huge furnace. ²⁹ But when God destroyed the cities of the valley where Lot was living, he kept Abraham in mind and allowed Lot to escape to safety. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

The end of chapter 19 reveals the origin of 2 people groups we read about on occasion in the Old Testament. The Moabites, and the Ammonites.

The Moabites fought King Saul, King David, and when Solomon married Moabite princesses, they talked him into erecting shrines to Chemosh their god, and helped bring about his demise. There is today only 1 written document from the entire history of this tribe that survives. It is in the Louvre in Paris, called the Moabite Stone.

The Mesha Stele, the first major epigraphic Canaanite inscription found in the region of Palestine, the longest Iron Age inscription ever found in the region, constitutes the major evidence for the Moabite language, and is a "corner-stone of Semitic epigraphy", and history. The stele, whose story parallels, with some differences, an episode in the Bible's Books of Kings (2 Kings 3:4–28), provides invaluable information on the Moabite language and the political relationship between Moab and Israel at one moment in the 9th century BCE.

It is the most extensive inscription ever recovered that refers to the kingdom of Israel (the "House of Omri"); it bears the earliest certain extrabiblical reference to the Israelite god Yahweh.

It is also one of four known contemporary inscriptions containing the name of Israel, the others being the Merneptah Stele, the Tel Dan Stele, and one of the Kurkh Monoliths.



The Ammonites served Molech. They were still around 150 years after Christ and were mentioned by Justin Martyr.

In chapter 20, Abraham moves to southern Canaan, and pulls the old “she’s my sister” thing again with his wife, and God curses the kingdom. Abimelech talks to God, and God spares him. Let’s read what God said.

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CH. 20

STUDENT:

³ One night God appeared to him in a dream and said, “You are going to die, because you have taken this woman; she is already married.”

⁴ But Abimelech had not come near her, and he said, “Lord, I am innocent! Would you destroy me and my people? ⁵ Abraham himself said that she was his sister, and she said the same thing. I did this with a clear conscience, and I have done no wrong.”

⁶ God replied in the dream, “Yes, I know that you did it with a clear conscience; so I kept you from sinning against me and did not let you touch her. ⁷ But now, give the woman back to her husband. He is a prophet, and he will pray for you, so that you will not die. But if you do not give her back, I warn you that you are going to die, you and all your people.” (GNT)

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TEACHER:

We find at the end of the chapter that all Abimelech's household was barren as a result of him taking Sarah, and after he freed her, God opened their wombs. Chapter 21 starts with a baby! Isaac is born. As he grows, the tension deepens between Sarah and Hagar, and Hagar is expelled. Ishmael grows to be a mighty hunter as God walks with him, and marries an Egyptian woman. Let's read some excerpts. One must consider, how the Middle East would look today if these 2 women would have loved each other.

STUDENT:

The LORD blessed Sarah, as he had promised, ² and she became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham when he was old. The boy was born at the time God had said he would be born. ³ Abraham named him Isaac, ⁴ and when Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God had commanded. ⁵ Abraham was a hundred years old when Isaac was born. ⁶ Sarah said, "God has brought me joy and laughter. Everyone who hears about it will laugh with me" ⁸ The child grew, and on the day that he was weaned, Abraham gave a great feast. (GNT)

STUDENT:

⁹ One day Ishmael, whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham, was playing with Sarah's son Isaac. ¹⁰ Sarah saw them and said to Abraham, "Send this slave and her son away. The son of this woman must not get any part of your wealth, which my son Isaac should inherit." ¹¹ This troubled Abraham very much, because Ishmael also was his son. ¹² But God said to Abraham, "Don't be worried about the boy and your slave Hagar. Do whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that you will have the descendants I have promised. ¹³ I will also give many children to the son of the slave woman, so that they will become a nation. He too is your son." (GNT)

STUDENT:

¹⁴ Early the next morning Abraham gave Hagar some food and a leather bag full of water. He put the child on her back and sent her away.

¹⁵ When the water was all gone, she left the child under a bush ¹⁶ and sat down about a hundred yards away. She said to herself, "I can't bear to see my child die." While she was sitting there, she began to cry.

¹⁷ God heard the boy crying, and from heaven the angel of God spoke to Hagar, "What are you troubled about, Hagar? Don't be afraid. God has heard the boy crying. ¹⁸ Get up, go and pick him up, and comfort him. I will make a great nation out of his descendants."

²⁰ God was with the boy as he grew up; he lived in the wilderness of Paran and became a skillful hunter. ²¹ His mother got an Egyptian wife for him. (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 22 God puts Abraham to the test.

STUDENT:

Some time later God tested Abraham; he called to him, "Abraham!" And Abraham answered, "Yes, here I am!"

² "Take your son," God said, "your only son, Isaac, whom you love so much, and go to the land of Moriah. There on a mountain that I will show you, offer him as a sacrifice to me."

³ Early the next morning Abraham cut some wood for the sacrifice, loaded his donkey, and took Isaac and two servants with him. They started out for the place that God had told him about. ⁴ On the third day Abraham saw the place in the distance. ⁵ Then he said to the servants, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go over there and worship, and then we will come back to you." (GNT)

STUDENT:

⁶ Abraham made Isaac carry the wood for the sacrifice, and he himself carried a knife and live coals for starting the fire. As they walked along together, ⁷ Isaac spoke up, "Father!"

He answered, "Yes, my son?"

Isaac asked, "I see that you have the coals and the wood, but where is the lamb for the sacrifice?" (GNT)

⁸ Abraham answered, "God himself will provide one." And the two of them walked on together. ⁹ When they came to the place which God had told him about, Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood on it. He tied up his son and placed him on the altar, on top of the wood.

¹⁰ Then he picked up the knife to kill him. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" He answered, "Yes, here I am." (GNT)



STUDENT:

¹² "Don't hurt the boy or do anything to him," he said. "Now I know that you honor and obey God, because you have not kept back your only son from him." ¹³ Abraham looked around and saw a ram caught in a bush by its horns. He went and got it and offered it as a burnt offering instead of his son.

¹⁶ "I make a vow by my own name—the LORD is speaking—that I will richly bless you. Because you did this and did not keep back your only son from me, ¹⁷ I promise that I will give you as many descendants as there are stars in the sky or grains of sand along the seashore. Your descendants will conquer their enemies. ¹⁸ All the nations will ask me to bless them as I have blessed your descendants—all because you obeyed my command." (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 23 Sarah dies at 127 years old, and Abraham buys a burial ground. It was a beautiful testimony of how he lived among the Hittites. We will read a few scattered verses.

STUDENT:

³ He left the place where his wife's body was lying, went to the Hittites, and said, ⁴ "I am a foreigner living here among you; sell me some land, so that I can bury my wife."

⁵ They answered, ⁶ "Listen to us, sir. We look upon you as a mighty leader; bury your wife in the best grave that we have. Any of us would be glad to give you a grave, so that you can bury her."

please ask Ephron son of Zohar ⁹ to sell me Machpelah Cave, which is near the edge of his field. (GNT)

STUDENT:

¹⁰ Ephron himself was sitting with the other Hittites at the meeting place at the city gate; he answered in the hearing of everyone there, ¹¹ "Listen, sir; I will give you the whole field and the cave that is in it. Here in the presence of my own people, I will give it to you, so that you can bury your wife."

"May I ask you, please, to listen. I will buy the whole field. Accept my payment, and I will bury my wife there."

"Sir, land worth only four hundred pieces of silver—what is that between us? Bury your wife in it." ¹⁶ Abraham agreed and weighed out the amount that Ephron had mentioned (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 24 starts with Abraham (who is now quite old), sending his oldest servant to the land he was born in, to find a wife from among his relatives there. The servant heads to Mesopotamia where they came from and prays for a sign from God.

CH. 24

STUDENT:

¹² He prayed, "LORD, God of my master Abraham, give me success today and keep your promise to my master. ¹³ Here I am at the well where the young women of the city will be coming to get water. ¹⁴ I will say to one of them, 'Please, lower your jar and let me have a drink.' If she says, 'Drink, and I will also bring water for your camels,' may she be the one that you have chosen for your servant Isaac. If this happens, I will know that you have kept your promise to my master." (GNT)

TEACHER:

God answered the servant's prayer, and Rebecca was more than anyone could've hoped for. Beautiful inside and out. The family of Abraham's living in Mesopotamia were Godly people and Rebecca went to meet her fiancé. Let's read about their meeting.

STUDENT:

⁶² Isaac had come into the wilderness of "The Well of the Living One Who Sees Me" and was staying in the southern part of Canaan. ⁶³ He went out in the early evening to take a walk in the fields and saw camels coming. ⁶⁴ When Rebecca saw Isaac, she got down from her camel ⁶⁵ and asked Abraham's servant, "Who is that man walking toward us in the field?" "He is my master," the servant answered. So she took her scarf and covered her face. ⁶⁶ The servant told Isaac everything he had done. ⁶⁷ Then Isaac brought Rebecca into the tent that his mother Sarah had lived in, and she became his wife. Isaac loved Rebecca, and so he was comforted for the loss of his mother. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Abraham dies at the ripe old age of 175, He had remarried in chapter 25 and had more kids, but he sent them to the east before he died, to prevent any problems with Isaac inheriting the land of Israel. Ishmael also grows into many nations, who all live east of Egypt. Isaac and Rebecca were married when he was 40, but they had no kids for 20 years. They prayed and God gave them twins. Jakob and Esau. As the boys turn into men, Esau, the eldest, sells his birthright for a bowl of stew.

[Section eight, authored by Ishmael.](#)

[Section nine, authored by Jacob.](#)

CH. 25

STUDENT:

²⁷ The boys grew up, and Esau became a skilled hunter, a man who loved the outdoors, but Jacob was a quiet man who stayed at home. ²⁹ One day while Jacob was cooking some bean soup, Esau came in from hunting. He was hungry ³⁰ and said to Jacob, "I'm starving; give me some of that red stuff." (That is why he was named Edom.) ³¹ Jacob answered, "I will give it to you if you give me your rights as the first-born son." ³² Esau said, "All right! I am about to die; what good will my rights do me?" ³³ Jacob answered, "First make a vow that you will give me your rights." Esau made the vow and gave his rights to Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave him some bread and some of the soup. He ate and drank and then got up and left. That was all Esau cared about his rights as the first-born son. (GNT)

TEACHER:

As Isaac prospers, God passes his father's covenant to him.

CH. 26

STUDENT:

²⁴ That night the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am the God of your father Abraham. Do not be afraid; I am with you. I will bless you and give you many descendants because of my promise to my servant Abraham." ²⁵ Isaac built an altar there and worshiped the LORD. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Esau marries 2 Hittite women, and they make Isaac's and Rebecca's lives miserable. Isaac now is very old and blind. It is time for him to pray the paternal blessings on his children. The birthright that Esau traded for a bowl of soup to his brother Jacob. Rebecca wants the blessing to fall to Jacob, not Esau, and she talks Jacob into fooling the blind Isaac.

CH. 27

STUDENT:

²⁵ Isaac said, "Bring me some of the meat. After I eat it, I will give you my blessing." Jacob brought it to him, and he also brought him some wine to drink. ²⁶ Then his father said to him, "Come closer and kiss me, son." ²⁷ As he came up to kiss him, Isaac smelled his clothes—so he gave him his blessing. He said, "The pleasant smell of my son is like the smell of a field which the LORD has blessed. ²⁸ May God give you dew from heaven and make your fields fertile! May he give you plenty of grain and wine! ²⁹ May nations be your servants, and may peoples bow down before you. May you rule over all your relatives, and may your mother's descendants bow down before you. May those who curse you be cursed, and may those who bless you be blessed." (GNT)

TEACHER:

When Esau found out what happened, he was furious. Verse 41 says Esau hated Jacob, and after Isaac dies he planned to kill him. When Rebecca heard of his plan, she sent Jacob to her family's house until Esau would cool down. As Jacob is traveling, he has a dream.

CH. 28

STUDENT:

¹¹ At sunset he came to a holy place and camped there. He lay down to sleep, resting his head on a stone. ¹² He dreamed that he saw a stairway reaching from earth to heaven, with angels going up and coming down on it. ¹³ And there was the LORD standing beside him. "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham and Isaac," he said. "I will give to you and to your descendants this land on which you are lying. (GNT)

STUDENT:

¹⁴ They will be as numerous as the specks of dust on the earth. They will extend their territory in all directions, and through you and your descendants
I will bless all the nations. ¹⁵ Remember, I will be with you and protect you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done all that I have promised you." (GNT)

TEACHER:

This happened in Bethel, which is about 12 miles north of Jerusalem. This is where Jacob started to really get serious with God. This is where he started tithing, and where he started setting up his own altars, not just worshipping at his father's, and Abrahams. He arrives at his destination and sets up house with his uncle Laban. He ends up making a deal with Laban to work his flocks for 7 years, for Rachael's hand in marriage. Laban agrees, and the 7 years fly by. At the wedding, Laban tricks him and sends Leah the older sister for the wedding night. The next day, Jacob finds out and is upset. He claims it is as to custom for the older to marry 1st. He agrees to let Jacob marry the younger daughter in a week, for 7 more years work. Kind of a spiritual payback for tricking his brother out of his birthright and blessing perhaps. These 2 "sister wives" had some problems of their own. Leah was loved less than Racheal, so God gave Leah four sons. Racheal was barren for a time. Leah thought in her heart.....

CH. 29

STUDENT:

She said, "Now my husband will be bound more tightly to me, because I have borne him three sons"; so she named him Levi.
³⁵ Then she became pregnant again and gave birth to another son. She said, "This time I will praise the LORD"; so she named him Judah. Then she stopped having children. (GNT)



TEACHER:

This starts a baby making war between these 2 sisters. While this is going on Laban and Jacob aren't doing much better. Through several agreements God blessed the results to Jacob's benefit every time.

STUDENT:

CH. 30

Soon Laban had all the weak animals, and Jacob all the healthy ones. ⁴³ In this way Jacob became very wealthy. He had many flocks, slaves, camels, and donkeys. (GNT)
Jacob heard that Laban's sons were saying, "Jacob has taken everything that belonged to our father. He got all his wealth from what our father owned." ² He also saw that Laban was no longer as friendly as he had been earlier. ³ Then the LORD said to him, "Go back to the land of your fathers and to your relatives. I will be with you." (GNT)

TEACHER:

Funny thing I notice here. How these 3, Jacob, Leah, and Rachael have changed over the last 21 years. Jacob doing what he wanted, Leah and Rachael the same. From "looking out for #1" to this one.

CH. 31

STUDENT: *Jacob's wives to Jacob.*

¹⁶ "Do whatever God has told you." (GNT)

TEACHER:

Not my will, not your will, but God's will. They head back to the land promised to Abraham, Laban pursues, and they agree to part. Sounds good on the surface, but when Jacob left 21 years earlier, he burned a lot of bridges. In chapter 32 he intends to buy his brothers forgiveness with the treasures he secured from his time with Laban. He feared for his life. He is traveling with great wealth, 2 wives, 2 concubines, and 11 sons. As he sends everything ahead, he wrestles alone with God.

STUDENT:

CH. 32

²³ After he had sent them across, he also sent across all that he owned, ²⁴ but he stayed behind, alone. Then a man came and wrestled with him until just before daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he was not winning the struggle, he hit Jacob on the hip, and it was thrown out of joint. ²⁶ The man said, "Let me go; daylight is coming."

"I won't, unless you bless me," Jacob answered.

²⁷ "What is your name?" the man asked. "Jacob," he answered.

²⁸ The man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob. You have struggled with God and with men, and you have won; so your name will be Israel." ²⁹ Jacob said, "Now tell me your name." (GNT)

STUDENT:

But he answered, "Why do you want to know my name?" Then he blessed Jacob.

³⁰ Jacob said, "I have seen God face-to-face, and I am still alive"; so he named the place Peniel. ³¹ The sun rose as Jacob was leaving Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip. ³² Even today the descendants of Israel do not eat the muscle which is on the hip joint, because it was on this muscle that Jacob was hit. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Jacob sees Esau coming with 400 men and falls on the ground and bows to him 7 times. This is what Esau did.

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CH. 33

STUDENT:

³ Jacob went ahead of them and bowed down to the ground seven times as he approached his brother. ⁴ But Esau ran to meet him, threw his arms around him, and kissed him. They were both crying. ⁵ When Esau looked around and saw the women and the children, he asked, "Who are these people with you?"

"These, sir, are the children whom God has been good enough to give me," Jacob answered. ⁶ Then the concubines came up with their children and bowed down; ⁷ then Leah and her children came, and last of all Joseph and Rachel came and bowed down.

⁸ Esau asked, "What about that other group I met? What did that mean?"

Jacob answered, "It was to gain your favor."

⁹ But Esau said, "I have enough, my brother; keep what you have." (GNT)

=====

TEACHER:

Jacob insists and Esau accepts the gift. It is telling, how when one gets close to God, they change from one who takes, to one who gives. From hoarding, to giving. Esau also, from wanting to kill, to wanting to protect.

Chapter 34 shows a very dark day for Jacob. His daughter is raped by a member of the royal family in their new town, Shechem. It's a long story, but the end result is all the men of the town die, and the city is sacked.

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STUDENT:

³⁰ Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, "You have gotten me into trouble; now the Canaanites, the Perizzites, and everybody else in the land will hate me. I do not have many men; if they all band together against me and attack me, our whole family will be destroyed."

³¹ But they answered, "We cannot let our sister be treated like a common whore." (GNT)

=====

TEACHER:

Jacob needs to lead his family. He needs these children to serve God and trust in Him. God tells him what to do.

=====

CH. 34

STUDENT:

God said to Jacob, "Go to Bethel at once, and live there. Build an altar there to me, the God who appeared to you when you were running away from your brother Esau."

² So Jacob said to his family and to all who were with him, "Get rid of the foreign gods that you have; purify yourselves and put on clean clothes. ³ We are going to leave here and go to Bethel, where I will build an altar to the God who helped me in the time of my trouble and who has been with me everywhere I have gone." (GNT)

=====

TEACHER:

CH. 36

God blesses him, Rachael dies on the road as they are leaving Bethel, the baby is named Benjamin, and the place is named Bethlehem. They continue on to Isaac, and arrive in time for Isaac to visit with all 12 of Jacobs's sons who would become the 12 tribes of Israel. Esau and Jacob bury their father Isaac soon after. Esau then leaves for the hill country, now called Edom, as Esau is the father of all the Edomite's.

In chapter 37 we find the 12 sons are coming of age, Joseph the 2nd youngest, is now 17 years old. Note that the coat with the full sleeves referred to here, is in many translations the coat of many colors.

The final section, ten, authored by The Sons of Jacob.

STUDENT:

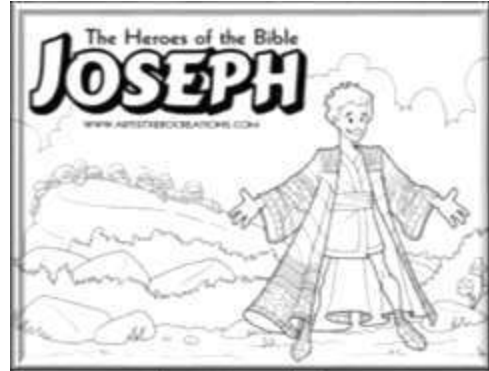
CH. 37

Joseph, a young man of seventeen, took care of the sheep and goats with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's concubines. He brought bad reports to his father about what his brothers were doing.

³ Jacob loved Joseph more than all his other sons, because he had been born to him when he was old.

He made a long robe with full sleeves for him.

⁴ When his brothers saw that their father loved Joseph more than he loved them, they hated their brother so much that they would not speak to him in a friendly manner. (GNT)



TEACHER:

Joseph makes matters worse by telling his brothers that God gave him dream's that his family would all serve him, and bow down to him. His father was also upset at the dreams, but pondered them more carefully than his sons did. While they were moving the flocks to find good pastureland, Joseph was following to meet them, and they hatched a plot to kill him.

STUDENT:

¹⁸ They saw him in the distance, and before he reached them, they plotted against him and decided to kill him. ¹⁹ They said to one another, "Here comes that dreamer. ²⁰ Come on now, let's kill him and throw his body into one of the dry wells. We can say that a wild animal killed him. Then we will see what becomes of his dreams."

²¹ Reuben heard them and tried to save Joseph. "Let's not kill him," he said. ²² "Just throw him into this well in the wilderness, but don't hurt him." He said this, planning to save him from them and send him back to his father. ²³ When Joseph came up to his brothers, they ripped off his long robe with full sleeves. ²⁴ Then they took him and threw him into the well, which was dry. (GNT)

TEACHER;

Judah convinces the other brothers to sell him as a slave to some traveling Ishmaelite's heading to Egypt, rather than killing him, and they agree. They kill a goat and smear the blood on the coat of many colors and pretend he was killed by a wild animal. Meanwhile Joseph is sold to Potiphar, a captain of the palace guard in Egypt. So life goes on and as the years go by the other sons of Jacob mature, get married and have children and possessions of their own. Judah has 2 sons that God kills because of the way they behaved, and Judah was supposed to give the wife of the sons to his youngest son but sent her home a widow to her father instead.

She then tricks Judah into sleeping with her, and she gets pregnant. When everyone thinks she was prostituting, Judah commands them to burn her alive in verse 24 of chapter 38. She then shows proof that Judah is the father.

CH. 38

STUDENT:

"I am pregnant by the man who owns these things. Look at them and see whose they are—this seal with its cord and this walking stick."

²⁶ Judah recognized them and said, "She is in the right. I have failed in my obligation to her—I should have given her to my son Shelah in marriage." And Judah never had intercourse with her again.

²⁷ When the time came for her to give birth, it was discovered that she was going to have twins. ²⁸ While she was in labor, one of them put out an arm; the midwife caught it, tied a red thread around it, and said, "This one was born first." ²⁹ But he pulled his arm back, and his brother was born first. Then the midwife said, "So this is how you break your way out!" So he was named Perez. ³⁰ Then his brother was born with the red thread on his arm, and he was named Zerah. (GNT)

TEACHER:

While Judah was learning his lessons in chapter 38, it's Joseph going through trials in chapter 39. God was heavy in Joseph's life in Egypt, and blessed everything he touched. Potiphar saw this and put him over his whole household. He was very handsome, and caught the attention of Potiphar's wife. But he would not sin.

CH. 39

STUDENT:

Joseph was well-built and good-looking, ⁷ and after a while his master's wife began to desire Joseph and asked him to go to bed with her. ⁸ He refused and said to her, "Look, my master does not have to concern himself with anything in the house, because I am here. He has put me in charge of everything he has. ⁹ I have as much authority in this house as he has, and he has not kept back anything from me except you. How then could I do such an immoral thing and sin against God?" ¹⁰ Although she asked Joseph day after day, he would not go to bed with her. (GNT)

STUDENT:

¹¹ But one day when Joseph went into the house to do his work, none of the house servants was there. ¹² She caught him by his robe and said, "Come to bed with me." But he escaped and ran outside, leaving his robe in her hand. ¹³ When she saw that he had left his robe and had run out of the house, ¹⁴ she called to her house servants and said, "Look at this! This Hebrew that my husband brought to the house is insulting us. He came into my room and tried to rape me, but I screamed as loud as I could. ¹⁵ When he heard me scream, he ran outside, leaving his robe beside me."

¹⁶ She kept his robe with her until Joseph's master came home. ¹⁷ Then she told him the same story: "That Hebrew slave that you brought here came into my room and insulted me. ¹⁸ But when I screamed, he ran outside, leaving his robe beside me." (GNT)

STUDENT:

¹⁹ Joseph's master was furious ²⁰ and had Joseph arrested and put in the prison where the king's prisoners were kept, and there he stayed. ²¹ But the LORD was with Joseph and blessed him, so that the jailer was pleased with him. ²² He put Joseph in charge of all the other prisoners and made him responsible for everything that was done in the prison. ²³ The jailer did not have to look after anything for which Joseph was responsible, because the LORD was with Joseph and made him succeed in everything he did. (GNT)

TEACHER:

"Some guys just can't catch a break" might be the title of Joseph's biography. He tells his family about a dream God gave him, they get mad at him. His own brothers sell him into slavery, he works hard and honestly, and refuses to sin even after all that, and gets thrown in jail for that. For doing what God expects from him. Then in jail, he performs expertly, and the guard puts him in charge, once there he interprets dreams that lead to a promotion for a cup bearer to the king. He asks the wine steward to remember him, and he forgot about him.

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STUDENT:

CH. 40

²⁰ On his birthday three days later the king gave a banquet for all his officials; he released his wine steward and his chief baker and brought them before his officials. ²¹ He restored the wine steward to his former position, ²² but he executed the chief baker. It all happened just as Joseph had said. ²³ But the wine steward never gave Joseph another thought—he forgot all about him. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

2 years go by. The king of Egypt has a series of dreams. He calls for his wise men and advisers but no one could interpret them. The wine steward remembers Joseph. Joseph is cleaned up, called before the king and hears the dreams.

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STUDENT:

CH. 41

²⁵ Joseph said to the king, “The two dreams mean the same thing; God has told you what he is going to do. ²⁶ The seven fat cows are seven years, and the seven full heads of grain are also seven years; they have the same meaning. ²⁷ The seven thin cows which came up later and the seven thin heads of grain scorched by the desert wind are seven years of famine. ²⁸ It is just as I told you—God has shown you what he is going to do. ²⁹ There will be seven years of great plenty in all the land of Egypt. ³⁰ After that, there will be seven years of famine, and all the good years will be forgotten, because the famine will ruin the country. ³¹ The time of plenty will be entirely forgotten, because the famine which follows will be so terrible. ³² The repetition of your dream means that the matter is fixed by God and that he will make it happen in the near future. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Joseph tells the king to put someone wise in charge, to collect 20% of all the crops during the fat years, so the people will survive the 7 year famine that is coming.

=====

STUDENT:

³⁷ The king and his officials approved this plan, ³⁸ and he said to them, “We will never find a better man than Joseph, a man who has God's spirit in him.” ³⁹ The king said to Joseph, “God has shown you all this, so it is obvious that you have greater wisdom and insight than anyone else. ⁴⁰ I will put you in charge of my country, and all my people will obey your orders. Your authority will be second only to mine. ⁴¹ I now appoint you governor over all Egypt.” ⁴² The king removed from his finger the ring engraved with the royal seal and put it on Joseph's finger. He put a fine linen robe on him, and placed a gold chain around his neck. ⁴³ He gave him the second royal chariot to ride in, and his guard of honor went ahead of him and cried out, “Make way! Make way!” And so Joseph was appointed governor over all Egypt. ⁴⁴ The king said to him, “I am the king—and no one in all Egypt shall so much as lift a hand or a foot without your permission.” (GNT)

=====

TEACHER:

Joseph goes from being a daddy's boy at 17, to the right hand of the throne of Phaoroh in Egypt, and he was only 30 years old. He amasses wealth for the crown over the 7 fat years, and during the 7 lean years, the whole world looked to Egypt, and Joseph was in charge. And guess who's hungry? The very family who he dreamed about bowing to him. Let's read some excerpts from the very same people who sold him into slavery in the 1st place.

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STUDENT:

CH. 42

When Jacob learned that there was grain in Egypt, he said to his sons, “Why don't you do something? ² I hear that there is grain in Egypt; go there and buy some to keep us from starving to death.” ³ So Joseph's ten half-brothers went to buy grain in Egypt, ⁴ but Jacob did not send Joseph's full brother Benjamin with them, because he was afraid that something might happen to him. (GNT)

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STUDENT:

⁵The sons of Jacob came with others to buy grain, because there was famine in the land of Canaan. ⁶Joseph, as governor of the land of Egypt, was selling grain to people from all over the world. So Joseph's brothers came and bowed down before him with their faces to the ground. ⁷When Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them, but he acted as if he did not know them. He asked them harshly, "Where do you come from?" "We have come from Canaan to buy food," they answered. ⁸Although Joseph recognized his brothers, they did not recognize him. ⁹He remembered the dreams he had dreamed about... (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Joseph plans an elaborate scheme to bring them all to Egypt, and teach them a lesson in the process. You must study these chapters in detail at home to get the full effect. It will not be a waste of time. Finally Joseph in chapter 43 is reunited with all the brothers in 1 room. But no one knows that he is their brother. They share a royal meal in Joseph's house, and are given assigned seats in the proper order, much to their amazement. How could he know the order of their birth?

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STUDENT:

³²Joseph was served at one table and his brothers at another. The Egyptians who were eating there were served separately, because they considered it beneath their dignity to eat with Hebrews. ³³The brothers had been seated at the table, facing Joseph, in the order of their age from the oldest to the youngest. When they saw how they had been seated, they looked at one another in amazement. ³⁴Food was served to them from Joseph's table, and Benjamin was served five times as much as the rest of them. So they ate and drank with Joseph until they were drunk. (GNT)

=====

TEACHER:

Joseph demands they leave Benjamin with him. Judah pleads with him to take him instead, as it would kill his father, still not realizing it was Joseph.

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STUDENT:

³⁰⁻³¹"And now, sir," Judah continued, "if I go back to my father without the boy, as soon as he sees that the boy is not with me, he will die. His life is wrapped up with the life of the boy, and he is so old that the sorrow we would cause him would kill him. ³²What is more, I pledged my life to my father for the boy. I told him that if I did not bring the boy back to him, I would bear the blame all my life. ³³And now, sir, I will stay here as your slave in place of the boy; let him go back with his brothers. ³⁴How can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? I cannot bear to see this disaster come upon my father." (GNT)

=====

TEACHER:

Finally Joseph is so overcome with love he breaks down and tells them everything.

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STUDENT:

Joseph was no longer able to control his feelings in front of his servants, so he ordered them all to leave the room. No one else was with him when Joseph told his brothers who he was. ²He cried with such loud sobs that the Egyptians heard it, and the news was taken to the king's palace. ³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But when his brothers heard this, they were so terrified that they could not answer. ⁴Then Joseph said to them, "Please come closer." They did, and he said, "I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. (GNT)

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CH. 43

CH. 44

CH. 45

STUDENT:

⁵ Now do not be upset or blame yourselves because you sold me here. It was really God who sent me ahead of you to save people's lives. ⁶ This is only the second year of famine in the land; there will be five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor reaping. ⁷ God sent me ahead of you to rescue you in this amazing way and to make sure that you and your descendants survive. ⁸ So it was not really you who sent me here, but God. He has made me the king's highest official. I am in charge of his whole country; I am the ruler of all Egypt.

⁹ "Now hurry back to my father and tell him that this is what his son Joseph says: 'God has made me ruler of all Egypt; come to me without delay. (GNT)

TEACHER:

The king finds out about the story of Joseph's family and is very pleased. He rolls out the red carpet, and bankrolls the whole undertaking.

STUDENT:

²⁵ They left Egypt and went back home to their father Jacob in Canaan. ²⁶ "Joseph is still alive!" they told him. "He is the ruler of all Egypt!" Jacob was stunned and could not believe them.

²⁷ But when they told him all that Joseph had said to them, and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to take him to Egypt, he recovered from the shock. ²⁸ "My son Joseph is still alive!" he said. "This is all I could ask for! I must go and see him before I die." (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 46 God speaks to Jacob, still reeling from the shock that Joseph is still alive.

STUDENT:

CH. 46 Jacob packed up all he had and went to Beersheba, where he offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. ² God spoke to him in a vision at night and called, "Jacob, Jacob!"

"Yes, here I am," he answered.

³ "I am God, the God of your father," he said. "Do not be afraid to go to Egypt; I will make your descendants a great nation there. ⁴ I will go with you to Egypt, and I will bring your descendants back to this land. Joseph will be with you when you die." (GNT)

TEACHER:

Jacob makes the trip and Joseph sets him up at the king's expense. In chapter 47 the global famine begins in earnest. Joseph uses the opportunity to buy all the land and possessions of the people in the realm, and finally the subjects of the kingdom become the property of the throne as indentured servants.

STUDENT:

CH. 47 ²⁰ Joseph bought all the land in Egypt for the king. Every Egyptian was forced to sell his land, because the famine was so severe; and all the land became the king's property. ²¹ Joseph made slaves of the people from one end of Egypt to the other. ²² The only land he did not buy was the land that belonged to the priests. They did not have to sell their lands, because the king gave them an allowance to live on. ²³ Joseph said to the people, "You see, I have now bought you and your lands for the king. Here is seed for you to sow in your fields. (GNT)

STUDENT:

²⁴ At the time of harvest you must give one-fifth to the king. You can use the rest for seed and for food for yourselves and your families."

²⁵ They answered, "You have saved our lives; you have been good to us, sir, and we will be the king's slaves." ²⁶ So Joseph made it a law for the land of Egypt that one-fifth of the harvest should belong to the king. This law still remains in force today. Only the lands of the priests did not become the king's property. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Joseph promises his father that he would bury him in the land of his father, not in Egypt. As Jacob is near death, he thanks God that he not only sees his lost son Joseph, who he thought had died, but he now sees Joseph's sons as well. He prays this prayer over his grandsons. Are you praying for yours?

CH. 48

STUDENT:

"May God, whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac served, bless these boys!

May God, who has led me to this very day, bless them!

¹⁶ May the angel, who has rescued me from all harm, bless them!

May my name and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac live on through these boys!

May they have many children, many descendants!" (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 49 Jacob blesses the 12 tribes.

REUBEN	DAN
SIMEON	GAD
LEVI	ASHER
JUDAH	NAPHTALI
ZEBULUN	JOSEPH
ISSACHAR	BENJAMIN

He then requests his place of burial.

CH. 49

STUDENT:

²⁹ Then Jacob commanded his sons, "Now that I am going to join my people in death, bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, ³⁰ at Machpelah east of Mamre in the land of Canaan. Abraham bought this cave and field from Ephron for a burial ground. ³¹ That is where they buried Abraham and his wife Sarah; that is where they buried Isaac and his wife Rebecca; and that is where I buried Leah.

³² The field and the cave in it were bought from the Hittites. Bury me there." ³³ When Jacob had finished giving instructions to his sons, he lay back down and died. (GNT)

In chapter 50 (the final chapter) Jacob is embalmed, and mourned for 70 days. After the mourning is over and Jacob is buried in his family tomb with Abraham, Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, and Leah, Joseph's brothers fear that now Joseph will punish them for selling him into slavery. Joseph's response is most likely the most Christian answer given by anyone in the Old Testament.

STUDENT:

'Please forgive the crime your brothers committed when they wronged you.' Now please forgive us the wrong that we, the servants of your father's God, have done." Joseph cried when he received this message.

¹⁸ Then his brothers themselves came and bowed down before him. "Here we are before you as your slaves," they said. ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid; I can't put myself in the place of God. ²⁰ You plotted evil against me, but God turned it into good, in order to preserve the lives of many people who are alive today because of what happened. ²¹ You have nothing to fear. I will take care of you and your children." So he reassured them with kind words that touched their hearts. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Joseph lived to 110 years old, He saw his grand kids, and his great grand kids. His dying request was when God calls you out of Egypt, take my bones with you.

NEXT LESSON EXODUS

"I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

Genesis 28:15

Cave of the patriarchs, viewed from the South today. Abraham and Sarah are buried here. At this site we have the only time in Scripture that a woman's exact age is given, and her burial is the Bible's 1st time a burial was recorded. The purchase of this site was the 1st financial transaction in Scripture. Isaac is buried here, and his wife Rebecca. Jacob is embalmed in Egypt, and buried here as well. Joseph died in Egypt, and 400 years later he brought Here during the Exodus and buried here.

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