

THMinistry.org

We continue steadfastly in prayer, and in the
ministry of the word.

Acts 6: 4 ASV

Welcome to Bible Study and Prayer
THE STORY OF JOSEPH

Wednesday 5 July, 2017 A.D.
(Anno Domini – In the year of our Lord)

Wednesday 11 Tammuz, 5777

THMinistry.org

- Through the story we see God's providence and divine purpose like a thread of gold in a web of silver. Somehow, in a way we can not fully comprehend, but can realize and believe, out of all the evil of Joseph and his brothers, at last bringing greater good for them and all around them, keeping alive many people, and enabling Joseph to fulfill the birthright of Israel, to be a blessing unto mankind.
- As the beautiful rose blossoms forth out of the

THMinistry.org

dirt and dung, in accordance with God's law, so, likewise in accordance with God's law, out of evil deeds greater good and blessing must in time spring forth for later generations.

- Men may mean it for evil, but God means it for good.
- God has not merely created the world and set it going, and since then sits back in passive idleness; God is still in the world, guiding the

THMinistry.org

destinies of men and nations aright in accordance with His wise and beneficent laws, changing evil to good, and bringing mankind steadily forward upon the path of truth and progress, which leads to the goal of human existence which He has appointed.

- The First Book of Moses, Genesis, the book of generations, chapters 37 thru 50, deal with Joseph and his brothers, describing 11 events:

THMinistry.org

- Joseph's brothers sell him to Midianite (Ishmaelite) merchants, who later sell him to Potiphar in Egypt (chapter 37).
- Judah commits adultery with daughter-in-law Tamar, and she bears him twins (chapter 38).
- Potiphar's wife accuses Joseph of trying to commit adultery with her, and Potiphar casts Joseph into prison (chapter 39).
- In prison, Joseph interprets the dreams of the

THMinistry.org

Pharaoh's chief baker (chapter 40).

- Joseph interprets the Pharaoh's dreams, announces a great famine, and is put in charge of preparing for it (chapter 41: 1-52).
- When famine comes, Joseph's brothers make two trips to get grain for Jacob's household (chapters 41: 53 – chapter 44: 34).
- Joseph reveals his identity to his brothers and they bring the news to Jacob (chapter 45).

THMinistry.org

- Jacob's family moves to Egypt (chapters 46 - chapter 47).
- Jacob blesses Joseph's two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh (chapter 48).
- Jacob forecasts the future concerning his sons and their descendants and dies (chapter 49).
- Joseph and his brothers bury Jacob; Joseph makes peace with his brothers, dies and is embalmed (chapter 50).

THMinistry.org

- These chapters contain evidence of historical accuracy and authenticity.
- Egyptian court officials bear correct titles.
- Egyptian life / custom is faithfully represented.
- Names are Egyptian: Potiphar (37: 36 ; 39: 1); Zaphenath-paneah (41: 45); Asenath (41: 45, 50); and Potiphera (41: 45, 50).
- The Tell el-Amarna Tablets (ca 1377-1360 B.C.)

THMinistry.org

mention a certain Yanhamu, who had the responsibility of supervising the storing of grain for the national stockpile of food.

- The Tale of the Two Brothers (ca 1300 B.C.) bears similarities to the story of Potiphar's wife to seduce Joseph.
- The migration of Jacob's family by this Joseph narrative places it 430 years before the Exodus.

THMinistry.org

- **Text:** Genesis 15: 13 ASV

And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be sojourners in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years.

- **Text:** Exodus 12: 40-41 ASV

Now the time that the children of Israel dwelt in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years. And it came to pass at the end of four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to

THMinistry.org

pass, that all the hosts of Jehovah went out from the land of Egypt.

- Joseph's Story occurs after the Hyksos invasion of Egypt about 1720 B.C. and before migration about 1290 B.C.
- It was common in ancient times to give new names to individuals when they were elevated to official governmental positions.

THMinistry.org

- **Text:** Genesis 41: 45 ASV

Pharaoh called Joseph's name Zaphenath-paneah; and he gave him to wife Asenath, the daughter of Poti-phaera priest of On, the ancient biblical name for Heliopolis, located seventeen miles northeast of modern Cairo; a worship center of the sun god Re.

- **Text:** Genesis 41: 50-52 ASV

Unto Joseph were born two sons before the year of famine came, whom Asenath, the

THMinistry.org

daughter of Poti-phares priest of On, bare unto him. Joseph called the name of the first-born Manasseh: For, said he, God hath made me forget all my toil, and all my father's house. The name of the second called he Ephraim: For God hath made me fruitful in the land of my affliction.

- **Text:** Genesis 48: 1-5, 9 ASV

It came to pass one said to Joseph, Behold, thy father is sick: and he took with him his two

THMinistry.org

sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. And one told Jacob, and said, Behold, thy son Joseph cometh unto thee: and Israel strengthened himself, and sat upon the bed. And Jacob said unto Joseph, God Almighty appeared unto me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and blessed me, and said unto me, Behold, I will make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, and I will make of thee a company of peoples, and will give this land to thy seed after thee for an everlasting possession. And now thy two sons, who were

THMinistry.org

born unto thee in the land of Egypt before I came unto thee into Egypt, are mine; Ephraim and Manasseh, even as Reuben and Simeon, shall be mine.

- And Joseph said unto his father, They are my sons, whom God hath given me here. And Jacob said, Bring them, I pray thee, unto me, and I will bless them.
- Jacob adopted them as his own, though born in Egypt and by an alien to Israel, they were made

THMinistry.org

patriarchal heads of tribes.

- Joseph had the portion of the firstborn by having the double portion.
- **Text:** I Chronicles 5: 1-2 ASV

And the sons of Reuben the first-born of Israel (for he was the first-born; but, forasmuch as he defiled his father's couch, his birthright was given unto the sons of Joseph the son of Israel; and the genealogy is not to be reckoned after the birthright. For Judah prevailed above his

THMinistry.org

brethren, and of him came the prince; but the birthright was Joseph's).

- **Text:** Deuteronomy 21: 17 ASV

Acknowledge the first-born, by giving him a double portion; for he is the beginning of his strength; the right of the first-born is his.

- When Joseph took Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left toward Israel's right hand, Israel put his right hand upon Ephraim the younger, and his left hand upon Manasseh

THMinistry.org

Joseph set Ephraim before Manasseh.

- **Text:** Genesis 48: 14-20 ASV

Israel stretched out his right hand, and laid it upon Ephraim's head, who was the younger, and his left hand upon Manasseh's head, guiding his hands wittingly; for Manasseh was the first-born. And he blessed Joseph, and said, The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk, the God who hath fed me all my life long unto this day, the angel who hath

THMinistry.org

redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and let my name be named on them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth. And when Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand upon the head of Ephraim, it displeased him: and he held up his father's hand, to remove it from Ephraim's head unto Manasseh's head. And Joseph said unto his father, Not so, my father; for this is the first-born; put thy right hand upon his head. And his

THMinistry.org

father refused, and said, I know it , my son, I know it ; he also shall become a people, and he also shall be great: howbeit his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his seed shall become a multitude of nations. And he blessed them that day, saying, In thee will Israel bless, saying, God make thee as Ephraim and as Manasseh: and he set Ephraim before Manasseh.

- Jacobs iniquity was borne by Joseph when Manasseh's son by an Aramitess (Syrian)

THMinistry.org

concubine, Machir, had children born upon Joseph's knees. That is Joseph adopted them from their birth.

- **Text:** Genesis 50: 23-25 ASV
- Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation: the children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were born upon Joseph's knees. And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die; but God will surely visit you, and bring you up out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. And Joseph

THMinistry.org

took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you.

- This is the blessing, wherewith Moses the man of God blessed the children of Israel before his death. Moses gives Joseph; Manasseh and Ephraim the precious things of the earth by the good of Him that dwelt in the bush, in contrast to Joseph's past separation from his brethren. Manasseh, Ephraim, and Benjamin, the three sons of Rachel, marched west of tabernacle.

THMinistry.org

- **Text:** Deuteronomy 33: 13-17 ASV

And of Joseph he said, Blessed of Jehovah be his land, For the precious things of heaven, for the dew, And for the deep that coucheth beneath, And for the precious things of the fruits of the sun, And for the precious things of the growth of the moons, And for the chief things of the ancient mountains, And for the precious things of the everlasting hills, And for the precious things of the earth and the fulness thereof, And the good will of him that dwelt in

THMinistry.org

the bush. Let the blessing come upon the head of Joseph, And upon the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren. The firstling of his herd, majesty is his; And his horns are the horns of the wild-ox: With them he shall push the peoples all of them, even the ends of the earth: And they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, And they are the thousands of Manasseh.

- At Sinai, Manasseh numbered 32,200 and Ephraim 40,500.

THMinistry.org

- At Jordan, forty years later, Manasseh numbered 52,700 and Ephraim 32,500.
- Manasseh resumes his place as firstborn; having two portions of Canaan, one on each side of Jordan.
- When David was crowned at Hebron, Western Manasseh sent 18,000 and Eastern Manasseh with Gad and Reuben sent 120,000 armed men.
- A prince of each of the two sections of

THMinistry.org

Manasseh stands with the princes of twelve tribes.

- Because of apostasy from the God of their fathers to the gods of the people whom He destroyed before them, Manasseh was cut short by the Syrian Hazael.
- **Text:** II Kings 10: 32-33 ASV
- Jehovah began to cut off from Israel: and Hazael smote them in all the borders of Israel; from the Jordan eastward, all the land of

THMinistry.org

Gilead, the Gadites, and the Reubenites, and the Manassites, from Aroer, which is by the valley of the Arnon, even Gilead and Bashan.

- Manasseh failed to occupy the land assigned to them and the Cannanites completely.
- The prophet Isaiah foretells the story of the two sons of Joseph.
- **Text:** Isaiah 9: 19-21 ASV

Through the wrath of Jehovah of hosts is the

THMinistry.org

land burnt up; and the people are as the fuel of fire: no man spareth his brother. And one shall snatch on the right hand, and be hungry; and he shall eat on the left hand, and they shall not be satisfied: they shall eat every man the flesh of his own arm: Manasseh, Ephraim; and Ephraim, Manasseh; and they together shall be against Judah. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

- After the fall of the ten tribes Judah prays:

THMinistry.org

- **Text:** Psalm 80: 1-4 ASV *A Psalm of Asaph.*

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, Thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; Thou that sittest above the cherubim, shine forth. Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up thy might, And come to save us. Turn us again, O God; And cause thy face to shine, and we shall be saved. O Jehovah God of hosts, How long wilt thou be angry against the prayer of thy people?

THMinistry.org

- What does 4 July 2017, a day the United States of America celebrated independence have to do with the story of Joseph?
- Could the United Kingdom be descendants of Joseph's firstborn by Asenath; Manasseh meaning *causing to forget*?
- Could the United States of America be descendants of Joseph's second born by Asenath; meaning *double fruitful*?
- Are the United Kingdom and the United States

THMinistry.org

of America absent from end time scripture because we fail to recognize them?

- Have they received blessing failing to occupy the land assigned to them completely because of apostasy from the God of their fathers to the gods of the people before them?
- Will they be cut short by the Syrian?
- Was Isaac's prophecy to Jacob prophetic?
- Has it been fulfilled in Manasseh and Ephraim?

THMinistry.org

- **Text:** Genesis 27: 39-40 ASV

Behold, of the fatness of the earth shall be thy dwelling, And of the dew of heaven from above And by thy sword shalt thou live, and thou shalt serve thy brother; And it shall come to pass, when thou shalt break loose, That thou shalt shake his yoke from off thy neck.

- God has not merely created the world and set it going, and since then sits back in passive idleness; God is still in the world, guiding the

THMinistry.org

destinies of men and nations aright in accordance with His wise and beneficent laws, changing evil to good, and bringing mankind steadily forward upon the path of truth and progress, which leads to the goal of human existence which He has appointed.

- Somehow, in a way you can't fully comprehend, but can realize and believe; are you doing your part in His wonderful work fulfilling the birthright of Israel, to be a blessing unto mankind?

THMinistry.org

- **Text:** Romans 1: 17 ASV

The righteous shall live by faith.

You are invited to join us!

*Lord willing,
we continue steadfastly in the apostles' teaching
and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and
prayers every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.*