

LightHouse Ranch Bible Study
The Beginning of Jacob’s Trouble – Genesis chapters 42-43

I. The Brothers Stand before Joseph

II. The Future Famine to which Joseph’s Famine Points

III. The Brothers pay obedience to Joseph

IV. This All Points to the Future Tribulation to Come on the Whole World

The beginning of Jacob’s Trouble – Jeremiah 30:4-17; Isaiah 49:1-12

The book of Genesis covers more time by prophecy than any other book of the Bible. This book covers historically from Creation to Israel moving down to Egypt, but prophetically employs types as this marvelous book travels through the Tribulation period and on to the Kingdom. It’s first division contains two events that point forward, by type, to a future Tribulation period experienced by the entire world, but those who keep His Word will escape it. (Revelation 3:7-11) Two types of the future famine are typified, the Flood and Sodom and Gomorra. Jusus said, both events would be as in the Day of the LORD. (Luke 17:26-30) still future from us today. Chapters 42-43 talk about a great famine occurring when only the divinely appointed King had food, the rest of the known world had none. The purpose of the future famine is the same as the famine determined in Joseph’s time, it is for God to appoint a King to be the salvation of Israel, only this final time none of them will turn back (Jeremiah 31:27-35)

I. The brothers stand before Joseph – type of the Tribulation

Jacob saw there was corn in Egypt

Genesis 42:1 Now when Jacob saw that there was corn in Egypt, Jacob said unto his sons, Why do ye look one upon another?
Genesis 42:2 And he said, Behold, I have heard that there is corn in Egypt: get you down thither, and buy for us from thence; that we may live, and not die.
The ten brothers head for Egypt, Benjamin stays behind

Genesis 42:3 And Joseph's ten brethren went down to buy corn in Egypt.
Genesis 42:4 But Benjamin, Joseph's brother, Jacob sent not with his brethren; for he said, Lest peradventure mischief befall him.
Genesis 42:5 And the sons of Israel came to buy corn among those that came: for the famine was in the land of Canaan.

Joseph knew his brothers - but they did not know Joseph

Genesis 42:6 And Joseph was the governor over the land, and he it was that sold to all the people of the land: and Joseph's brethren came, and bowed down themselves before him with their faces to the earth.
Genesis 42:7 And Joseph saw his brethren, and he knew them, but made himself strange unto them, and spake roughly unto them; and he said unto them, Whence come ye? And they said, From the land of Canaan to buy food.
Genesis 42:8 And Joseph knew his brethren, but they knew not him.
Genesis 42:9 And Joseph remembered the dreams which he dreamed of them, and said unto them, Ye are spies; to see the nakedness of the land ye are come.
Genesis 42:10 And they said unto him, Nay, my lord, but to buy food are thy servants come.

The ten brothers explain why they are in Egypt

Genesis 42:11 We are all one man's sons; we are true men, thy servants are no spies.
Genesis 42:12 And he said unto them, Nay, but to see the nakedness of the land ye are come.
Genesis 42:13 And they said, Thy servants are twelve brethren, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan; and, behold, the youngest is this day with our father, and one is not.

Joseph still says they are spies and explains what they must do – Joseph has a plan

Genesis 42:14 And Joseph said unto them, That is it that I spake unto you, saying, Ye are spies:
Genesis 42:15 Hereby ye shall be proved: By the life of Pharaoh ye shall not go forth hence, except your youngest brother come hither.
Genesis 42:16 Send one of you, and let him fetch your brother, and ye shall be kept in prison, that your words may be proved, whether there be any truth in you: or else by the life of Pharaoh surely ye are spies.

Into jail for 3 days the brothers go

Genesis 42:17 And he put them all together into ward three days.

Bring your youngest brother and you will not die

Genesis 42:18 And Joseph said unto them the third day, This do, and live; for I fear God:
Genesis 42:19 If ye be true men, let one of your brethren be bound in the house of your prison: go ye, carry corn for the famine of your houses:
Genesis 42:20 But bring your youngest brother unto me; so shall your words be verified, and ye shall not die. And they did so.

Conviction by the Holy Ghost? – This will happen to Israel again in the future – Zechariah 12:9-12
Genesis 42:21 And they said one to another, We are verily guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the anguish of his soul, when he besought us, and we would not hear; therefore is this distress come upon us.
Genesis 42:22 And Reuben answered them, saying, Spake I not unto you, saying, Do not sin against the child; and ye would not hear? therefore, behold, also his blood is required.
Genesis 42:23 And they knew not that Joseph understood them; for he spake unto them by an interpreter.
Genesis 42:24 And he turned himself about from them, and wept; and returned to them again, and communed with them, and took from them Simeon, and bound him before their eyes.

Go get your younger brother

Genesis 42:25 Then Joseph commanded to fill their sacks with corn, and to restore every man's money into his sack, and to give them provision for the way: and thus did he unto them.
Genesis 42:26 And they laded their asses with the corn, and departed thence.
Genesis 42:27 And as one of them opened his sack to give his ass provender in the inn, he espied his money; for, behold, it was in his sack's mouth.
Genesis 42:28 And he said unto his brethren, My money is restored; and, lo, it is even in my sack: and their heart failed them, and they were afraid, saying one to another, What is this that God hath done unto us?

The brothers face their father, Jacob

Genesis 42:29 And they came unto Jacob their father unto the land of Canaan, and told him all that befell unto them; saying,
Genesis 42:30 The man, who is the lord of the land, spake roughly to us, and took us for spies of the country.
Genesis 42:31 And we said unto him, We are true men; we are no spies:
Genesis 42:32 We be twelve brethren, sons of our father; one is not, and the youngest is this day with our father in the land of Canaan.
Genesis 42:33 And the man, the lord of the country, said unto us, Hereby shall I know that ye are true men; leave one of your brethren here with me, and take food for the famine of your households, and be gone:
Genesis 42:34 And bring your youngest brother unto me: then shall I know that ye are no spies, but that ye are true men: so will I deliver you your brother, and ye shall traffick in the land.
Genesis 42:35 And it came to pass as they emptied their sacks, that, behold, every man's bundle of money was in his sack: and when both they and their father saw the bundles of money, they were afraid.

Jacob’s response to the brothers

Genesis 42:36 And Jacob their father said unto them, Me have ye bereaved of my children: Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and ye will take Benjamin away: all these things are against me.
Genesis 42:37 And Reuben spake unto his father, saying, Slay my two sons, if I bring him not to thee: deliver him into my hand, and I will bring him to thee again.
Genesis 42:38 And he said, My son shall not go down with you; for his brother is dead, and he is left alone: if mischief befall him by the way in the which ye go, then shall ye bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.

Jacob sends the brother’s back to Egypt

Genesis 43:1 And the famine was sore in the land.

II. The Future Famine to which Joseph’s Famine Points – Matthew 24:6-22

III. The Brothers Pay Obedience to Joseph
Genesis 43:2 And it came to pass, when they had eaten up the corn which they had brought out of Egypt, their father said unto them, Go again, buy us a little food.

Judah reminds his father that they need to send Benjamin

Genesis 43:3 And Judah spake unto him, saying, The man did solemnly protest unto us, saying, Ye shall not see my face, except your brother be with you.
Genesis 43:4 If thou wilt send our brother with us, we will go down and buy thee food:
Genesis 43:5 But if thou wilt not send him, we will not go down: for the man said unto us, Ye shall not see my face, except your brother be with you.

Why did you tell the Egyptian you had a brother?

Genesis 43:6 And Israel said, Wherefore dealt ye so ill with me, as to tell the man whether ye had yet a brother?

The brothers explain

Genesis 43:7 And they said, The man asked us straitly of our state, and of our kindred, saying, Is your father yet alive? have ye another brother? and we told him according to the tenor of these words: could we certainly know that he would say, Bring your brother down?
Genesis 43:8 And Judah said unto Israel his father, Send the lad with me, and we will arise and go; that we may live, and not die, both we, and thou, and also our little ones.
Genesis 43:9 I will be surety for him; of my hand shalt thou require him: if I bring him not unto thee, and set him before thee, then let me bear the blame for ever:

If it must be so, double money, gifts, and Benjamin

Genesis 43:10 For except we had lingered, surely now we had returned this second time.
Genesis 43:11 And their father Israel said unto them, If it must be so now, do this; take of the best fruits in the land in your vessels, and carry down the man a present, a little balm, and a little honey, spices, and myrrh, nuts, and almonds:
Genesis 43:12 And take double money in your hand; and the money that was brought again in the mouth of your sacks, carry it again in your hand; peradventure it was an oversight:
Genesis 43:13 Take also your brother, and arise, go again unto the man:
Genesis 43:14 And God Almighty give you mercy before the man, that he may send away your other brother, and Benjamin. If I be bereaved of my children, I am bereaved.

Benjamin and the brothers dine at Joseph’s house

Genesis 43:15 And the men took that present, and they took double money in their hand, and Benjamin; and rose up, and went down to Egypt, and stood before Joseph.
Genesis 43:16 And when Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the ruler of his house, Bring these men home, and slay, and make ready; for these men shall dine with me at noon.
Genesis 43:17 And the man did as Joseph bade; and the man brought the men into Joseph's house.

The brothers are afraid because of the money that was still in the sacks after departing Egypt

Genesis 43:18 And the men were afraid, because they were brought into Joseph's house; and they said, Because of the money that was returned in our sacks at the first time are we brought in; that he may seek occasion against us, and fall upon us, and take us for bondmen, and our asses.

They appeal to the steward of Joseph’s house

Genesis 43:19 And they came near to the steward of Joseph's house, and they communed with him at the door of the house,
Genesis 43:20 And said, O sir, we came indeed down at the first time to buy food:

Genesis 43:21 And it came to pass, when we came to the inn, that we opened our sacks, and, behold, every man's money was in the mouth of his sack, our money in full weight: and we have brought it again in our hand.
Genesis 43:22 And other money have we brought down in our hands to buy food: we cannot tell who put our money in our sacks.
Genesis 43:23 And he said, Peace be to you, fear not: your God, and the God of your father, hath given you treasure in your sacks: I had your money. And he brought Simeon out unto them.
Genesis 43:24 And the man brought the men into Joseph's house, and gave them water, and they washed their feet; and he gave their asses provender.
Genesis 43:25 And they made ready the present against Joseph came at noon: for they heard that they should eat bread there.

Joseph comes home

Genesis 43:26 And when Joseph came home, they brought him the present which was in their hand into the house, and bowed themselves to him to the earth.
Genesis 43:27 And he asked them of their welfare, and said, Is your father well, the old man of whom ye spake? Is he yet alive?
Genesis 43:28 And they answered, Thy servant our father is in good health, he is yet alive. And they bowed down their heads, and made obeisance.
Genesis 43:29 And he lifted up his eyes, and saw his brother Benjamin, his mother's son, and said, Is this your younger brother, of whom ye spake unto me? And he said, God be gracious unto thee, my son.
Genesis 43:30 And Joseph made haste; for his bowels did yearn upon his brother: and he sought where to weep; and he entered into his chamber, and wept there.
Genesis 43:31 And he washed his face, and went out, and refrained himself, and said, Set on bread.

Joseph and the other Egyptian’s sit at tables away from his brothers

Genesis 43:32 And they set on for him by himself, and for them by themselves, and for the Egyptians, which did eat with him, by themselves: because the Egyptians might not eat bread with the Hebrews; for that is an abomination unto the Egyptians.

Benjamin’s mess was five times Joseph’s other brother’s

Genesis 43:33 And they sat before him, the firstborn according to his birthright, and the youngest according to his youth: and the men marvelled one at another.
Genesis 43:34 And he took and sent messes unto them from before him: but Benjamin's mess was five times so much as any of theirs. And they drank, and were merry with him.

IV. All Points to the Future Tribulation to Come on the whole world – Revelation 6

A. The Definition of the Day of the LORD

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| The “Day of the LORD” also called “*That Day*” |
| Joel 2:1 Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for *it is* nigh at hand;Joel 2:2 A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, *even* to the years of many generations.Joel 2:3 A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land *is* as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. |

B. Placement of the Tribulation in the Context

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| Christ descends to the clouds Stage 1  | Judgment Seat of Christ | Christ battles in heavenliesRevelation 14:11-20 | Christ descends to the earthStage 2 | Christ’s KingdomFrom Jerusalem |
| ↑Rapture of the BrideI Corinthians 15:53-58John 14:1-6; Ephesians 5:25-33; Genesis 2:20-24 | Judgment BeginsFalse peace in the Middle EastRevelation 6Matthew 24:3-14 | Gog Attack(King of the North)Abomination ofDesolationWar of ArmageddonDaniel 9:24-27Daniel 29-45Matthew 24:15-26II Thessalonians 2:3-4Ezekiel 37, 38, 39 | ↓Second Adventwith the WifeMarriage SupperMatthew 24: 27-51; Revelation 19 | All Nations walk in His paths Isaiah 2:1-4Fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant All of Christ’s are heirs to Abraham’s PromiseGalatians 3:6-14 |
| Church Age | 7-year Tribulation | Millennium |

C. Not everyone likes the Antichrist’s peace fact – False as it was – Look who starts the war!Zechariah 12:1 The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.Zechariah 12:2 Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah *and* against Jerusalem.Zechariah 12:3 And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.Zechariah 12:4 In that day, saith the LORD, I will smite every horse with astonishment, and his rider with madness: and I will open mine eyes upon the house of Judah, and will smite every horse of the people with blindness.Zechariah 12:5 And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, The inhabitants of Jerusalem *shall be* my strength in the LORD of hosts their God.Zechariah 12:6 In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, *even* in Jerusalem.D. Who breaks the Antichrist’s False Peace pact? – The type is found in II Kings 19:32-37 |
| Daniel 11:40 And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.Daniel 11:41 He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many *countries* shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, *even* Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.Daniel 11:42 He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape.Daniel 11:43 But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians *shall be* at his steps.Daniel 11:44 But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.Daniel 11:45 And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him. |

E. In Ezekiel, The King of the North is called Gog at this future Event – Ezekiel 38-39