

Handout 1: Genesis Lesson 16

This final part of the Genesis narrative continues with the fourth biography, the story of Joseph son of Jacob/Israel. The narrative of Joseph from Genesis chapters 37 - 50 can be divided into a 10 part chiastic pattern.

Chiastic pattern of the Epic of Joseph son of Jacob:

- A. Joseph dreams that he rules over his family (37:2-11)
- B. Jacob mourns the death of Joseph (37:12-36)
- C. Judah’s story (38:1-30)
- D. Joseph’s enslavement in Egypt (39:1-23)
- E. Joseph becomes the savior of Egypt (40:1-41:57)
- E. Joseph becomes the savior of his family (46:28-47:12)
- D. Joseph’s enslavement of Egyptians (47:12-31)
- C. Judah’s story continued (48:1-49:28)
- B. Joseph mourns Jacob’s death (49:33-50:14)
- A. Joseph rules over Egypt and his family (50:15-26)

A Summary of Joseph’s Life:

- Joseph was born in Haran in Mesopotamia. He was the firstborn son of Rachel.
- He returned to Canaan when he was about 6/7 years old.
- He was 17 years old when he was sold into slavery by his brothers. He was sent to Egypt.
- He was purchased by Potiphar, the captain of the Pharaoh’s guard, and served as majordomo of Potiphar’s household until he was falsely accused of assaulting his master’s wife and was sent to prison.
- When Joseph was 30 years old he became the Vizier of Egypt and married Asenath the daughter of the Egyptian high priest of On (Heliopolis in Greek).
- He had two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim.
- He died when he was 110. His body was returned to Canaan in the Exodus.

JOSEPH SON OF JACOB AS A “TYPE” OF CHRIST

| JOSPEH | JESUS |
|---|---|
| Joseph’s father gave him authority over his brothers. | Jesus was given all authority from God the Father. |
| Joseph escaped death by going into Egypt. | Jesus escaped death by going into Egypt. |
| He was betrayed by his brothers, the sons of Jacob/Israel. | Jesus was betrayed by his brothers, the sons of Israel—the Jews. |
| Joseph’s brothers believed he was dead, but he was found to be alive and became the savior of his family. | Jesus was believed to be dead, but He was found to be alive. He was Resurrected from the dead. |
| Joseph was the beloved son of Jacob/Israel. | Jesus is a “son” of Israel (descendant of Jacob/Israel), and He is also the beloved Son of God. |
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