Migration to Egypt
Genesis 45:16-46:27

Main Thought  God appears and reassures Jacob and his entire family after hearing of Joseph’s prosperity and invitation to come to Egypt.

Rewards (16-24).
• Pharaoh independently (from Joseph) invites the family to Egypt (Ex. 1:8) out of gratitude for all Joseph was doing for the country (47:20).
• Pharaoh will give Jacob the best of all of Egypt. Don’t bring anything with you (20). For the believer the best of heaven awaits (Phil. 4:19).
• The brothers, Potipher’s wife, and Pharaoh all TOOK Joseph’s robe — now Joseph GIVES them new clothes (Rev. 19:14).
• The brothers do not begrudge Benjamin getting five times as much (43:34). The church should do the same (Matt. 20:13-15; 1 Cor. 12:18).
• After reconciliation, there should be no more ARGUING (42:22; Psa. 133:1).

Revival (25-28).
• Just as revival to the family came through Joseph, so revival comes to the family of God through Christ (1 Cor. 15:22).
• We too must be convinced (2 Tim. 1:12) through the eyes of faith (Heb. 11:1) that Jesus is THE KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.
• A table had been prepared for Jacob before his enemies (Psa. 23:5).

Reassurance (46:1-7).
• Jacob begins his journey from Hebron through Beersheba. He is not going because of famine or fortune but only to see his son (Luke 15:24).
• As he leaves Canaan God appears approvingly to him (28:10; contrast Abraham – 12:10). Beersheba ties Jacob to Abraham and Isaac.
• The next recorded THEOPHANY will occur 430 later at the burning bush.
• As with Abraham (22:1, 11), God addresses him as JACOB (his weakened state) not ISRAEL. The Abrahamic covenant (12:1-3) is reiterated.
• “I will go with you” (28:15; Matt. 28:20) provided great reassurance.

Roster (8-27). This segmented genealogy features (1) the children of the concubines following their corresponding wife; (2) decreasing number of children (33, 16, 14, 7); (3) wives produce twice the number of children; (4) 66 total (28) plus Joseph’s family makes 70 (27) — an idealized number counteracting the TABLE OF NATIONS (Gen. 10; Deut. 32:8). The NT records 75 total adding the sons and grandsons of Manasseh and Ephraim.

Reflection. Both Abraham and Jacob figuratively receive their sons back from the dead prefiguring Christ. Both Joseph and Christ are rulers over all (Acts 2:32-34; Phil. 2:9-11). In both, the news is met with stunned disbelief with many infallible proofs. Faith revives both, reorients their lives, and makes them pilgrims venturing to a new life.