

GENESIS 47; February 16; Egyptians Trade For Food

ANALYSIS:

1. By reading verse 6, can you figure out the meaning of the word “activity”?

2. What are the two names of the area of Egypt where Jacob's extended family moved to from Canaan? _____

3. What things did the Egyptians trade to Joseph in exchange for food?

4. What percentage did Joseph charge the Egyptians for using Pharaoh's land? _____

5. How many years did Jacob live in the land of Egypt? _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

Jacob knew that the LORD would bring his family back from Egypt one day. For this reason he made Joseph swear that he would bury him in the land of Canaan with his fathers. Jacob not only believed what the LORD had told him, he also acted upon that faith. Faith does not just believe God. Faith obeys all of God's commandments. Faith directs our lives in total consistency with the word of God (James 2:14-26).

Throughout the story of Joseph we are continually impressed with his diligence - he worked hard, he worked smart, and he was honest. From Potiphar's house to the prison to Pharaoh's house, Joseph was always diligent in working carefully and wisely for his masters. He could have easily enriched himself considering all the money that was flowing in during the severe famine (v 14) but Joseph was conscientious and honest in every detail of his job. Are we always as careful, hardworking, and honest as Joseph was? We should be. Let us ask the LORD to help us to be like Joseph was on the job.

HELP:

1. Pharaoh was looking for a few good men to take care of his herds. We can assume from verse 6 that the word “activity” refers to “ability” or “knowledge” in the field of herding or shepherding.
2. The land of Goshen (v 1) and the land of Rameses (v 11)
3. The Egyptians gave their money (v 14), their herds and flocks (v 17), their lands (v 19), and themselves (v 19) to Pharaoh in order to buy bread.
4. Joseph charged the Egyptians one-fifth or 20% of the increase of the field for the use of Pharaoh's land (v 24).
5. Seventeen years (v 28).