

Genesis 46 Bible Devotions

☐ **Monday - God's Will for Jacob, Not for Isaac.** Genesis 46:2-3
The Lord said to Jacob, "I am God, the God of your father; do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make you a great nation there" (Gen. 46:3). Many years earlier however, God explicitly told Jacob's father, Isaac, "Do not go down to Egypt" (Gen. 26:2). The truth is, God has a specific plan for each of His people, and what God's plan is for one may not be His plan for another. So while God's will for all of His people is their sanctification (1 Thess. 4:3), the particular circumstances on how that comes about differ from one child of God to the next. Read Proverbs 3:5-6, 16:9, 19:21

☐ **Tuesday - I Will Make you a Great Nation.** Genesis 46:3
God promised that he would make Jacob a great nation (Gen. 46:3), the same promise which He had made to Abraham (Gen. 12:2). Seventy men from the tribe of Israel entered Egypt (Gen. 46:27), and six hundred thousand men would later exit (Ex. 12:37). So then, Egypt was as a mother's womb to the nation of Israel, in which they developed and were later delivered as that great nation. Even so, "If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise" (Gal. 3:28-29). Read Rom. 2:28-29, Gal. 6:15-16, Eph. 2:13-14, Phil. 3:2-3

☐ **Wednesday - The Finder of Lost Things.** Genesis 46:22
Jacob was reunited with his beloved son, Joseph, after 22 years! And our text adds that they embraced and "wept a long time" (Gen. 46:29). Dear Christian, do you have a cherished loved one from whom you have long been separated? Is there one whom you feared was lost forever? Do not lose hope! Keep laying your petition for restoration before the Almighty! Jesus came to seek and to save that which was lost (Luke 19:10). Read Luke 15:11-32

☐ **Thursday - Come Out and Be Separate!** Genesis 46:34
Joseph instructed his family to tell Pharaoh that they were "keepers of livestock ... that you may live in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is loathsome to the Egyptians" (Gen. 46:34). Huh? Tell the Egyptians that you are shepherds so they will loathe you??? Well, in Canaan Abraham's descendants were being assimilated by the pagan culture around them, e.g. Esau (26:34-35), Judah (Gen. 38:2), Simeon (Gen. 46:10). But in Egypt they would remain separate, because of the Egyptians disdain for shepherds. It would be the Egyptians bigotry that would keep them separate, but they would be separate nonetheless. Christian, you are the light of the world (Mt. 5:14), but if the light that is in you becomes darkness, O how great is the darkness (Mt. 6:23)! Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

☐ **Friday - Loathsome to the World.** Genesis 46:34
"Every shepherd is loathsome to the Egyptians" (Gen. 46:34). Egypt is often used as a picture of the world, where God's people were/are despised. "Do not be surprised, brethren, if the world hates you" (1 Jn. 3:13). Jesus said, "If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you" (John 15:18). And this He prayed to the Father, "I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world" (John 17:14). Read John 15:18-20