

## Genesis 47 Bible Devotions

### ☐ Monday - Just Passing Through.

Genesis 47:4, 9

Jacob and his sons were sojourners (Gen. 47:4, 9). So also, as long as you are in this world, Christian, you are “a stranger and a sojourner” (Gen. 23:4), an “exile” (Heb. 11:13), and an “alien” (1 Pet. 2:11). This world is not your home, you are just passing through. For your citizenship is in heaven (Phil. 3:20). Therefore, “Set your affections on the things above, not on the things that are on earth” (Col. 3:2). And don’t be sad when you have to leave this world behind, for to live is Christ, but to die is gain (Phil. 1:21). Read John 15:19, Heb. 11:8-16

### ☐ Tuesday - A High Calling.

Genesis 47:7

“Then Joseph brought his father Jacob and presented him to Pharaoh; and Jacob blessed Pharaoh” (Gen. 47:7). Here we have the meeting of two heads of state: Jacob of Israel, and Pharaoh of Egypt. At that time, the Egyptian empire was perhaps the mightiest on earth, and Israel numbered only seventy (Gen. 46:27). Yet it was Jacob, not Pharaoh, who was the senior dignitary in that meeting, for “the lesser is blessed by the greater” (Heb. 7:7). Christian, do you know that you are a child of the King of kings and an ambassador for Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 5:20). These are a high calling which require the utmost integrity and humility.

Read Micah 6:8

### ☐ Wednesday - Check Your Attitude.

Genesis 47:9

Jacob said to Pharaoh, “The years of my sojourning are one hundred and thirty; few and unpleasant have been the years of my life, nor have they attained the years that my fathers lived during the days of their sojourning” (Gen. 47:9). Jacob had experienced many hardships, but also incredible blessings. And here his answer to Pharaoh is not a glowing endorsement to follow the one true God. If you are a Christian, your spiritual blessings (Eph. 1:3) far outweigh your earthly heartaches (1 Pet. 5:9). But if your disposition is sour no one will ask about the hope that lies within you (1 Pet. 3:15). Read Rom. 8:18, 1 Cor. 2:9

### ☐ Thursday - Blessed to Bless.

Genesis 47:7, 10

Our text says that “Jacob blessed Pharaoh” (Gen. 47:7, 10). Abraham was blessed to be a blessing (Gen. 12:2). And here, that’s what Abraham’s grandson Jacob did: he blessed Pharaoh. Furthermore, if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring too (Gal. 3:28-29). And like Abraham and Jacob and all God’s people you are called to bless others, even those who curse you (Lk. 6:28), or persecute you (Rom. 12:14).

Read James 3:9-11

### ☐ Friday - Fruitful in Famine.

Genesis 47:27

Our text says, “The *famine* was very severe, so that the land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished because of the famine” (Gen. 47:13). But in the same chapter we read, “Now Israel lived in the land of Egypt, in Goshen, and they acquired property in it and were *fruitful* and became very numerous” (Gen. 47:27). What a contrast: Despite severe famine, Israel was fruitful! Christian, you may not live in the best neighborhood, have the best job, or be in the best financial situation, but you can still bloom where you are planted! Be faithful with what you have, and perhaps God will entrust you with more (Luke 16:10).

Read Psalm 37:3