

Jacob Goes to Egypt

Genesis 46:1 – 47:12

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Jacob set out for Egypt. At Beersheba, he offered sacrifices to the Lord. God said, "I will go with you to Egypt, and I will bring you back again. When you die, Joseph will be at your side, and with his own hand he will close your eyes."

So Jacob and his entire family went to Egypt. They took all their livestock with them and carried all their possessions in wagons Pharaoh had provided. Altogether, not counting the women, there were seventy members of Jacob's family. When they arrived in Egypt, Joseph went to meet them. He embraced his father and wept, holding him for a long time. Finally, Jacob said to Joseph, "Now that I have seen you and know that you are alive, I am prepared for death whenever it comes."

Joseph took five of his brothers and presented them to Pharaoh. Pharaoh asked, "What is your occupation?"

They replied, "We are shepherds, just like our ancestors."

Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Give your father and brothers the best land in Egypt. Let them live in Goshen. And if any of them have special skills, put them in charge of my livestock, too."

Then Joseph brought in his father, Jacob, and presented him to Pharaoh, who asked, "How old are you?"

Jacob replied, "I have traveled this earth for 130 hard years. But my life has been short compared to the lives of my ancestors."

Joseph settled his father and his brothers in Goshen, just as Pharaoh had commanded; and he gave them as much food as they needed.