

LESSON 3 : THE PATRIARCH OF ISRAEL

I. GENESIS (PART 2)

ABRAHAM (GENESIS 12 AND ON)

1. INTRODUCING ABRAM

“Abram from Ur of Chaldeans”

a. Abram's Family

Terah had 3 sons - **Abram, Nahor and Haran** (father of Lot)

b. Moving

After the death of Haran, the family decided to move from Ur of Chaldeans (northern Mesopotamia, Near Babylonia - Modern day Iraq) to the land of Canaan (Palestine region). But they stopped at Haran and instead of going to Canaan they settled there. Haran is possibly in the northern Syria area.

2. GOD'S CALL OF ABRAM

Genesis 12:1–3 [1] Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. [2] And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. [3] I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you **all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**” (ESV)

God called Abraham in Haran when he was 75yrs old.

Gen 12:4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Called out by God & Depart : There is this theme of depart from old life - in obedience to God

3. ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

a. Promises to Abraham include:

- 1) Offspring
- 2) Land
- 3) Making your name great
: ‘You will be a blessing - in you all the the families of the earth shall be blessed’ (Gen 12:2-3)

b. Faith & Obedience demanded:

- 1) Go out from your country; to the place I will show you.

2) Circumcision (as a sign of the covenant)

c. COVENANT MAKING (Chapter 15)

Genesis 15:4 your very own son shall be your heir.” (ESV)

Genesis 15:5–6. [5] And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and **number the stars**, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “**So shall your offspring be.**” [6] And **he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.** (ESV)

Genesis 15:13–18 [13] Then the LORD said to Abram, “Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. [14] But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. [15] As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. [16] And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.”

[17] When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. [18] On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram...

**What follows after this covenant making event in chapter 16?*

d. SIGN OF THE COVENANT (Chapter 17)

1) **Changing the name to Abraham** (Sarai to Sarah)

Genesis 17:3–5 [3] Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, [4] “Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. [5] No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be **Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations.** (ESV)

Genesis 17:15 [15] And God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. (ESV)

2) **Circumcision** (Genesis 17:11)

Genesis 17:11 [11] You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. (ESV)

4. ABRAHAM’S SHORT COMINGS AND THE GRACE OF GOD IN ABRAHAM’S LIFE

a. PROBLEMS

1) Unfaithful to Sarai and lied about his wife 2 times

1st : Egypt Pharaoh (ch.12)
2nd : Abimelech King of Gerar (ch.20)
2) Taking a servant girl Hagar (Chapter 16 - right after making the covenant in ch. 15!) :
Ishmael

b. GRACE

Genesis 15:6 [6] And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

- *Blessing in Abraham's life (God keeping His promises despite of Abraham's short comings.)
- a. Abraham's possession and wealth became great which caused the separation with Lot (chapter 13)
 - b. Abraham's victory and safety : Rescuing Lot (chapter 14)
 - c. Blessing by Melchizedek (King of Peace - Salem)
 - d. Sodom - Abram Intercessory prayer and the Lord being gracious to Abraham. Treating Abraham like a friend, not hiding what is in His mind. (ch.18)
 - e. God rescued Lot and his family (because of Abraham) (ch.19)
But the wife became a pillar of salt. (They became the ancestor of Moabites and Ammonites).

5. ABRAHAM & LOT

First trouble in Sodom (Genesis 14) - Abraham rescued Lot (who was taken captive in a war.)

Second trouble in Sodom (Genesis 19) - God rescued Lot (from the judgment of utter destruction)

JESUS IS GREATER ABRAHAM

- i. In Genesis 18 : **Abraham's intercession** with the LORD from 50 righteous to 10.
Because of Abraham, God remembered and saved Lot. Because of Jesus, God remembered Jesus and saves us.
- ii. Abraham left his father's house and the land in obedience to God, in faith. The Son left the heaven, the father's house in obedience and in faith, and came to this earth to save us; to be the blessing to many.

ISAAC

1. BIRTH OF ISAAC (GENESIS 21)

Fulfillment of the Promise

- Chapter 21 : Isaac was born. His name means “he laughs”

2. SACRIFICE OF ISAAC (GENESIS 22)

Genesis 22:2 [2] He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” (ESV)

Genesis 22:11–14. [11] But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” [12] He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” [13] And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. [14] So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.” (ESV)

FORESHADOW OF JESUS HIS SACRIFICIAL DEATH AND VICTORY

The Lord will provide.(v.14); and earlier God will provide for himself a lamb (v.8)
Surely this event foreshadowing - on that very mount of Moriah Jesus was crucified.

(This was where city of Jerusalem was built and Jesus was crucified just outside of Jerusalem; on this hill)

Genesis 22:16–18 [16] and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, [17] I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And **your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies**, [18] and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed,

3. MARRIAGE OF ISAAC (GENESIS 24)

a. Abraham’s searching of a woman for his son Isaac : Rebekah

THE FATHER'S ARRANGEMENT OF THE MARRIAGE FOR HIS SON

We see this theme in the NT : [CHRIST & THE CHURCH. Marriage of the Son.](#)

Ishmael vs Isaac : difference between these two in marriage

4. ISAAC HAD 2 SONS - ESAU AND JACOB (GENESIS 25)

Isaac was 40 yrs old when he got married with Rebekah. Rebekah was barren (for almost 19 yrs) so Isaac prayed to the Lord for her and the Lord granted his prayer and she was conceived - a twin. (v.19-22)

Genesis 25:23 And the LORD said to her,
"Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you shall be divided;
the one shall be stronger than the other, the older shall serve the younger." (ESV)

**Esau and Jacob were born to Isaac when he was 60yrs old.*

5. GOD'S FAVOR ON ISAAC (GENESIS 26)

a. Isaac and Abimelech (King of Gerar)

Genesis 26:9–10. [9] So Abimelech called Isaac and said, "Behold, she is your wife. How then could you say, 'She is my sister'?" Isaac said to him, "Because I thought, 'Lest I die because of her.'" [10] Abimelech said, "What is this you have done to us? One of the people might easily have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us." (ESV)

b. God's blessing on Isaac

Genesis 26:12–13 [12] And Isaac sowed in that land and reaped in the same year a hundredfold. The LORD blessed him, [13] and the man became rich, and gained more and more until he became very wealthy. (ESV)

c. Well of Isaac

Genesis 26:28 They said, "We see plainly that the LORD has been with you. So we said, let there be a sworn pact between us, between you and us, and let us make a covenant with you, (ESV)

Isaac's Material view - the conflicts over wells : This is something very important in Ancient world. Directly related to their lives. It is the source of water!!

JESUS IS GREATER ISAAC

Isaac's obedience to his father, marriage, how he deals with those who oppose him, he foreshadows Christ.

LESSON 4 : THE PATRIARCH OF ISRAEL

GENESIS (PART 3)

JACOB

1. Esau Selling of the Birthright as the Firstborn to Jacob

Genesis 25:29–34 [29] Once when Jacob was cooking stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was exhausted. [30] And Esau said to Jacob, “Let me eat some of that red stew, for I am exhausted!” (Therefore his name was called Edom.) [31] Jacob said, “Sell me your birthright now.” [32] Esau said, “I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?” [33] Jacob said, “Swear to me now.” So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. [34] Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. ***Thus Esau despised his birthright.*** (ESV)

2. Jacob’s deception & Blessing from Isaac (Gen. 27)

This family has a **serious flaw of favoritism.**

**** Jacob never can see his mother again. Because of that Jacob always had to run away and mother never sees her son again.***

****Comparison between Esau and Jacob***

	Esau	Jacob
Birth	Older	Younger
Personality	Masculine	Feminine
	400 soliders (shows leadership)	Indecisive
	Forgave his younger brother	Selfish
Marriage	At age of 40, he married 2 women from Hittite. (Genesis 26:34)	2 women (Daughters of Laban; Jacob’s Cousins) 7 years for Leah 7 years for Rachel
Interest	Flesh, Secular	Spirituality, God’s blessing

KEY NOTE

Jacob took the birthright according to God's word and the spiritual blessing from God seriously. And it was God's will to bless Jacob (Romans 9).

Esau despised the birthright. He took it lightly - the right to be blessed by God as the firstborn than a bowl of stew. Esau despised the spiritual aspect.

JESUS IS THE PERFECT ELDER BROTHER

Jesus as the Messiah, the firstborn of resurrection, as our elder brother, received all God's blessing and give to His brothers.

3. Jacob's journey to the uncle, Laban's house

a. BETHEL (Genesis 28)

After waking up from the dream, Jacob named the place : Bethel (meaning **house of God**)

b. 7 + 7 YEARS OF LABOR FOR MARRIAGES (Genesis 29-31)

Jacob loved Rachel; worked for Laban for 7 years for Rachel. Laban deceived him and gave Leah first. So Jacob worked another 7 years for Rachel.

4. Jacob's Return

a. WRESTLING WITH GOD

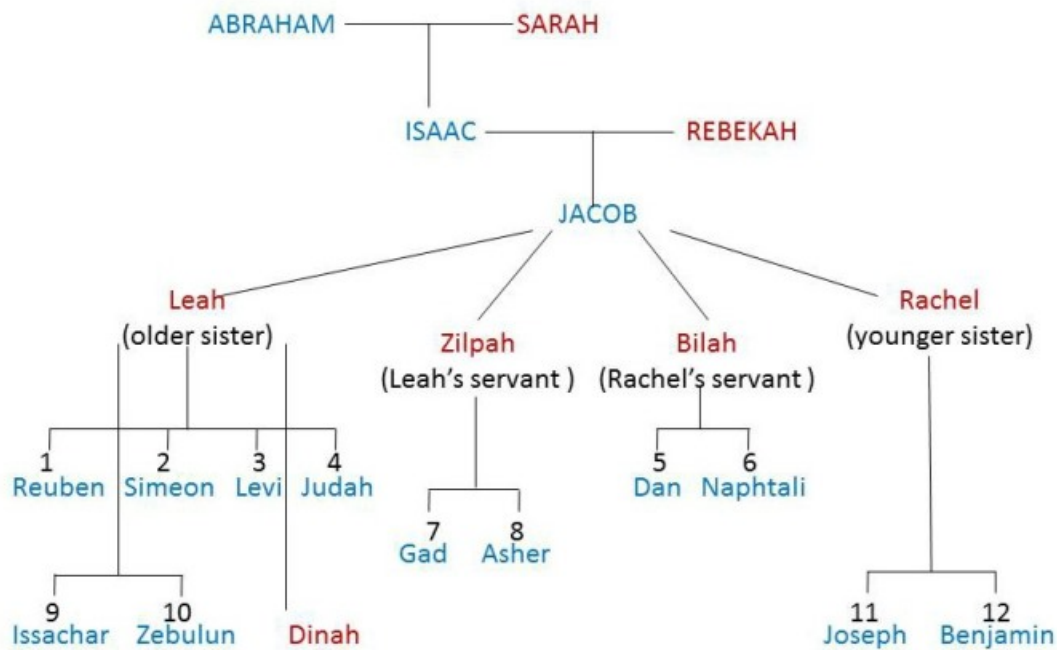
Genesis 32:23–30. [23] He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. [24] And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. [25] When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and **Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.** [26] Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "**I will not let you go unless you bless me.**" [27] And he said to him, "What is **your name?**" And he said, "Jacob." [28] Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but **Israel**, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." [29] Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. [30] So Jacob called the name of the place **Peniel**, saying, "**For I have seen God face to face**, and yet my life has been delivered." (ESV)

b. COVENANT AFFIRMING WITH JACOB

Genesis 35:9–15 [9] **God appeared to Jacob again**, when he came from Paddan-aram, and blessed him. [10] **And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; no longer shall**

your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name.” So he called his name Israel. [11] And God said to him, **“I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall come from your own body. [12] The land that I gave to Abraham and Isaac I will give to you, and I will give the land to your offspring after you.”** [13] Then God went up from him in the place where he had spoken with him. [14] And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he had spoken with him, a pillar of stone. He poured out a drink offering on it and poured oil on it. [15] So Jacob called the name of the place where God had spoken with him Bethel. (ESV)

TWELVE SONS OF ISRAEL



LESSON 5 : TWELVE SONS OF ISRAEL

GENESIS (PART 4)

JOSEPH

1. FAMILY PROBLEM

a. Serious Favoritism by Jacob

Genesis 37:2–4 Joseph, being seventeen years old, was pasturing the flock with his brothers. He was a boy with the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives. And *Joseph brought a bad report of them* to their father. [3] **Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons**, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a robe of many colors. [4] But *when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him* and could not speak peacefully to him. (ESV)

b. Joseph's Dreams

Genesis 37:5–9. [5] Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they hated him even more. [6] He said to them, "Hear this dream that I have dreamed: [7] **Behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf arose and stood upright. And behold, your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf.**" [8] His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Or are you indeed to rule over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words. [9] Then he dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers and said, "Behold, I have dreamed another dream. **Behold, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me.**" (ESV)

C. Joseph was betrayed and sold by his brothers

Genesis 37:19–20 [19] They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. [20] Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see what will become of his dreams." (ESV)

Motivation : Hatred

Plan : Killing him

Excuse : devoured by an animal

Reason : So that the dream may not come true

Genesis 37:26–27 [26] Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? [27] Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers listened to him. (ESV)

Joseph was sold to that Midianite slave trader for 20 shekels of silver. And they dipped Joseph's signature cloth - the robe with many colors with a goat's blood and brought it to Jacob and said he was slaughtered by a wild animal.

2. JOSEPH IN EGYPT

a. Joseph in Potiphar's house

Potiphar : an officer of Pharaoh; the Captain of the guard

****Joseph became the most powerful man in Potiphar's house***

Genesis 39:2–6 [2] The LORD was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master. [3] His master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD caused all that he did to succeed in his hands. [4] So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had. [5] From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had, in house and field. [6] So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge, and because of him he had no concern about anything but the food he ate.

Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance. (ESV)

b. Potiphar's Wife repeated Temptations to Joseph to lie down with her.

Genesis 39:20–21 [20] And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison. [21] But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. (ESV)

****So it happens to be sold to Midianites right at that moment, it happens to be King's Guard commander's house Joseph came, so it happened to be put into King's prisoners.***

c. Joseph in the prison

i. The Lord was with Joseph

Genesis 39:21–23 [21] **But the LORD was with Joseph** and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. [22] And the keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners who were in the prison. Whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. [23] The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge, because the LORD was with him. And whatever he did, the LORD made it succeed. (ESV)

The keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of everything there.

ii. Two Prisoner's Dream and Joseph's interpretations (Genesis 40)

	Dream	Interpretation	
Pharaoh's Cupbearer	Vine with 3 branches - soon budded, blossoms, ripened into grapes. I took the grape and pressed it into Pharaoh's cup and gave to the King.	In 3 days, you will be restored and serve the King again like before	
Pharaoh's Baker	Three cake baskets on my head, all baked for Pharaoh but the birds ate them out of the basket of my head	In 3 days, Pharaoh will lift up your head from you, hang you on a tree	

iii. Joseph's Interprets of Pharaoh's Dream (Genesis 41)

Pharaoh's Dream : Cows and Ears of Grain

d. Joseph rises to Power

Genesis 41:38–44 [38] And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find a man like this, in whom is the Spirit of God?" [39] Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has shown you all this, there is none so discerning and wise as you are. [40] You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command. Only as regards the throne will I be greater than you." [41] And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt." [42] Then Pharaoh took his signet ring from his hand and put it on Joseph's hand, and clothed him in garments of fine linen and put a gold chain about his neck. [43] And he made him ride in his second chariot. And they called out before him, "Bow the knee!" Thus he set him over all the land of Egypt. [44] Moreover, Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I am Pharaoh, and without your consent no one shall lift up hand or foot in all the land of Egypt." (ESV)

i. Joseph's New Project - preparing for the coming severe famine.

Genesis 41:49 [49] And Joseph stored up grain in great abundance, like the sand of the sea, until he ceased to measure it, for it could not be measured. (ESV)

ii. 2 Sons were born to Joseph

Genesis 41:51–52 [51] Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh. "For," he said, "God has made me forget all my hardship and all my father's house." [52] The name of the second he called Ephraim, "For God has made me fruitful in the land of my affliction." (ESV)

1st Born: **Manasseh** / 2nd Born : **Ephraim**

Each of these two sons of Joseph gets their own inheritance of the land, Canaan land, when the land is divided into the tribes of Israel; each of their lots.

3. FAMILY REUNION

a. Fulfillment of the Dream

b. Joseph's testing of his brothers

Genesis 42:21 [21] Then they said to one another, "In truth we are guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the distress of his soul, when he begged us and we did not listen. That is why this distress has come upon us." (ESV)

Genesis 45:1–5. [1] Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him. He cried, "Make everyone go out from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. [2] And he wept aloud, so that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. [3] And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence. [4] So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. [5] And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. (ESV)

c. Jacob's family Moving to Egypt

Genesis 45:9 - 15 [9] Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry.[13] You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.' [14] Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. [15] And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him. (ESV)

Jacob reunited with Joseph. Jacob lived in Egypt for 17 years and died at the age of 147.

d. Jacob's Blessing

- Jacob blesses Ephraim and Manasseh who are Joseph's two sons (Genesis 48) and took them as his, meaning that they will receive inheritance among the sons of Jacob (not like grandchildren. So Joseph gets double portions - for each sons of his)

Genesis 48:5–6. [5] And now your two sons, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you in Egypt, are mine; Ephraim and Manasseh shall be mine, as Reuben and Simeon are. [6] And the children that you fathered after them shall be yours. They shall be called by the name of their brothers in their inheritance. (ESV)

- Jacob's blessing on his sons (Genesis 49) : Key point

****Key Point : Jacob blessed Judah, that from his descendants the Kingship of Israel would come.***

CONCLUSION OF GENESIS

Genesis 50:19–20 [19] But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? [20] As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. (ESV)

God is the sovereign God even over man's evil and short comings. God is faithfully carrying out His redemptive plan, despite of fallenness, brokenness and sinfulness of the patriarch of Israel. They trusted God and obeyed Him but many times they have also fallen short, sinned. These 12 sons of Israel, the fathers of each tribe, have sinned before God. So their fathers before them, but God is faithful in keeping His covenant and carrying out His good redemptive purpose. Now this leads to the birth of Israel as a nation. From a large family to a nation.

And that's why God brought them down to the Egypt, in His sovereign rule and plan. At the expense of Egypt, they will grow into a great nation and wait there for 400 years, while growing.

The sins of the Canaan land is not there yet. Giving the promised land to Israel was God's gracious gift to Israel but at the same time, it was His judgment on the people of Canaan land for their wickedness. Great evil and sin filled the Canaan land. So Israel stayed in Egypt and grow until the sins of the Canaan land reaches its limit. So Israelis going to put all those people of the land into the utter destruction. That was not simply to give the land to Israel by God but Israel was used as God's instrument of judgment. This is why they were told to show no mercy. It was more than taking the land from them.

JESUS IS GREATER JOSEPH

Joseph is a prototype or foreshadow of the greater one, Jesus. Joseph was beloved by his father, betrayed by his own people - brothers, righteous suffered, and by God's work he was raised up from the prison and exalted to the power in the Egypt. Jesus beloved Son of the Father, betrayed by His own, sold, suffered and went down not to a prison but to death, and by God's power rose again from the grave, exalted to the power on high, as the King of kings. And He saved all who belong to Him as Joseph saved his family. As Jacob family came to Joseph and repent and saved, all who come to Jesus repent and trust in Jesus will be saved.

Genesis points to Jesus.

Jesus is greater Abraham - who left everything in obedience and trust to the Father.

Jesus is greater Isaac - the true lamb of God, Son who obeyed the father to the death on the cross on that mount of Moriah.

Jesus is the true husband - God the Father brings us to His Son Jesus as Abraham did to Rebekah.

Jesus is greater Jacob - who wrestled with God to the point of breaking his hip for God's blessing. He wrestled for God's blessing on himself, Jesus suffered and died for our blessing.

Jesus is greater Judah, greater Jacob, greater and true lamb of the Mount Moriah, etc.