

Readings

Scripture

²² So Joseph remained in Egypt, he and his father's house. Joseph lived 110 years. ²³ And Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation. The children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were counted as Joseph's own. ²⁴ And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die, but God will visit you and bring you up out of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." ²⁵ Then Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here." ²⁶ So Joseph died, being 110 years old. They embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

- Genesis 50:22-26 (English Standard Version)

¹⁷ When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near. For God said, "Lest the people change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt." ¹⁸ But God led the people around by the way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. And the people of Israel went up out of the land of Egypt equipped for battle. ¹⁹ Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for Joseph had made the sons of Israel solemnly swear, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones with you from here." ²⁰ And they moved on from Succoth and encamped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness. ²¹ And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. ²² The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.

- Exodus 13:17-22 (English Standard Version)

³² As for the bones of Joseph, which the people of Israel brought up from Egypt, they buried them at Shechem, in the piece of land that Jacob bought from the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for a hundred pieces of money. It became an inheritance of the descendants of Joseph.

- Joshua 24:32 (English Standard Version)

Reflection

Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in. Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man! For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

- Psalm 107:4-9 (English Standard Version)

Sermon Outline

Generational Remembering

Genesis 50:22-26; Exodus 13:17-22; Joshua 24:32

Intended for Good

Brad Anderson

Because God's plan is compressive, down to the very day, we are called to remember his goodness across the generations... (Exodus 12:37-42)

When do we struggle to remember God's goodness across the generations?

As we wait... (Genesis 50:22-26)

As we watch... (Exodus 12:37-42)

As we wander... (Exodus 13:17-22)

As we wake... (Joshua 24:32)

Reflection Questions (taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- When is it most difficult for you to remember God's goodness? When has it been the easiest?
- As you read the passages summarized by this message, what points of continuity do you observe? What would you like to know more about, or wish was included in the account?
- How do these passages point us to Jesus Christ?
- When you consider the fact that God has a comprehensive plan for salvation down to the very day, how has that been seen in your life? How have you seen that in the life of others, friends perhaps, or parents/grandparents?
- What efforts have you made to remember something? Do you write it down? Do you repeat it to yourself? Do you talk about it with others, or maybe out loud to yourself?
- What one thing would you want to be sure you remembered from this study of the life of Joseph? How could you be sure not to forget it? How could you take steps to pass on what you have learned to a next generation?