

Life-Study of Genesis Summaries – Messages 107-111

MESSAGE 107 - The Spiritual Significance of Joseph and Benjamin (3)

The fact that Joseph was blessed with the blessings of the womb and of the breasts indicates that he was blessed with the **begetting** and **nourishing** life. Today we in the church are experiencing the eternal life as the producing and nourishing life. In the New Jerusalem, we shall have it even more. In the New Jerusalem God will **dwell** with us, and we shall dwell by Him. Although we may not have very much experience yet, we nonetheless can testify that we are today's Benjamin, that God has His dwelling place between our shoulders, and that **all our being** is under His overshadowing. The reason God gives us so many items of blessing is that we may be **His dwelling**. (Life-Study of Genesis, 107).

MESSAGE 108- The Ultimate Consummation of God's Operation in the Bible

The universal blessing has a very peculiar and strange characteristic: **all things are made new**. Whether a person or a thing is new or old depends upon its **relationship with God**. Although we are not actually in the new heaven and new earth today, we may have a foretaste. When the new heaven and new earth appear, **the source of the things which have kept heaven and earth away from God will be no more**. There will be **no death**, which includes **sickness** and **weakness**. There will be **no more** sorrow, crying, or pain. There would be no more curse and no more night. The New Jerusalem will be the tabernacle of God, God's dwelling place, composed, on the one hand, of all the **redeemed** and, on the other hand, of **God and the Lamb**. Here, God will be our light and lamp. His throne will be in us, the source of supply, the water and tree of life. We shall **participate** in His authority and enjoy His face and His name as our chief enjoyment. (Life-Study of Genesis, 108).

MESSAGE 109 - The Manifestation of Maturity (7)

In spite of Jacob's **manifold involvement**, his departure was not only triumphant; it was also pleasant and excellent. Jacob's confidence was no longer in his thigh. Joseph's hand, signifying the hand of God's grace, was not placed upon Jacob's thigh, but under it, indicating that the strong hand of **God's grace** bore Jacob for the fulfillment of God's covenant of promise. Jacob viewed his **death** as **sleep**, indicating that he believed in resurrection. He charged Joseph to bury him in the good land, indicating that he had faith in God's promise. As Jacob was **dying**, he **worshipped** God and remembered Rachel's sorrowful death. Jacob, who had become Israel, was mature in life. Therefore, he could depart in such an excellent way. (Life-Study of Genesis, 109)

MESSAGE 110 - The Reigning Aspect of the Matured Israel (1)

When Joseph was in power, it was actually Jacob who was **reigning**. As a type of Christ, Joseph signifies the reigning aspect of a matured saint, the mature Israel. This perfect aspect is a **shepherd**, the father's **beloved**, and **ministered to the brothers** according to his father's will. Despite all of this, he was hated and harassed by the brothers to whom he ministered. God gave Joseph his first dream, and in it he had God's view of his brothers, which was that like him, his brothers are also sheaves of life. Joseph's second dream indicates that in the eyes of God all the condemned and accused people are full of light. **God is not judging the saints**; He is **working** on them to transform the "scorpions" into sheaves and the "gophers" into stars. (Life-Study of Genesis, 110)

MESSAGE 111 - Joseph's Living Corresponding with his Vision

Joseph's excellent and marvelous behavior was due to the **vision** he received. He behaved as the **sheaf** standing up and full of life, and he conducted himself like a heavenly **star** shining in the darkness. The **anger** of his brothers afforded Joseph the opportunity to live as a sheaf of life. Although, humanly speaking, we are prone to lose our temper, we nonetheless have the **constitution of Christ** that emerges out of the situation of anger. Just as we all have anger, we also have **lust**. The way to control our lust is to be **subdued**, **controlled**, and **directed** by the vision. In the kingdom life today, we, the kingdom people in the kingdom life, are being **trained to be kings**, to be Josephs, to be the reigning aspect of the mature life. We have the constitution of Christ within us, and we are being prepared to reign as kings. (Life-Study of Genesis, chapter 111)