

Genesis 26-27: Isaac's Struggles; Jacob's Lie

GENESIS 26.

- As Abraham had, Isaac claimed to the Philistines that his wife, Rebekah, was his sister!
- In mercy, God protected Rebekah, and prospered Isaac, though Isaac was rebuked.
- Isaac dug again the wells of Abraham, and contended with the Philistines for them.
- Finally the Philistines, seeing God's blessing on Isaac, made a covenant with him.
- Esau married Canaanite women, and this made Rebekah and Isaac sad.

GENESIS 27

- Isaac grew old and blind.
- He instructed Esau to kill him some venison, and cook it as he liked, so that he could eat it, and then give Esau his blessing.
- Rebekah overheard, and told Jacob to dress in Esau's clothes, with goat hair on his hands and neck, and take goat meat in to Isaac, and steal the blessing.
- Jacob did this, and lied to his father, and Isaac gave his blessing to Jacob.
- Esau came in later, found what his brother had done, and determined to kill him later.
- Isaac and Rebekah sent Jacob away to the land where Rebekah had lived when single.



Genesis 28-29: God Calls Jacob; Jacob Marries

GENESIS 28.

- Isaac bids Jacob go to Haran, and marry one of his uncle Laban's daughters.
- Jacob leaves Beersheba, and stops for the night in Luz, using stones for his pillows.
- God gave Jacob a dream of a ladder going up to heaven, with angels upon it.
- God spoke His covenant to Jacob, as He had to Abraham and Isaac before.
- Jacob arose awestruck, set up his stones for a pillar, and re-named Luz to Bethel, the "house of God". He promised to tithe.



GENESIS 29.

- Jacob arrives in Haran, and immediately falls in love with his cousin, Rachel. He promises to work 7 years for Laban to get her.
- When the 7 years are up, Laban tricks Jacob into marrying his older daughter, Leah. Laban requires another 7 years for Rachel.
- Jacob ends up married to both Leah and Rachel.
- Leah soon bears 4 sons to Jacob: Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah.
- Rachel is barren for the first part of the marriage.

Genesis 30: Jacob's Family Grows

**The children of Jacob;
the tribes of Israel:**

By Leah

1. Reuben
2. Simeon
3. Levi
4. Judah
9. Issachar
10. Zebulun
- Dinah (daughter)

By Bilhah

5. Dan
6. Naphtali

By Zilpah

7. Gad
8. Asher

By Rachel

11. Joseph
12. Benjamin

GENESIS 30.

- Rachel gives her handmaiden Bilhah to Jacob to bear children on Rachel's behalf, and she bears Dan and Naphtali.
- Leah gives her handmaiden Zilpah to Jacob to bear children on Leah's behalf, and she bears Gad and Asher.
- Rachel trades Leah some time with Jacob for some mandrakes that Reuben found, and Leah bore Issachar, Zebulun, and Dinah.
- Finally, Rachel bore a son named Joseph.
- Later, she bore Benjamin (Genesis 35:16-20) and dies in childbirth.
- After working 14 years for Leah and Rachel, Jacob agrees to keep sheep for Laban and bear all of Laban's risk, if he can receive only the speckled and spotted livestock for his own. Laban agrees.
- Over the next 6 years, the flocks bear speckled and spotted as the strongest offspring, and Jacob becomes richer than Laban, who begins to dislike Jacob.

Genesis 31-33: Jacob Leaves Haran, Gets a New Name, and Meets Esau

GENESIS 31.

- Noticing that Laban and his sons do not like him anymore, Jacob consults with his wives, and decides to flee back to Canaan.
- He gets a 3 day head start, but Laban chases him and catches him on the 10th day.
- God warns Laban not to harm Jacob.
- Laban searches for his idols, which were stolen by Rachel, but she hides them.
- Jacob and Laban get angry, but then decide to make a covenant, and depart.



GENESIS 32.

- As Jacob draws near to Canaan, he sends word to Esau.
- The messenger brings word that Esau is coming with 400 men.
- Jacob arranges his family to try to have some of them survive.
- He sends a gift of flocks and herds ahead for Esau.
- Jacob wrestles with the Lord during the night, who changes his name to Israel, and leaves him with a limp.

GENESIS 33.

- God causes Esau to be at peace with Jacob; they reconcile.

Jacob



is renamed



Israel

Genesis 34-36: Conflict in Shechem; Isaac Dies; Esau's Descendants



GENESIS 34

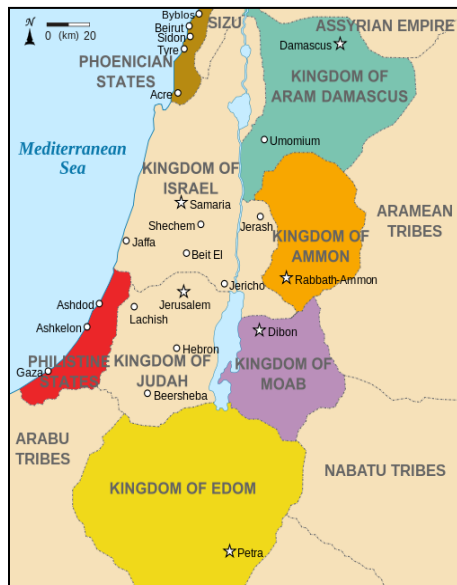
- Jacob's family settles in Canaan in the region named after Shechem, its prince.
- Shechem rapes Dinah, Jacob's daughter, and then falls in love with her, and wants to marry.
- Jacob's sons agree, only if every male in Shechem are circumcized. Shechem agrees.
- While the men of Shechem are healing, Simeon and Levi attack and slay all the males.
- Jacob is horrified at the cruelty of his sons, and fears retaliation, but they have no remorse.

GENESIS 35.

- Jacob bids his family put away any false gods, and travels back to Bethel, where God had spoken to him in a dream.
- God protects the family in the journey, and reaffirms His blessing.
- Deborah, Rebekah's nurse, dies, and Rachel dies in childbirth.
- Reuben sins by laying with Bilhah, Dan's and Naphtali's mom.
- Isaac dies, and Esau and Jacob (Israel) bury him.

GENESIS 36.

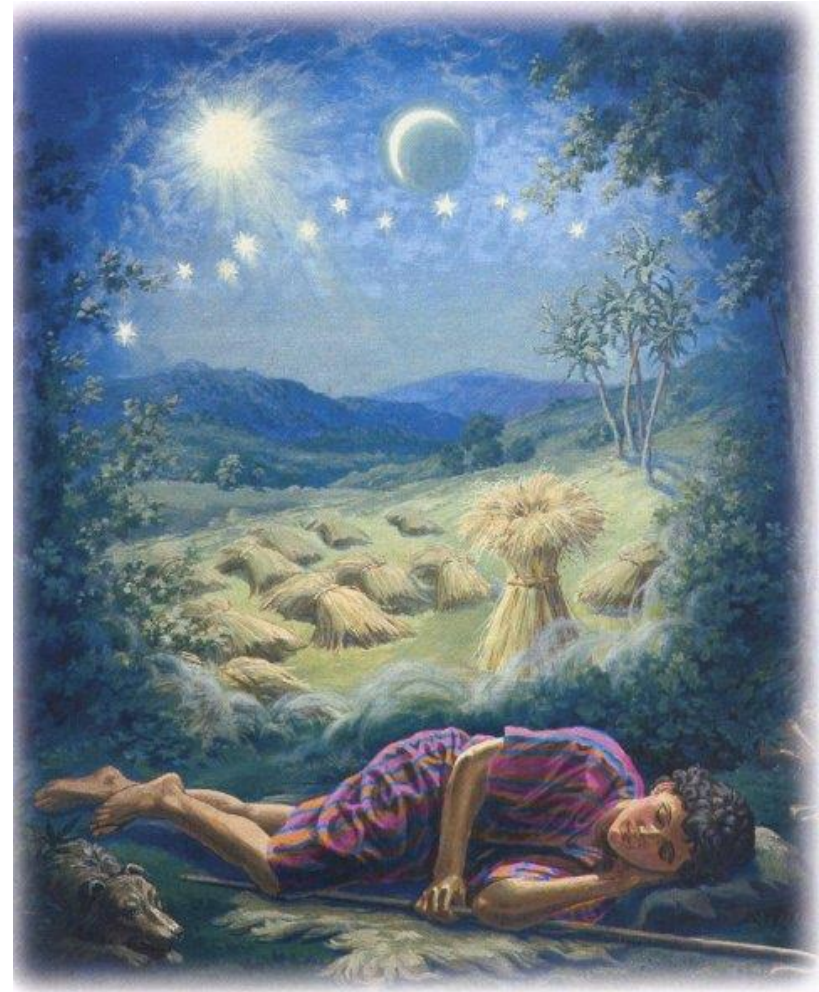
- Many of Esau's descendants are listed in this chapter.
- Esau is also called Edom.



Genesis 37: Joseph the Dreamer

GENESIS 37

- Jacob's (or Israel's) favorite son was Joseph, the oldest son of Rachel.
- Israel gave Joseph, 17, a coat of many colors.
- His brethren were jealous, and so hated Joseph.
- Joseph had two dreams, and the hate increased:
 - His brothers' sheaves of grain bowed down to his sheaf.
 - The sun, moon, and eleven stars bowed down to him.
- When his brothers kept sheep in another town, Israel asked Joseph to check on them.
- Joseph found his brothers, some of whom plotted to kill him.
- They threw Joseph into a pit, but Reuben left to find a way to free Joseph.
- While Reuben was away, the other brothers sold Joseph as a slave to a caravan of Ishmaelites for 20 pieces of silver.
- They dipped Joseph's coat of many colors in goat's blood, and shewed it to their father, who concluded Joseph had been slain by a wild beast.



Genesis 38: The Children of Judah



GENESIS 38

- Israel's 4th son, Judah, married a woman named Shuah, who bore him 3 sons: Er, Onan, and Shelah.
- Er grew up and married a woman named Tamar.
- God slew Er for his wickedness, before he and Tamar had any children.

- Judah commanded Onan to beget a child with Tamar, and Onan went to her, but spilled his seed so as not to father a child. This displeased God, who slew Onan.
- Shelah grew up, and his mother Shuah (Judah's wife) died. Tamar was a childless widow.
- When Judah went to visit a friend of his, Tamar disguised herself as a harlot, and went to where Judah would pass by. He saw her, and agreed to pay her a goat later.
- She asked for his signet (ring), bracelets, and staff as a pledge until he should deliver the goat. As a result of his visit, she conceived. She left without the goat.
- When it was discovered she was pregnant, people thought it was as a result of fornication, and Judah said she should be slain as a result.
- Tamar said she was pregnant by the owner of the signet, bracelets and staff that she brought forth.
- Judah realized that the fault was his for not caring for her properly.
- Tamar bore twins, and at delivery, one (Zerah) put forth his hand, and the midwife tied a scarlet thread around it. Then he drew back in, and his brother Pharez came out first.
- Pharez became the ancestor of David, who became the ancestor of Jesus Christ.

Genesis 39: Joseph the Slave and Prisoner



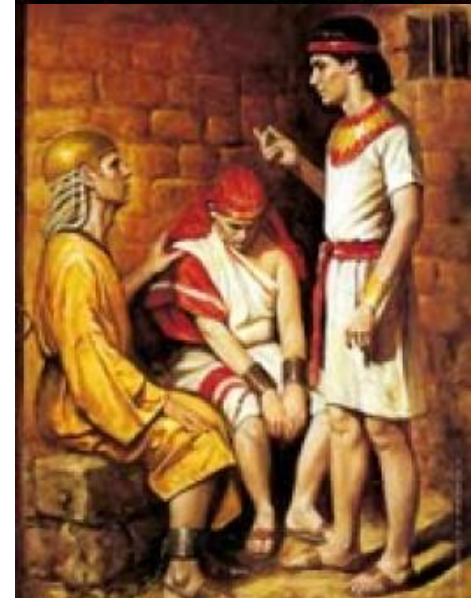
GENESIS 39

- The caravan sold Joseph as a slave to an Egyptian officer name Potiphar, a captain in Pharaoh's guard.
- God blessed Potiphar's wealth for Joseph's sake, and Joseph became the chief servant of the household.
- Joseph was handsome, and Potiphar's wife sought after him.
- Joseph refused, trying to obey God and show loyalty to Potiphar.
- One day, Potiphar's wife encountered Joseph alone, and grabbed him by his garment.
- Joseph fled, leaving his garment in her hands.
- She then cried out, and accused Joseph of farcing himself upon her.
- Potiphar had Joseph cast into prison, where Pharaoh's prisoners were held.
- God blessed Joseph in prison, and Joseph tried to help there.
- Eventually, Joseph became the chief prisoner and was responsible for doing many of the tasks needed.

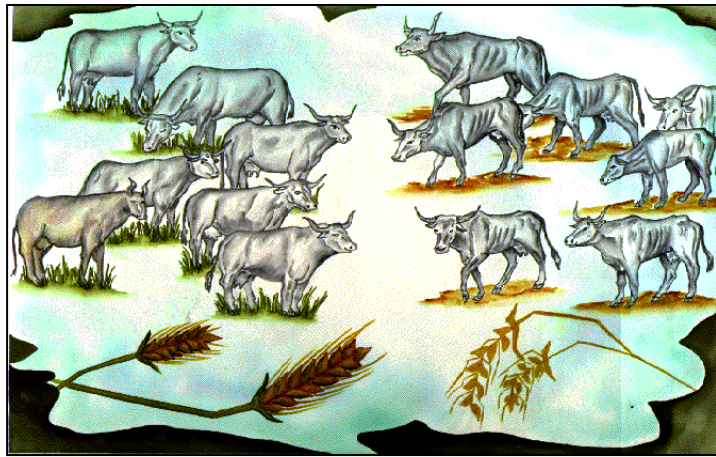
Genesis 40: Joseph the Interpreter

GENESIS 40

- As Joseph worked in the prison, two servants of Pharaoh were jailed: his butler (or cupbearer) and his baker.
- Joseph was tasked to serve them.
- After they had been jailed for a while, Joseph found them sad one morning, for they had dreamed, but did not know the meaning of their dreams.
- Joseph said that God gave meanings, and asked each to tell him of their dreams.
- The butler had dreamed of a grape vine with three branches, and ripe grapes, and he had pressed the grape juice of them into Pharaoh's cup, and given the cup to Pharaoh.
- Joseph said the dream meant that he would be out of jail and back in his old job in 3 days, and to please remember him and speak in his behalf.
- The baker had dreamed of three baskets of bake goods on his head, and the birds came and ate from the baskets.
- Joseph said the dream meant he would hang in 3 days.
- Both interpretations came true, but the butler forgot Joseph.



Genesis 41: Joseph the Ruler



GENESIS 41

- Pharaoh, king of Egypt, dreamed two dreams that troubled him, but his servants could not interpret:
 - He dreamed of 7 fat cattle devoured by 7 lean cattle, which remained lean.
 - He dreamed of 7 full ears of corn devoured by 7 thin ears, which remained thin.
- The butler then told Pharaoh how Joseph had interpreted his dream, and Pharaoh sent for Joseph.
- Now 30 years old, Joseph stood before Pharaoh, gave God the glory, and interpreted the dreams:
 - There would be 7 years of great plenty in Egypt.
 - These would be followed by 7 years of bad famine.
 - Pharaoh should save up grain in the first 7 years to preserve the nation during the famine.
- Pharaoh appointed Joseph to administer this plan, and made him the second ruler of all Egypt.
- Joseph married Asenath, who bore him two sons: Manasseh and Ephraim.
- Joseph gathered up and stored grain in the seven years of plenty, and then the famine came upon Egypt and the surrounding nations.

Genesis 42: Joseph's Brethren in Famine

GENESIS 42

- The famine reached Canaan, and Jacob (or Israel) told his sons to go to Egypt to buy corn, but kept young Benjamin with him.
- These 10 sons of Jacob arrived in Egypt and did not recognize Joseph, but he knew them.
- Joseph accused his brethren of being spies.
- They stated that they were not spies, but sons of one father, with their youngest brother still at home.
- Joseph kept one brother (Simeon) as a hostage, gave his other brothers corn (but put their money back in their bags), and told them not to come back unless they brought Benjamin along.
- The brethren grieved, and spoke of their wrong against Joseph years ago. They did not know that Joseph understood them, for he was communicating through an interpreter. Joseph wept.
- On the way home, the brethren discovered their money back in their corn sacks. They were very afraid, and told their father of all that happened.
- Jacob said he would not let Benjamin return to Egypt with them.



Genesis 43-44: Joseph's Brethren Visit Again

GENESIS 43

- As the famine continued, Joseph's father and brothers grew short on food, but Jacob still did not want Benjamin to go.
- Judah said that he would be surety, or the guarantee, for Benjamin's life, so Jacob let them go, with double money.
- In Egypt, Joseph saw his brothers, and commanded that they should dine with him, and he brought Simeon out to them.
- He saw Benjamin, and had to leave the room for a while, for he had to weep.
- Benjamin's portion of the feast was 5 times larger than the portions of his brothers!



GENESIS 44

- Again, Joseph instructed his servants to put the money in his brothers' grain sacks, and his own silver drinking cup in Benjamin's sack.
- After the brethren left for Canaan, Joseph's servants caught them, and found the cup!
- They came back before Joseph, and Judah begged for Benjamin's life and freedom, offering himself for punishment instead, pleading for his father Jacob's sake.

Genesis 45: Joseph Reveals His Identity

GENESIS 45

- Joseph, sending all from the room except his brothers, wept aloud, and then told his brothers who he was. They were silent.
- He then told them again that he was Joseph, and that he forgave them their injuries against him.
- He told them that he would sustain them through the famine, and that they should go back to their father, and move him and all their families into Egypt. He sent treasure and supplies with them.



- Pharaoh welcomed all the family of Joseph.
- At first, Jacob did not believe the wonderful news that Joseph was alive. When he saw the wagons full of supplies and good things, he then believed, and said he would move to Egypt.

Genesis 46-47: Israel Moves to Egypt

GENESIS 46

- God comforted Jacob, or Israel, about leaving Canaan and moving to Egypt.
- Israel gathered his family in Canaan, 66 people, and they made the move.
- Together with Joseph's family, they were 70 people – the whole nation of Israel!
- Joseph saw his father again after around 22 years apart, and rejoiced.

GENESIS 47

- Israel's sons met Pharaoh and told him they were shepherds, and he assigned them to the land of Goshen in Egypt.
- Israel himself stood before Pharaoh at 130 years old.
- As the famine continued, Joseph nourished his family and the Egyptians.
- In order to have food, the Egyptians eventually sold all they had to Pharaoh.
- Israel asked Joseph to bury him back in the land of Canaan.



Genesis 48-49: Jacob's Blessing and Death

GENESIS 48

- After 17 years in Egypt, Jacob became sick. Joseph went to him.
- Jacob blessed Joseph's two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim, but blessed his younger son more.

GENESIS 49

- Jacob called all his sons together before he died.
- He spoke a blessing and prophecy upon each son.
- He again asked to be buried by Abraham and Isaac in Canaan.
- Then he died, and was gathered unto his people.



Jacob Blessing Joseph, by Harry Anderson, © IRI

Genesis 50: Jacob's Burial; Joseph's Death



GENESIS 50

- Egyptian physicians embalmed Jacob's, or Israel's, body. They mourned him 70 days.
- Then, Jacob's sons and the leaders of Egypt traveled to Canaan to the cave of Machpelah, and buried his body, and returned to Egypt.
- Before they got back, Joseph's brothers feared that Joseph would punish them, and they fell down before him and begged his forgiveness. Joseph wept, and forgave them again.
- Joseph saw many generations of descendants, and lived to be 110 years old.
- Joseph told them that God would surely visit Israel, and that they were to carry his bones out of Egypt when they went.