

August 16, 2026

Pastor Andy McClellan

Title: "Faith in the Faithful God"

Series: Genesis: Beginnings

Text: Genesis 49:28-50:14

1. God's **COVENANT** people have faith in His promise for new life in a new **LAND**, 49:29-33 (*see also 12:1-3; 25:8-10; 35:29; 46:4; 47:30; Romans 14:7-8; Philippians 1:20-21; 2 Timothy 4:18; Hebrews 11:10-16; Revelation 21:2*).
2. When God's **FAVORED** people obey in faith, He blesses them among the **NATIONS**, 50:1-11 (*see also 12:2-3; 18:18-19; 37:3; 39:2-5; 41:38-40; Exodus 14:4; Isaiah 19:24; 49:6; Zechariah 8:23; Matthew 5:14-16; Rom. 9:17*).
3. As God's **OBEDIENT** people live in exile, they wait in faith for His **SALVATION**, 50:12-14 (*see also Gen. 15:13; Ex. 6:6-8 Acts 7:15-17; Rom 8:23-25; Heb. 11:13-16, 21-22; 1 Peter 1:3-5*).

FOR FURTHER STUDY & DISCUSSION

1. Why does Jacob insist on being buried in Canaan rather than Egypt? How does it connect him to the promises made to his family before him? How is it a demonstration of his faith in God's promises for the future, and how does that faith glorify God? What are some decisions that you can make now, in faith, that will result in God being glorified in both your living *and* dying (see also Philippians 1:20-21)?
2. It's been said that people can be "*So heavenly minded that they're no earthly good*." What does that mean, and why do people say that? Based on Jacob's life and Hebrews 11:10-16, why should our being "heavenly-minded" *necessarily* result in being "earthly good"? How does our faith in God's promises for a new life in heaven actually result in more good from us here and now?
3. In Gen. 50:1-11, how is Joseph able to lead such an elaborate funeral procession for his father Jacob? How is the favor he's received from Pharaoh evidence of God's presence with him? How are Israel and his sons blessed by that favor, not because they have earned it, but because of their connection to Joseph? How does this point us to the Gospel Christ? In what ways do we benefit from God's favor toward Jesus, not because we've earned it, but because of our union with Christ?
4. In vv. 12-14, Joseph and his brothers return to Egypt. What might the people of Israel have been thinking centuries later as they heard Moses read this, having just left Egypt after 400 years of slavery? How was the return to Egypt both the beginning of their suffering and the beginning of an important chapter in the story of their salvation? How are suffering and salvation connected in other places in the Bible, and especially in the cross of Christ? As you face suffering in your life, what hope do you have for your own salvation and how are you actively waiting for it in faith?

NEXT WEEK: Genesis 50:15-26, Pastor Asa Hart

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