

# **Pastor Murray's 2021 Count to Pentecost**

*... With "some assist" in 2021 from Pastor Adrian*



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## 1. March 28th, 2021



**Murray Palmatier** 10:52 AM

Good morning everyone! Not only is today the First Day of Unleavened Bread, but it is also the Day 1 of the Omer Count to Pentecost. As I have done for the last number of years, I will once again post a daily count here on Slack. Given the rare placement of the Feast from a Sunday through to a Sabbath today not only pictures the opening of the Feast, but immediately points us to Pentecost with the offering of the Wave Sheaf as well. This year, I'll post an excerpt from each of the 50 chapters of Genesis...the foundational book of The Bible, and the beginning of The Torah. I hope you will find it inspiring and will count along with me - your comments are most welcome!



**Murray Palmatier** 10:58 AM

Today is Day 1 of Week 1 of the Omer count. Today's excerpt is from Gen 1:

(1) In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth...(26) And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. (27) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. (28) And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth...(31) And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

## 2. March 29th, 2021



**Murray Palmatier** 8:40 AM

Good morning family! Today is Day 2 of Week 1 of the count to Pentecost. Today's passage comes from Genesis 2 - where following the creation account from yesterday, God gave Man two timeless institutions...Sabbath and Marriage!

***(3) And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made...(18) And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him...(24) Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.***

## 3. March 30th, 2021



**Murray Palmatier** 7:31 AM

Good morning on Day 3 of the Omer count. I hope your Festival is going well! Today we come to Genesis 3. Adam chose to allow the serpent to have dominion over him, rather than use his God-given authority to put the serpent in his place, and remain faithful to God. Remember that God gave Man authority over the earth and to subdue it!

**Genesis 3:22-24**

***Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil.***

***And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever”— therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.***

#### **4. March 31st, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 9:50 AM

Good morning on Day 4 of the first week of the count to Pentecost. There is an interesting exhortation from God to Cain before he made the fateful decision to kill his brother - and a lesson for this week as we seek to ingest Christ and do the things that please The Father:

**Genesis 4:6-7**

***So the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.”***

Also from today's chapter is the last verse. The Hebrew word for “call” means to pronounce or proclaim - so it seems that Seth's line, the “seed” to replace Abel took the task of proclaiming the name of God!

**Genesis 4:26**

***And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the LORD.*** (edited)

#### **5. April 1st, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 8:58 AM

Good morning everyone! Today is Day 5 of week 1 of the fifty day Omer count. Hopefully your Feast of Unleavened Bread is going well. Today, chapter 5 of Genesis begins to narrow down through whom God will work...and comes immediately after the last verse of chapter 4 from yesterday - Seth was the seed that replaced Abel. The story of how God will fulfill his promise of redemption from Genesis 3 requires a seed's line to work through. This begins here:

**Genesis 5:1-4**

***This is the book of the genealogy of Adam. In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God. He created them male and female, and blessed them and called them Mankind in the day they were created. And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and begot a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth. After he begot Seth, the days of Adam were eight hundred years; and he had sons and daughters.***

#### **6. April 2nd, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 11:45 AM

Good morning on this preparation day for the double Sabbath tomorrow - the Feast of Unleavened Bread is nearly over, but we've still got some time to meet those goals we set for ourselves for the week. Today is Day 6 of the count to Pentecost. Today, our passage comes from Genesis 6 where God's disappointment in Man comes to light, along with setting the wheels in motion on an event that would allow Him to begin again through the family of one righteous man. Have a blessed Last Day of

Unleavened Bread!

**Genesis 6:5-8**

*Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.* (edited)

**7. April 3rd, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 8:17 AM

Good Sabbath morning everyone! We have come to the end of the Feast of Unleavened Bread today. In our count today, we have come to the end of Week 1 of the Feast of Weeks. As much as it is important to count daily, it is equally important to count off each of the seven complete weeks. In **Genesis 7** today, we see the details of The Great Flood. Of note is God's desire to start over, in that He preserved each of the species, and says so in today's passage. Have a blessed Sabbath!

**Gen 7:1-5**

*And the Lord said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.*

*2 Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens, the male and his female: and of beasts that are not clean by two, the male and his female. 3 Of fowls also of the air by sevens, the male and the female; to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth. 4 For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth. 5 And Noah did according unto all that the Lord commanded him.*

**8. April 4th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 9:43 AM

Good morning everyone! The Feast of Unleavened Bread is now behind us but we're just getting started in Week 2 of The Feast of Weeks! Today is Day 8 of the omer count. Today in Genesis 8, I am drawn to two simple yet profound verses. The very first thing Noah did upon exiting the ark was build an altar and worship God. This reminds me of Exodus 15 - the song of praise Moses led Israel in after completing the crossing of the Red Sea, leaving Egypt completely behind them! There is so much to be thankful for, even in our present circumstances!

**Genesis 8:20-21**

*And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.*

**9. April 5th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 9:29 AM

Good morning on this first day of the work week - bright and sunny here. I hope your week is a safe and productive one! Today is Day 9 of the Omer count, and Day 2 of Week 2 of the Feast of Weeks. As Noah and his family settle in to life after the flood, Genesis 9 begins to roll out critical concepts like dominion, covenant, life, death, sin, punishment for sin, and the depths of iniquity to which mankind can sink. This is just a shadow of things to come! Something to ponder as we walk through these seven weeks!

#### **Genesis 9:8-11**

***Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying: "And as for Me, behold, I establish My covenant with you and with your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you: the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you, of all that go out of the ark, every beast of the earth. Thus I establish My covenant with you: Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood; never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."***

**10. April 6th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 8:47 AM

Good morning on this 10th day of our "count to 50" - today is Day 3 of Week 2 of The Feast of Weeks! Genesis 10 continues to lay the groundwork for the foundation of the rest of the Biblical narrative. Rather than just see this chapter as a dry review of the descendants of Noah, we see the land given to the family of Ham (through Canaan) - in what will become the Promised Land. We see the seeds of false religion being sown, and the establishment of the Semitic peoples (named after Shem), the Aramaic peoples (named after Aram)...and more importantly, the Hebrew people (named after Eber). Fascinating reading!

#### **Genesis 10:8-12**

***Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD." And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. From that land he went to Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah, and Resen between Nineveh and Calah (that is the principal city).***

**11. April 7th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 8:43 AM

Good Wednesday morning to everyone! Today is Day 11 of the count, and Day 4 of Week 2. Don't forget that Wednesday evening's Bible Study will begin at 7:30 pm at <https://cgi.online.church/> - we're up to Isaiah 8!

Genesis 11 brings us to the end of the introduction of the biblical narrative. Several thousand years has passed since Genesis 1, but the first 11 chapters serve to set up the foundation for the rest of the story. Interesting that we find a very marked contrast - the continuing setup of the Babylonian system under Nimrod vs the lineage of the family of Shem...leading up to the introduction of Abram.

#### **Genesis 11:1-2,7-9**

***Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there...Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.*** (edited)



## 12. April 8th, 2021



**Murray Palmatier** 8:41 AM

Good morning on this 12th day of the count to Pentecost - today is Day 5 of Week 2. As we come into Genesis 12, the biblical story pivots here with God's unconditional covenant He made to Abram. It is spelled out for us at the chapter opens and is ratified later on in chapter 15. We see Abram's faith in following God's instructions in leaving his homeland, and we also see a little of Abram's humanity at the end of the chapter when he meets the Pharaoh. Today's excerpt is an interesting interaction with God when He shows Abram the land his descendants will inherit.

**Genesis 12:5-7**

***Then Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people whom they had acquired in Haran, and they departed to go to the land of Canaan. So they came to the land of Canaan. Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were then in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.*** (edited)

## 13. April 9th, 2021



**Murray Palmatier** 7:16 AM

Happy Friday everyone - just a few short hours and Sabbath will be here! Today is Day 6 of Week 2 of the Feast of Weeks - which means Day 13 of 50! In Chapter 13 of Genesis, Abram has his family, including his nephew Lot, make their way north from Egypt into Canaan to settle. However, their combined herds and wealth made it impossible to live together without getting in each other's way. So Abram gave Lot first choice of what part of the land to settle in. This small gesture is another example of his complete trust in God. Today, our natural reaction is to claim what is rightfully ours - "we have rights". Trust in God without being pushed around is a fine line to walk and requires wisdom. Once Lot made his selection, God quickly reaffirmed His promise to Abram. Lot's proximity to Sodom teaches us to be careful what we wish for! What a fascinating story!

**Genesis 13:14-17**

***And the LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: "Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are—northward, southward, eastward, and westward; for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever. And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered. Arise, walk in the land through its length and its width, for I give it to you."***

## 14. April 10th, 2021



**Murray Palmatier** 10:17 AM

Blessed Sabbath morning everyone on this 14th day as we "count 50". We have now completed two full weeks of the seven week Feast of Weeks. It looks to be a beautiful sunny day where we are - wish we were able to gather! May your Sabbath be an edifying one! Chapter 14 of Genesis reveals how Lot and his family settled in Sodom, after having been made a captive of the Kings of Sodom and Gomorrah. After Abram enlisted 318 of his trained servants, they were able to take back all of the people and goods, including Lot, that were taken. We then see Abram's interaction with Melchizedek, the King of Salem, over bread and wine on the very evening that we observe the Passover today.

## Genesis 14:18-20

*Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him a tithe of all.*

**15. April 11th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 11:41 AM

Good morning - I hope you are enjoying a nice Sunday, after a beautiful Sabbath! We are still so blessed, despite all that is happening! Today is the beginning of Week 3, and this is Day 15 of the Omer Count. Genesis 15 sees us move into the 15th day of the 1st month (confirmed many years later with Israel leaving Goshen on their way out of Egypt). After sharing some bread and wine the night before with Melchizedek, Abram falls asleep and God re-affirms His unconditional covenant with Abram with a promise of enslavement followed by a miraculous release and eventually the gift of a very special piece of real estate...and the story continues! Have a very enjoyable Sunday!

## Genesis 15:17-21

*And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces. In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.*



**adriandavis** 6:34 PM

replied to a thread: This is such a critical text. The rest of the biblical narrative is built on this text.

**16. April 12th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 8:54 AM

Good morning as we begin the work week. We are on Day 16 of the count to 50 - Day 2 of Week 3 of the Feast of Weeks. Today's account in Genesis 16 is a stark lesson in not patiently waiting for God to fulfill His promises according to His will and time. Sometimes our actions can have far-reaching effects on generations long past our lives - as we see with the conflicts that extend to this very day between the families of the sons of Abraham! Sarai even flips the script, as we say today, and projects Hagar's feelings back onto her - telling Abram that Hagar despises Sarai, when Moses clearly notes that it was Sarai who despised Hagar - interesting!

## Genesis 16:9-12

*The Angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress, and submit yourself under her hand." Then the Angel of the LORD said to her, "I will multiply your descendants exceedingly, so that they shall not be counted for multitude." And the Angel of the LORD said to her: "Behold, you are with child, And you shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, Because the LORD has heard your affliction. He shall be a wild man; His hand shall be against every man, And every man's hand against him. And he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren."*



**17. April 13th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 8:54 AM

Good morning on this 17th day of the count - today is day 3 of week 3. It is interesting that as we move into chapter 17, the account skips forward 13 years. What strikes me is that God has his servants write with purpose - His Word is not just a biographical account for its own sake. A lot must have happened in 13 years, including Abram developing a close relationship with his son Ishmael - we see him plead with God that Ishmael be counted as the son of promise. In changing Abram's and Sarah's names, letting them know about Isaac's pending arrival, and instituting circumcision, these are all part of God re-affirming, once again, His unconditional covenant with Abram (now Abraham). Clearly, this covenant is quite important!

**Genesis 17:7-9**

***And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God." And God said to Abraham: "As for you, you shall keep My covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations.***

**18. April 14th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 8:34 AM

We've hit the midway point of Week 3 here on the 4th day of the week. We are on Day 18 of the Omer count - I hope your week is going well. Tonight on the Wednesday study, Pastor Adrian is up to Isaiah 9 - join him at 7:30 pm this evening -<https://cgi.online.church/>

As we come to Genesis 18, I am fascinated by the details we get when we read through the Bible as a story - and the book of Genesis is proving to be a great story! As Abraham is enjoying the shade on a hot day, he was visited by the Lord and two angels and had Sarah prepare a meal for them. I never noticed that he did not eat with them, but stood to the side under a tree while they ate! We have all been blessed by this amazing relationship God had with Abraham. Sometimes, we can struggle with faith, like Sarah did time and again, and be the beneficiaries of the faith of someone else! This friendship is explained by God Himself in the following excerpt.

**Genesis 18:17-19**

***And the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing, since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice, that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him."***

**19. April 15th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 8:58 AM

Happy Thursday morning to everyone - today is day 19 of 50, and Day 5 of Week 3. Genesis 19 shows the reader the depravity mankind is capable of when he does not follow the ways of God. The Torah shows us the way to live an abundant life. The filth of Sodom and Gomorrah is a microcosm of what we

are surrounded by today. Even Lot, saved by God's grace to Abraham, shows the depths one can sink to in the face of persecution. Of particular note is the origin of a two lines of people found at the end of the chapter. God's ways are the ONLY ways to true peace and happy living!

**Genesis 19:36-38**

***Thus both the daughters of Lot were with child by their father. The firstborn bore a son and called his name Moab; he is the father of the Moabites to this day. And the younger, she also bore a son and called his name Ben-Ammi; he is the father of the people of Ammon to this day.***

**20. April 16th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 7:56 AM

It's Friday!! Sabbath is nearly here - may this day of preparation be a blessing to you, as we eagerly anticipate the arrival of Sabbath - a day of convocation with God! Today is Day 6 of Week 3, and Day 20 of the count to 50. Genesis 20 is the very thought-provoking account of Abraham's interaction with Abimelech. We learn much here about Abraham, God, faith, law and the impact of our sins on the lives of others! Abraham's faith was still a work in progress. Out of fear towards this Philistine king, he told what we might today call a "white lie" or "bent the truth". He caused Abimelech to believe that Sarah was eligible for marriage. As we read the text, consider that Abimelech recognized God as "Adonai" - and had a respect for His law, and understood the sanctity of marriage. Additionally, despite Abimelech's innocent intentions, once he was made aware of the situation, he was accountable for his actions - and the consequences would filter down to his family. I am reminded of a couple of things in reading this: 1) The far-reaching effects of intentional sin (transgression and iniquity); 2) Why God expressed after the near-sacrifice of Isaac, "Now I know". I wonder, has God been able to say that about me, yet? Blessed Sabbath to all!

**Genesis 20:17-18**

***So Abraham prayed to God; and God healed Abimelech, his wife, and his female servants. Then they bore children; for the LORD had closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.***

**21. April 17th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 11:25 AM

Blessed Sabbath greetings brothers and sister as we come to the end of the 3rd complete Sabbath of the Feast of Weeks. On Day 21 of the Omer count, we come now to the arrival of the son of promise - finally after all these years. After Isaac's toddler years turned to the time of weaning, the conflict caused by Abraham's and Sarah's impatience became more than Sarah could bear. Abraham sent Hagar and Ishmael away along with God's promise of becoming a great people, again, by God's grace to Abraham. The chapter ends with a covenant made between Abraham and Abimelech, the King of Gerar. The chapter ends with a tree marking the place of the covenant called Beersheba. When Moses writes that "Abraham called on the name of God" - much like Seth at the end of Genesis 4, this refers to him proclaiming (crying aloud preaching) God's name in the area!

**Genesis 21:12-13**

***And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called. And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is thy seed.***

## 22. April 18th, 2021



**Murray Palmatier** 12:23 PM

Good afternoon all - I hope you are enjoying your Sunday! Today is the beginning of Week 4, and is Day 22 of the count. Genesis 22 is the very inspiring account of the Abraham's faithful decision to sacrifice the son of promise -proving once and for all his faith in God! We can also see the his teaching of his son, reflected in Isaac's comments. Ultimately, we again see God re-affirming His covenant, one of the central themes of the scriptures.

**Genesis 22:15-19**

***Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son— blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice." So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.***

## 23. April 19th, 2021



**Murray Palmatier** 11:00 AM

Good morning all as we begin another work week! Today is Day 23 of the count up to 50, and Day 2 of Week 4. Genesis 23 deals with the death of Abraham's beloved Sarah. We see Abraham's faith in God's promises here as well. Sarah died in Canaan, the land that God promised to Abraham's descendants hundreds of years down the line. In looking for a place to bury Abraham, he acknowledged that he was a foreigner in this land - even though he knew God would give his family all of it. He insisted in paying for a parcel of land to be the burial ground for him and his wife. Any other thoughts as to why this account was included in the story?

**Genesis 23:1-4**

***Sarah lived one hundred and twenty-seven years; these were the years of the life of Sarah. So Sarah died in Kirjath Arba (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan, and Abraham came to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her. Then Abraham stood up from before his dead, and spoke to the sons of Heth, saying, "I am a foreigner and a visitor among you. Give me property for a burial place among you, that I may bury my dead out of my sight."***

## 24. April 20th, 2021



**Murray Palmatier** 10:08 AM

Today is Day 3 of Week 4, and Day 24 of the Omer count. Genesis 24 is a lengthy account of the selection of Rebekah to be wife to Isaac, the son of promise. The details Moses includes are very interesting! We see that Abraham ensured that his servant follow God's directives in the selection process. Rebekah was selected because of the many Godly qualities she had - kindness, service, work ethic and purity. She personally drew water for all the camels until they were satisfied - I'm not sure we understand exactly how hard that chore was, but camels drink a lot, and the drawing of water from a well is not easy! Additionally, it was important that she come from a household of faith, and we see that her father and brother were men of faith, and sent her off to be Isaac's bride with a blessing that would come to fulfillment. Have a blessed and safe day!

**Genesis 24:50-51,59-60**

***Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, “The thing comes from the LORD; we cannot speak to you either bad or good. Here is Rebekah before you; take her and go, and let her be your master’s son’s wife, as the LORD has spoken.”***

***So they sent away Rebekah their sister and her nurse, and Abraham’s servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her: “Our sister, may you become The mother of thousands of ten thousands; And may your descendants possess The gates of those who hate them.”***

**25. April 21st, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 10:24 AM

Is that snow we woke up to this morning - and is still falling as I write on this 25th Day of the count up to 50 (we're halfway there). Today is Day 4 of Week 4.

Much like the Gospel of John was written not to tell a chronological story, but to lead to a specific conclusion (see John 20:30-31), the book of Genesis, while chronological, often skips many years to get to more meaningful events.

Following Sarah's death, Abraham re-marries, producing more children, including the father of the Midianites. He dies at 175 years of age and is buried beside Sarah, bringing to an end his remarkable story. Isaac and Rebekah give birth to twin boys, who could not be more different from each other. The story then skips forward many years to the Esau (the father of the Edomites) selling the birthright to his brother, Jacob. We see the promises of God continue to be fulfilled because of God's grace to Abraham, despite the character flaws of his offspring.

**Genesis 25:21-23**

***Now Isaac pleaded with the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his plea, and Rebekah his wife conceived. But the children struggled together within her; and she said, “If all is well, why am I like this?” So she went to inquire of the LORD. And the LORD said to her: “Two nations are in your womb, Two peoples shall be separated from your body; One people shall be stronger than the other, And the older shall serve the younger.”*** (edited)

**26. April 22nd, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 9:41 AM

We're now into the 2nd half of the count, as today is Day 26 of 50, and day 5 of Week 4. As we pick up the story of Isaac and Rebekah in Genesis 26 we see God visiting Isaac twice to remind him of the blessings he will receive because his father Abraham obeyed His voice. It is so interesting to see these constant reminders of the faith of Abraham being the reason for the blessings his family received. We also see a weakness of fear in Isaac, similar in nature and outcome to an incident with his father back in chapter 21. As a result, God's 2nd reminder in this chapter included the admonition "Don't fear." We then see the impact Isaac's faith had on Abimelech and his two companions, where our excerpt comes from today. Finally, the chapter concludes with a look at Esau's choice of marriage partners from outside the Israelite people, and how their lives became a burden to his parents. As usual, a lot of interesting lessons and nuances we can glean.

**Genesis 26:28-31**

***But they said, “We have certainly seen that the LORD is with you. So we said, ‘Let there now be an oath between us, between you and us; and let us make a covenant with you, that you will do us no harm, since we have not touched you, and since we have done nothing to you but good and have sent you away in peace. You are now the blessed of the LORD.’ ” So he made them a feast, and they ate and drank. Then they arose early in the morning and swore an oath with one another; and Isaac sent them away, and they departed from him in peace.***

**27. April 23rd, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 10:35 AM

Good morning on a very sunny and beautiful Friday - another Sabbath is almost upon us! Today is Day 6 of Week 4, and Day 27 of the count up to 50. I mentioned earlier this week that when we read the Bible as a narrative, we come away with a realization that each story is included for a specific reason. I am fascinated that the story of Isaac is such a limited one, in comparison to the depth that both his father, his son and grandsons stories are given. I am left with the conclusion that Isaac, the son of promise, is simply (but importantly) the transition from Abraham (the origin of the covenant) to Israel (Jacob and his sons). The events about Isaac are to support this transition. In chapter 27, we see he is already an old man preparing to die! I am struck by God ensuring He keeps His promises despite the ones receiving the blessings trying to fast-track or circumvent how God will bring those promises to pass. We saw this with Sarah earlier, and now see it with Rebekah and Jacob. God's promises will stand, but we are left with the ramifications of our actions, like the conflict that has resulted between the peoples of Isaac/Ishmael and now Jacob/Esau.

**Genesis 27:5-10**

***Now Rebekah was listening when Isaac spoke to Esau his son. And Esau went to the field to hunt game and to bring it. So Rebekah spoke to Jacob her son, saying, "Indeed I heard your father speak to Esau your brother, saying, 'Bring me game and make savory food for me, that I may eat it and bless you in the presence of the LORD before my death.' Now therefore, my son, obey my voice according to what I command you. Go now to the flock and bring me from there two choice kids of the goats, and I will make savory food from them for your father, such as he loves. Then you shall take it to your father, that he may eat it, and that he may bless you before his death."***

**28. April 24th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 7:32 AM

We awake to a sunny Sabbath day - what a blessing it is to know God and Jesus Christ! Today we complete the 4th week of the Feast of Weeks - it is Day 28 of the count up to Pentecost. In Genesis 28, we see decisions made by Jacob and Esau that would shape history, and we see God reminding Jacob twice (once from Isaac and once in a dream) of the covenant that was made with Abraham. Isaac, in giving the blessing to Jacob, explains that this blessing is for both family and land. Esau, upset at losing the blessing, completely discards God's law and marries outside of the faith, and into the family Ishmael. God then re-affirms His promises to Jacob in a dream - don't miss the details He includes in those promises.

**Genesis 28:13-15**

***And behold, the LORD stood above it and said: "I am the LORD God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants. Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed. Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you."***

**29. April 25th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 10:25 AM



Happy Sunday everyone - hope you get some time to enjoy with your families! As we begin Week 5, we are on Day 29 of the count up to 50! Genesis 29 tells the story of Jacob's search for a wife. Honouring his parents' wishes to marry someone of a similar background, he meets and falls in love with Rachel. After working for her father for seven years for the right to marry, Laban crosses him up and Jacob ends up marrying Leah. They come to an agreement that Jacob will work a second 7-year period for Laban, and was permitted to marry Rachel. One verse stood out to me as I read this chapter:

**Genesis 29:20**

***So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed only a few days to him because of the love he had for her.***

***30. April 26th, 2021***

This April 26 count ... was inadvertently posted on a thread response to a full moon post. So... Here is all of Gen 30!

**Gen 30:1** Now when Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister, and said to Jacob, "Give me children, or else I die!"

**Gen 30:2** And Jacob's anger was aroused against Rachel, and he said, "Am I in the place of God, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?"

**Gen 30:3** So she said, "Here is my maid Bilhah; go in to her, and she will bear a child on my knees, that I also may have children by her."

**Gen 30:4** Then she gave him Bilhah her maid as wife, and Jacob went in to her.

**Gen 30:5** And Bilhah conceived and bore Jacob a son.

**Gen 30:6** Then Rachel said, "God has judged my case; and He has also heard my voice and given me a son." Therefore she called his name Dan.

**Gen 30:7** And Rachel's maid Bilhah conceived again and bore Jacob a second son.

**Gen 30:8** Then Rachel said, "With great wrestlings I have wrestled with my sister, and indeed I have prevailed." So she called his name Naphtali.

**Gen 30:9** When Leah saw that she had stopped bearing, she took Zilpah her maid and gave her to Jacob as wife.

**Gen 30:10** And Leah's maid Zilpah bore Jacob a son.

**Gen 30:11** Then Leah said, "A troop comes!" So she called his name Gad.

**Gen 30:12** And Leah's maid Zilpah bore Jacob a second son.

**Gen 30:13** Then Leah said, "I am happy, for the daughters will call me blessed." So she called his name Asher.

**Gen 30:14** Now Reuben went in the days of wheat harvest and found mandrakes in the field, and brought them to his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, "Please give me some of your son's mandrakes."

**Gen 30:15** But she said to her, "Is it a small matter that you have taken away my husband? Would you take away my son's mandrakes also?" And Rachel said, "Therefore he will lie with you tonight for your son's mandrakes."

**Gen 30:16** When Jacob came out of the field in the evening, Leah went out to meet him and said, "You must come in to me, for I have surely hired you with my son's mandrakes." And he lay with her that night.

**Gen 30:17** And God listened to Leah, and she conceived and bore Jacob a fifth son.

**Gen 30:18** Leah said, "God has given me my wages, because I have given my maid to my husband." So she called his name Issachar.

**Gen 30:19** Then Leah conceived again and bore Jacob a sixth son.

**Gen 30:20** And Leah said, "God has endowed me with a good endowment; now my husband will dwell with me, because I have borne him six sons." So she called his name Zebulun.

**Gen 30:21** Afterward she bore a daughter, and called her name Dinah.

**Gen 30:22** Then God remembered Rachel, and God listened to her and opened her womb.

**Gen 30:23** And she conceived and bore a son, and said, "God has taken away my reproach."



**Gen 30:24** So she called his name Joseph, and said, "The LORD shall add to me another son."

#### **Jacob's Prosperity**

**Gen 30:25** And it came to pass, when Rachel had borne Joseph, that Jacob said to Laban, "Send me away, that I may go to my own place and to my country.

**Gen 30:26** Give me my wives and my children for whom I have served you, and let me go; for you know my service which I have done for you."

**Gen 30:27** And Laban said to him, "Please stay, if I have found favor in your eyes, for I have learned by experience that the LORD has blessed me for your sake."

**Gen 30:28** Then he said, "Name me your wages, and I will give it."

**Gen 30:29** So Jacob said to him, "You know how I have served you and how your livestock has been with me.

**Gen 30:30** For what you had before I came was little, and it has increased to a great amount; the LORD has blessed you since my coming. And now, when shall I also provide for my own house?"

**Gen 30:31** So he said, "What shall I give you?" And Jacob said, "You shall not give me anything. If you will do this thing for me, I will again feed and keep your flocks:

**Gen 30:32** Let me pass through all your flock today, removing from there all the speckled and spotted sheep, and all the brown ones among the lambs, and the spotted and speckled among the goats; and these shall be my wages.

**Gen 30:33** So my righteousness will answer for me in time to come, when the subject of my wages comes before you: every one that is not speckled and spotted among the goats, and brown among the lambs, will be considered stolen, if it is with me."

**Gen 30:34** And Laban said, "Oh, that it were according to your word!"

**Gen 30:35** So he removed that day the male goats that were speckled and spotted, all the female goats that were speckled and spotted, every one that had some white in it, and all the brown ones among the lambs, and gave them into the hand of his sons.

**Gen 30:36** Then he put three days' journey between himself and Jacob, and Jacob fed the rest of Laban's flocks.

**Gen 30:37** Now Jacob took for himself rods of green poplar and of the almond and chestnut trees, peeled white strips in them, and exposed the white which was in the rods.

**Gen 30:38** And the rods which he had peeled, he set before the flocks in the gutters, in the watering troughs where the flocks came to drink, so that they should conceive when they came to drink.

**Gen 30:39** So the flocks conceived before the rods, and the flocks brought forth streaked, speckled, and spotted.

**Gen 30:40** Then Jacob separated the lambs, and made the flocks face toward the streaked and all the brown in the flock of Laban; but he put his own flocks by themselves and did not put them with Laban's flock.

**Gen 30:41** And it came to pass, whenever the stronger livestock conceived, that Jacob placed the rods before the eyes of the livestock in the gutters, that they might conceive among the rods.

**Gen 30:42** But when the flocks were feeble, he did not put them in; so the feeble were Laban's and the stronger Jacob's.

**Gen 30:43** Thus the man became exceedingly prosperous, and had large flocks, female and male servants, and camels and donkeys.

**31. April 27th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 10:35 AM

Today is Day 31 of the count, and Day 3 of Week 5. The story of Laban and Jacob that began in chapter 30 continues. We see Jacob, trusted with the oversight of Laban's farm, set himself up to depart with a

large flock. The interaction between Jacob and Laban shows that we can keep to the letter of the law and still cause harm to a relationship when we do not openly communicate. Both Jacob and Laban, once they actually sit down and talk, hear how their actions affected the other and could actually come to a peaceful resolution so that the families parted ways in peace. Interesting lesson here!! If you have any thoughts about this interaction over the last two chapters, feel free to share them!

#### **Genesis 31:51-53**

***Then Laban said to Jacob, "Here is this heap and here is this pillar, which I have placed between you and me. This heap is a witness, and this pillar is a witness, that I will not pass beyond this heap to you, and you will not pass beyond this heap and this pillar to me, for harm. The God of Abraham, the God of Nahor, and the God of their father judge between us." And Jacob swore by the Fear of his father Isaac.***

### **32. April 28th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 11:21 AM

Good Wednesday morning all - today is Day 4 of Week 5, and Day 32 of the count to 50. We pick up today's account with Jacob anticipating meeting up again with his brother. Despite all of the promises God has made to him, he is quite fearful of the retribution he could face from Esau. It is interesting to read of his prayer reminding God all that He promised in hopes of receiving protection! I wonder how often we pray in a similar way - filled with fear and reminding God of His promises? Something that I had forgotten in the timeline was that Jacob's wrestling match with God took place between the preparation for and actually meeting up with Esau. In a "now I know" moment, God bestows the name Israel on Jacob - a significant in the history of God's covenant people!

#### **Genesis 32:26-29**

***And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"***

***So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob." And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there.***

### **33. April 29th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 9:46 AM

Good morning on this 33rd day of the count to 50. We find ourselves in Week 5, and Day 5 of the week! Genesis 33 brings us to the end of the reconciliation of Jacob and Esau. As Jacob readies his family for the arrival of Esau and his men, there is still some fear and trepidation. It is quite interesting how Jacob arranges his family! After the reconciliation, Jacob purchases a plot of land in Canaan and names it "God, the mighty God of Israel"!

#### **Genesis 33:18-20**

***And Jacob came to Shalem, a city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padanaram; and pitched his tent before the city. And he bought a parcel of a field, where he had spread his tent, at the hand of the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, for an hundred pieces of money. And he erected there an altar, and called it Elelohe-Israel.***

### **34. April 30th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 9:58 AM

We are almost at the end of week 5 with Sabbath just around the corner. Today is Day 34 of the count...may your Sabbath be edifying and uplifting! Chapter 34 tells of the incident where Jacob's daughter, Dinah, was violated by the son of a prince of the Hivites in the land of Canaan. Much to read about how the situation was resolved. Even in trying to defend her honour, her brothers were devious in their approach - certainly a family trait it seems! God's covenant people are not perfect, but God has chosen to work with them, despite their flaw - and that includes us, as ones that are grafted in! One thing that stood out to me was their acknowledgement of what was acceptable behaviour to an Israelite, and Shechem's attempt to barter with them about peace in the land that God was giving them. Blessed Sabbath to all!

**Genesis 34:7-10**

*And the sons of Jacob came in from the field when they heard it; and the men were grieved and very angry, because he had done a disgraceful thing in Israel by lying with Jacob's daughter, a thing which ought not to be done. But Hamor spoke with them, saying, "The soul of my son Shechem longs for your daughter. Please give her to him as a wife. And make marriages with us; give your daughters to us, and take our daughters to yourselves. So you shall dwell with us, and the land shall be before you. Dwell and trade in it, and acquire possessions for yourselves in it."*

**35. May 1st, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 10:34 AM

Happy Sabbath morning all on Day 35 of the count to 50. This Sabbath brings us to the end of Week 5 of the Feast of Weeks.

Genesis 35 brings us to the end of the stories of Rachel and Isaac. Before leaving for Bethel, he puts his family through a purification as they had already gotten into foreign gods. Jacob builds an altar where God communicates with him, and once again reaffirms His covenant. I've lost track at how many times God has done this!

**Genesis 35:10-15**

*And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and he called his name Israel. And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins; And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land. And God went up from him in the place where he talked with him. And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he talked with him, even a pillar of stone: and he poured a drink offering thereon, and he poured oil thereon. And Jacob called the name of the place where God spake with him, Bethel.*

**36. May 2nd, 2021**

Note: See tomorrow's post for the Gen 36 coverage



**adriandavis** 7:59 PM

Brethren,

Please remember Pastor Murray. He's improving but continues to need our prayers.

Today is day 36 in our count.

Genesis 37 recounts the story of Joseph and his brothers. Joseph enjoyed considerable favour not only from his father, Jacob, but also from his Heavenly Father. God showed him his incredible destiny through dreams. Whether out of exuberance or immaturity, he excitedly shared these dreams with his brothers and his parents. Rather than rejoice with Joseph over God's plans for him, they were shocked and disturbed by their secondary and tertiary roles in the dreams. His brothers became envious to the point of wanting to kill him.

As we count toward Pentecost, it is worth reflecting on our incredible destiny. It's also worthwhile to retain the lessons of Unleavened Bread. Joseph's family struggled with his destiny because they framed the future from their own perspective. They failed to realize that their profound destiny was tied to Joseph's. Let's be sure to rejoice in God's plan for others.

**Gen. 37.5** ¶ And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told *it* his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.

**Gen. 37.6** And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed:

**Gen. 37.7** For, behold, we *were* binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf.

**Gen. 37.8** And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words.

**Gen. 37.9** And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.

**Gen. 37.10** And he told *it* to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What *is* this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?

**Gen. 37.11** And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.



**Murray Palmatier** 9:08 PM

Thanks Adrian for posting! I'll be back in the saddle tomorrow. Thanks everyone for your prayers!

### ***37. May 3rd, 2021***

Note: See yesterday's post for the Gen 37 coverage



**Murray Palmatier** 8:51 AM

Good morning all on this 37th day of the count. We are on Day 2 of Week 6 as we start the work week today. I hope your weekends were enjoyable!

Genesis 36 is an interesting chapter. We can learn a lot from these genealogy chapters. In this case, Moses closes the book on the family of Esau with a detailed account of his wives and descendants. Some will come into play in later accounts, as you will no doubt recognize many names, but the story flow will centre on the descendants of Jacob (Israel). We do see that Esau did become a father of many nations, but marrying into the peoples of Canaan is the root of evil nations many of his descendants became - fulfilling the worry that Isaac and Rebekah voiced in an earlier chapter.

**Genesis 36:6-8**

***And Esau took his wives, and his sons, and his daughters, and all the persons of his house, and his cattle, and all his beasts, and all his substance, which he had got in the land of Canaan; and went into the country from the face of his brother Jacob. For their riches were more than that they might dwell together; and the land wherein they were strangers could not bear them because of their cattle. Thus dwelt Esau in mount Seir: Esau is Edom.***

### ***38. May 4th, 2021***



**Murray Palmatier** 11:47 AM

Good morning on this 38th day of the Omer count. Today is Day 3 of Week 6 of the Feast of Weeks. In Genesis 38, Moses continues to document the origins of the covenant people. Time and again, they choose not to walk in the ways of God. Judah finds a wife for his son from the Canaanite peoples. After the death of his son, the next son failed to uphold the levirate law and father an heir for his dead brother. As the story progresses, we ultimately see that Judah fathers twin boys with his daughter in-law. Despite ALL of that, God uses fallible human beings to bring His plan to fruition. One of those twin boys, Perez, is in the lineage of our Saviour through both Joseph and Mary (*Matt 1; Luke 3*).

**Genesis 38:26-30**

*So Judah acknowledged them and said, "She has been more righteous than I, because I did not give her to Shelah my son." And he never knew her again. Now it came to pass, at the time for giving birth, that behold, twins were in her womb. And so it was, when she was giving birth, that the one put out his hand; and the midwife took a scarlet thread and bound it on his hand, saying, "This one came out first." Then it happened, as he drew back his hand, that his brother came out unexpectedly; and she said, "How did you break through? This breach be upon you!" Therefore his name was called Perez. Afterward his brother came out who had the scarlet thread on his hand. And his name was called Zerah.*

**39. May 5th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 11:44 AM

Good morning everyone! Today is Day 39 of the count up to 50, and Day 4 of Week 6 of the Feast of Weeks. As we read Genesis 39, we see the story focus now on Joseph. Joseph in denying the advances of Potiphar's wife makes a very clear distinction between betrayal and sin. He did not want to betray the trust of Potiphar, but any sin would be against God! Despite his undeserved prison term, Joseph proved that all things work together for good for those who trust God!

**Genesis 39:21-23**

*But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him mercy, and He gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners who were in the prison; whatever they did there, it was his doing. The keeper of the prison did not look into anything that was under Joseph's authority, because the LORD was with him; and whatever he did, the LORD made it prosper.*

**40. May 6th, 2021**



**Murray Palmatier** 10:57 AM

Good morning all! Today is Day 40 of 50 in the Omer count, and Day 5 of Week 6! Chapter 40 of Genesis takes us inside the prison walls where Joseph now finds himself. However, rather than bemoan his existence, he uses it as an opportunity to showcase the mighty power of the God of Israel as he interprets the dreams of the butler and baker.

**Genesis 40:8**

*And they said to him, "We each have had a dream, and there is no interpreter of it." So Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell them to me, please."*



## 41. May 7th, 2021



**Murray Palmatier** 11:29 AM

Good morning on the preparation day for the 6th Sabbath of the Feast of Weeks. Today is day 41 of the count to 50.

Chapter 41 sees Pharaoh having dreams that require interpretation, and the butler, released earlier from prison, finally admits to the interpretative powers of Joseph. Joseph gives all credit to God which makes an impression on Pharaoh, who makes Joseph 2nd in command throughout all of Egypt.

**Gen 41:37-41**

***So the advice was good in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of all his servants. And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom is the Spirit of God?" Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you. You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you." And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."***

## 42. May 8th, 2021



**Murray Palmatier** 1:31 PM

Good Sabbath afternoon all! Today is the end of Week 6, and Day 42 of the count to 50. Have a blessed Sabbath everyone. (Here is all of Gen 42)

### Joseph's Brothers Go to Egypt

**Gen 42:1** When Jacob saw that there was grain in Egypt, Jacob said to his sons, "Why do you look at one another?"

**Gen 42:2** And he said, "Indeed I have heard that there is grain in Egypt; go down to that place and buy for us there, that we may live and not die."

**Gen 42:3** So Joseph's ten brothers went down to buy grain in Egypt.

**Gen 42:4** But Jacob did not send Joseph's brother Benjamin with his brothers, for he said, "Lest some calamity befall him."

**Gen 42:5** And the sons of Israel went to buy grain among those who journeyed, for the famine was in the land of Canaan.

**Gen 42:6** Now Joseph was governor over the land; and it was he who sold to all the people of the land. And Joseph's brothers came and bowed down before him with their faces to the earth.

**Gen 42:7** Joseph saw his brothers and recognized them, but he acted as a stranger to them and spoke roughly to them. Then he said to them, "Where do you come from?" And they said, "From the land of Canaan to buy food."

**Gen 42:8** So Joseph recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him.

**Gen 42:9** Then Joseph remembered the dreams which he had dreamed about them, and said to them, "You are spies! You have come to see the nakedness of the land!"

**Gen 42:10** And they said to him, "No, my lord, but your servants have come to buy food."

**Gen 42:11** We are all one man's sons; we are honest men; your servants are not spies."

**Gen 42:12** But he said to them, "No, but you have come to see the nakedness of the land."

**Gen 42:13** And they said, "Your servants are twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan; and in fact, the youngest is with our father today, and one is no more."

**Gen 42:14** But Joseph said to them, "It is as I spoke to you, saying, 'You are spies!'"



**Gen 42:15** In this manner you shall be tested: By the life of Pharaoh, you shall not leave this place unless your youngest brother comes here.

**Gen 42:16** Send one of you, and let him bring your brother; and you shall be kept in prison, that your words may be tested to see whether there is any truth in you; or else, by the life of Pharaoh, surely you are spies!"

**Gen 42:17** So he put them all together in prison three days.

**Gen 42:18** Then Joseph said to them the third day, "Do this and live, for I fear God:

**Gen 42:19** If you are honest men, let one of your brothers be confined to your prison house; but you, go and carry grain for the famine of your houses.

**Gen 42:20** And bring your youngest brother to me; so your words will be verified, and you shall not die." And they did so.

**Gen 42:21** Then they said to one another, "We are truly guilty concerning our brother, for we saw the anguish of his soul when he pleaded with us, and we would not hear; therefore this distress has come upon us."

**Gen 42:22** And Reuben answered them, saying, "Did I not speak to you, saying, 'Do not sin against the boy'; and you would not listen? Therefore behold, his blood is now required of us."

**Gen 42:23** But they did not know that Joseph understood them, for he spoke to them through an interpreter.

**Gen 42:24** And he turned himself away from them and wept. Then he returned to them again, and talked with them. And he took Simeon from them and bound him before their eyes.

**Gen 42:25** Then Joseph gave a command to fill their sacks with grain, to restore every man's money to his sack, and to give them provisions for the journey. Thus he did for them.

**Gen 42:26** So they loaded their donkeys with the grain and departed from there.

**Gen 42:27** But as one of them opened his sack to give his donkey feed at the encampment, he saw his money; and there it was, in the mouth of his sack.

**Gen 42:28** So he said to his brothers, "My money has been restored, and there it is, in my sack!" Then their hearts failed them and they were afraid, saying to one another, "What is this that God has done to us?"

**Gen 42:29** Then they went to Jacob their father in the land of Canaan and told him all that had happened to them, saying:

**Gen 42:30** "The man who is lord of the land spoke roughly to us, and took us for spies of the country.

**Gen 42:31** But we said to him, 'We are honest men; we are not spies.

**Gen 42:32** We are twelve brothers, sons of our father; one is no more, and the youngest is with our father this day in the land of Canaan.'

**Gen 42:33** Then the man, the lord of the country, said to us, 'By this I will know that you are honest men: Leave one of your brothers here with me, take food for the famine of your households, and be gone.

**Gen 42:34** And bring your youngest brother to me; so I shall know that you are not spies, but that you are honest men. I will grant your brother to you, and you may trade in the land.' "

**Gen 42:35** Then it happened as they emptied their sacks, that surprisingly each man's bundle of money was in his sack; and when they and their father saw the bundles of money, they were afraid.

**Gen 42:36** And Jacob their father said to them, "You have bereaved me: Joseph is no more, Simeon is no more, and you want to take Benjamin. All these things are against me."

**Gen 42:37** Then Reuben spoke to his father, saying, "Kill my two sons if I do not bring him back to you; put him in my hands, and I will bring him back to you."

**Gen 42:38** But he said, "My son shall not go down with you, for his brother is dead, and he is left alone. If any calamity should befall him along the way in which you go, then you would bring down my gray hair with sorrow to the grave."

**43. May 9th, 2021**



adriandavis 8:32 AM

We have now begun the final week of our count to Pentecost. Today is week 7 and day 43.

In Gen 42, we see events unfold in such a way that force Joseph's brothers to examine themselves.

Gen. 42.21 ¶ And they said one to another, We are verily guilty concerning our brother, in that **we saw the anguish of his soul**, when he besought us, and we would not hear; therefore is this distress come upon us.

Although a lot of time had passed, all of them could remember, in high definition, the pain they inflicted on their brother out of envy. Their conscience haunted them and their only explanation was God was punishing them for their evil.

Gen. 42.28 And he said unto his brethren, My money is restored; and, lo, it is even in my sack: and their heart failed them, and they were afraid, saying one to another, **What is this that God hath done unto us?**

In chapter 43, we see events begin to unfold that will fulfill Joseph's earlier dreams and advance God's plan for Israel. As the famine wore on, Jacob eventually had to do the one thing he thought he would never have to do:

Gen. 43.14 And God Almighty give you mercy before the man, that he may send away your other brother, and Benjamin. **If I be bereaved of my children, I am bereaved.**

As a result of Jacob releasing Benjamin, the brothers were able to return to Egypt to buy food. In the process, they bowed before their brother Joseph:

Gen. 43.28 And they answered, Thy servant our father is in good health, he is yet alive. **And they bowed down their heads, and made obeisance.**

Throughout the period from Joseph revealing his dreams to Joseph revealing his true identity, Joseph's brothers perceived events from their self-centred perspective. They explained everything that happened by placing themselves in the centre of the story. From the beginning, when they heard Joseph's dreams, they could have begun to access the thoughts of God. Joseph's glory was their glory.

Do we need to stretch our thinking to realize we're part of God's covenant commitment to Israel?

Jer. 29.11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

## 44. May 10th, 2021



adriandavis 8:35 AM

Good morning, brethren! Today is day 44 and it's a bright sunny day here in Southwestern Ontario.

Summer weather is coming! More importantly, Pentecost is less than a week away!

In Genesis 44 we see how cunning Joseph can be. He would make a great chess or poker player with his ability to think strategically while not disclosing his thoughts.

**Gen. 44.1** And he commanded the steward of his house, saying, "Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put each man's money in the mouth of his sack.

**Gen. 44.2** Also put my cup, the silver cup, in the mouth of the sack of the youngest, and his grain money." So he did according to the word that Joseph had spoken.

What's fascinating about this is how much power Joseph has at his disposal. Most men cannot be trusted with power. However, Joseph's character was fashioned through suffering and his will was aligned with God's. We must also become wise as serpents but harmless as doves if we are to be entrusted with great power. What we also see in this chapter is a dramatic development in the character of Joseph's brothers. They have gained the ability to perceive circumstances from their father's point of view and to act with compassion and self sacrifice.

**Gen. 44.30** ¶ "Now therefore, when I come to your servant my father, and the lad *is* not with us, since his life is bound up in the lad's life,

**Gen. 44.31** it will happen, when he sees that the lad *is* not *with us*, that he will die. So your servants will bring down the gray hair of your servant our father with sorrow to the grave.

**Gen. 44.32** For your servant became surety for the lad to my father, saying, "If I do not bring him *back* to you, then I shall bear the blame before my father forever.'

**Gen. 44.33** Now therefore, please let your servant remain instead of the lad as a slave to my lord, and let the lad go up with his brothers.

**Gen. 44.34** For how shall I go up to my father if the lad *is* not with me, lest perhaps I see the evil that would come upon my father?"

### 45. May 11th, 2021



adriandavis 7:56 AM

Today is day 45 and blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! In this chapter we see Joseph's brothers, who previously denied and persecuted their saviour, finally acknowledge him. This provides an interesting parallel to Christ. It also demonstrates the lengths God will go to in order to fulfill His covenant with the patriarchs. As we close in on Pentecost, we can have absolute confidence in God and His word as we know He never speaks in vain.

Gen. 45.5 But now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life.

**Gen. 45.6** For these two years the famine *has been* in the land, and *there are* still five years in which *there will be* neither plowing nor harvesting.

**Gen. 45.7** And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and **to save your lives by a great deliverance.**

**Gen. 45.8** So now *it was* not you *who* sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

### 46. May 12th, 2021



adriandavis 7:22 AM

Day 46. In chapter 46 of Genesis, we see Jacob and his entire clan, having faced imminent death, migrate to Egypt. Seeing Joseph brings tremendous relief to Jacob. His reaction is similar to Simeon's. As we count toward Pentecost, let us be confident we have seen Israel's salvation and, therefore, let us be willing to die.

Gen. 46.29 And Joseph made ready his chariot, and went up to meet Israel his father, to Goshen, and presented himself unto him; and he fell on his neck, and wept on his neck a good while.

Gen. 46.30 And Israel said unto Joseph, Now let me die, since I have seen thy face, because thou art yet alive.

Luke 2.25 ¶ And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

Luke 2.26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

Luke 2.27 And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,

Luke 2.28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

Luke 2.29 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

Luke 2.30 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

### 47. May 13th, 2021



adriandavis 8:28 AM

Day 47. One of the many important things we see happen in Genesis 47 is the mutual blessing between Pharaoh and Israel.

**Gen. 47.5** And Pharaoh spake unto Joseph, saying, Thy father and thy brethren are come unto thee:

**Gen. 47.6** The land of Egypt *is* before thee; in the best of the land make thy father and brethren to dwell; in the land of Goshen let them dwell: and if thou knowest *any* men of activity among them, then make them rulers over my cattle.

**Gen. 47.7** And Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh: and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.

Egypt was the greatest power on the earth at the time, yet Pharaoh submitted to Jacob's blessing and provided for all of Israel's need. We will see the same relationship between the kings of the earth and Israel in the future.

**Is. 49.23** And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with *their* face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I *am* the LORD: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me.

As we complete these final days of our count to Pentecost, let's be mindful of God's commitment to be glorified in Israel regardless of the many schemes and plots of the powerful kings of the earth.

**Is. 46.9** Remember the former things of old: for I *am* God, and *there is* none else; I *am* God, and *there is* none like me,

**Is. 46.10** Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times *the things* that are not *yet* done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

**48. May 14th, 2021**



**adriandavis** 7:36 AM

Day 48. In Genesis 48, we see Jacob's life come to an end. At the end of his life, we see how much he clung to God's covenant promise. As he includes Joseph's Egyptian-born sons in the covenant, he does so with the last of his strength. As we are grafted in and, therefore, included in this covenant promise to Israel, let us be inspired by his absolute confidence in God's promise. Let us also be satisfied with however God decides to individually bless us.

**Gen. 48.2** And one told Jacob, and said, Behold, thy son Joseph cometh unto thee: and Israel strengthened himself, and sat upon the bed.

**Gen. 48.3** And Jacob said unto Joseph, God Almighty appeared unto me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and blessed me,

**Gen. 48.4** And said unto me, Behold, I will make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, and I will make of thee a multitude of people; and will give this land to thy seed after thee for an everlasting possession.

**Gen. 48.5** And now thy two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, which were born unto thee in the land of Egypt before I came unto thee into Egypt, are mine; as Reuben and Simeon, they shall be mine.

**Gen. 48.15** And he blessed Joseph, and said, God, before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk, the God which fed me all my life long unto this day,

**Gen. 48.16** The Angel which redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and let my name be named on them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.

**Gen. 48.17** And when Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand upon the head of Ephraim, it displeased him: and he held up his father's hand, to remove it from Ephraim's head unto Manasseh's head.

**Gen. 48.18** And Joseph said unto his father, Not so, my father: for this is the firstborn; put thy right hand upon his head.

**Gen. 48.19** And his father refused, and said, I know it, my son, I know it: he also shall become a people, and he also shall be great: but truly his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his seed shall become a multitude of nations.

Gen. 48.21 And Israel said unto Joseph, Behold, I die: but God shall be with you, and bring you again unto the land of your fathers.

## 49. May 15th, 2021



adriandavis 8:34 AM

Blessed sabbath, everyone! Week 7, Day 49: Our count is almost complete! In Genesis 49, we see Jacob prophesy what shall happen to the descendants of his children in the end time. Of particular note are his prophecies upon Judah and Joseph:

**Gen. 49.1** ¶ And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you *that* which shall befall you in the last days.

**Gen. 49.8** ¶ Judah, thou *art he* whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand *shall be* in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee.

**Gen. 49.9** Judah *is* a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up?

**Gen. 49.10** The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him *shall* the gathering of the people *be*.

**Gen. 49.11** Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes:

**Gen. 49.12** His eyes *shall be* red with wine, and his teeth white with milk.

**Gen. 49.22** ¶ Joseph *is* a fruitful bough, *even* a fruitful bough by a well; *whose* branches run over the wall:

**Gen. 49.23** The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot *at him*, and hated him:

**Gen. 49.24** But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty *God* of Jacob; (from thence *is* the shepherd, the stone of Israel:)

**Gen. 49.25** *Even* by the God of thy father, who shall help thee; and by the Almighty, who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lieth under, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb:

**Gen. 49.26** The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills: they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren.

As our count comes to a close, we are reminded that one day, our physical life will also come to a close. Let's learn from the patriarchs to take God at His word and not deviate from it to our dying breath. He is faithful! Amen and amen!

**2Tim. 2.10** Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

**2Tim. 2.11** *It is* a faithful saying: For if we be dead with *him*, we shall also live with *him*:

**2Tim. 2.12** If we suffer, we shall also reign with *him*: if we deny *him*, he also will deny us:

**2Tim. 2.13** If we believe not, *yet* he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

## 50. May 16th, 2021



adriandavis 8:04 AM

Blessed Pentecost to everyone! As our count comes to an end, so does the life of our great patriarch, Jacob. He led a long life with ups and downs (in his own assessment, it was a short life with more downs than ups).

Gen. 47.8 And Pharaoh said unto Jacob, How old art thou?

Gen. 47.9 And Jacob said unto Pharaoh, The days of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years: few and evil have the days of the years of my life been, and have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage.



In addition to losing Rachel, he thought he lost Joseph and would never see him again. Imagine his joy when he not only saw Joseph, but Joseph's sons as well. As he observed everything that happened, he realized his sons treated Joseph wickedly. He also saw their genuine sorrow over what they had done and their gratitude for having Joseph restored to them. After the death of their father, the brothers became terrified that Joseph would seek revenge. They were unable to fathom Joseph's greater vision. As we celebrate Pentecost, let's not be surprised if our brothers have done us wrong, or more importantly, may do us wrong in the future. Like Joseph, let's be people of grand vision and fine-tuned alignment with the will and purpose of God. Let's recall the breakthrough in understanding we received last week from our brother [Jan's sermon](#) on forgiveness (highly recommended if you missed it).

Gen. 50.15 ¶ And when Joseph's brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, Joseph will peradventure hate us, and will certainly requite us all the evil which we did unto him.

Gen. 50.16 And they sent a messenger unto Joseph, saying, Thy father did command before he died, saying,

Gen. 50.17 So shall ye say unto Joseph, Forgive, I pray thee now, the trespass of thy brethren, and their sin; for they did unto thee evil: and now, we pray thee, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of thy father. And Joseph wept when they spake unto him.

Gen. 50.18 And his brethren also went and fell down before his face; and they said, Behold, we be thy servants.

Gen. 50.19 And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God?

Gen. 50.20 But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.

Gen. 50.21 Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.

Have a most meaningful and happy Pentecost!