

#12 VaYechi: Praise Adonai for His Mercy

- **A request made and an oath given, because of faith.**
 - Gen 47:29-31 TLV As the time of Israel's death drew near, he called for his son Joseph and said to him, "If I have found favor in your eyes, please put your hand under my thigh and show me faithful kindness. Please do not bury me in Egypt. (30) When I lie down with my fathers, you must carry me out of Egypt and bury me in their burial place." So he said, "I myself will do according to your word." (31) "Swear to me," he said. So he swore to him. Then Israel bowed down in worship on the head of his staff.

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- **The fulfillment of the oath.**

- Jos 24:32 TLV (32) Joseph's bones, which Bnei-Yisrael had brought up from Egypt, they buried in Shechem, in the parcel of ground that Jacob had bought from the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for 100 pieces of silver. It became the inheritance of the children of Joseph.

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- **If Joseph had any other sons.**

- Gen 48:5-6 TLV So now, your two sons, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you in Egypt, they are mine. Ephraim and Manasseh will be mine, just like Reuben and Simeon. (6) Any descendent of yours whom you father after them will be yours; they will be identified by the names of their brothers for their inheritance.

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- **Judah did not own the scepter.**

- Gen 49:10 TLV The scepter will not pass from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs will come. To him will be the obedience of the peoples.
- 1Co 15:25-28 TLV For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. (26) The last enemy to be destroyed is death. (27) For God has "put all things in subjection underneath His feet." But when the psalmist says that "all" has been put in subjection, it is clear that this does not include God Himself, who put all things under Messiah. (28) Now when all things become subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also become subject to the One who put all things under Him, so that God may be all in all.

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- **Joseph was able to forgive, because the work was God's for the benefit of all.**
 - Gen 50:15-21 TLV When Joseph's brothers saw that their father had died, they said, "Maybe Joseph will be hostile towards us and pay us back in full for all the evil we showed him. (16) So they charged Joseph saying, "Before his death, your father gave a command, saying, (17) "Thus you must say to Joseph: 'Please forgive, I beg you, the transgression of your brothers and their sin because they treated you wrongly.' Therefore, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Then Joseph wept when they spoke to him, (18) and his brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your slaves!"

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- **Joseph was able to forgive, because the work was God's for the benefit of all.**
 - Gen 50:15-21 TLV (19) But Joseph said to them, “Don't be afraid. For am I in the place of God? (20) Yes, you yourselves planned evil against me. God planned it for good, in order to bring about what it is this day—to preserve the lives of many people. (21) So now, don't be afraid. I myself will provide food for you and your little ones.” So he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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- **Joseph requires an oath, because he had the same faith as his father.**
 - Gen 50:24-25 TLV Then Joseph said to his brothers, “I’m about to die. But God will surely take notice of you and will bring you up from this land to the land that He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.” (25) Then Joseph made Israel’s sons swear an oath saying, “When God takes notice of you, you will bring my bones up from here.”

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- **The fulfillment of the oath.**

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- **Psalm 107, Adonai's deliverance gives us reason to praise Him for His Mercy.**
 - Psa 107:1 TLV Praise Adonai, for He is good, for His lovingkindness endures forever.

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- **Four situations where Adonai delivers us, and why we should give Him thanks.**
 - He delivers us from the hand of the foe. Psalm 107.2-9
 - He delivers from prison: Psalm 107.10-16.
 - He delivers us from our own foolishness: Psalm 107.17-22.
 - He delivers us from storms: Psalm 107.23-32.

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- **Other reasons to praise Adonai:**
 - He feeds the hungry: Psalm 107.33-39.
 - He pours contempt on princes: Psalm 107.40.
 - He lifts up the needy: Psalm 107.41.
 - He makes the upright glad: Psalm 107.42.
 - Psa 107:43 TLV Who is wise? Let him observe these things, and consider Adonai's lovingkindness.