

God's Promise of God's Presence

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, November 26th; Steve Thiel

Sermon Theme: In accordance with His promise, God is with His people in the person of Jesus for their salvation and in the person of the Holy Spirit for their sanctification. Therefore, we must delight in God's presence now and forever.

I. God's Promise About Egypt – Read Genesis 46:1-34 and answer the following questions.

- A. Why do you think Jacob is so afraid of leaving Canaan? What promises does God make to Jacob in verses 1-4 in light of his fears? How is this similar to Isaac in Genesis 26:23-25?
- B. In verses 5-7, what is the author highlighting as Jacob leaves Beersheba?
- C. What's the significance of listing all the descendants who are relocating to Egypt?
- D. What stands out to you regarding Jacob being reunited to his father Joseph?

II. God's Provision In Egypt – Read Genesis 47:1-31 and answer the following questions.

- A. What stands out to you regarding Pharaoh's response to the brother's request to dwell in the land of Goshen? In verses 7-10, what's the significance of Jacob blessing Pharaoh?
- B. How is the contrast between the Israelites (vv.11-12, 27) and the Egyptians (vv.13-26) helpful as you consider God's abundant provision to the nation of Israel while they are in Egypt?
- C. How do you see God's promises from Genesis 46:1-4 being fulfilled in verses 27-31?
- D. How do you see God's promise of being present evident over all of these events?

III. God's Presence Fulfilled – Read the passages and answer the following questions.

- A. The theme of God's presence is consistent throughout the entire Old Testament. Can you think of some specific people or events when God promised, "I will be with you"?
- B. How is God's promise of His presence ultimately fulfilled in Jesus (Matthew 1:22-23)? As you think about it, how is this truly the only hope for any unbeliever?
- C. Read Matthew 28:20. How does Jesus' promise, "I am with you always, even to the end of the age", encourage you as you struggle with your own fears and anxieties?
- D. What are some practical ways in which God's presence motivates you in the here and now?