



Understanding The God We Love (Why God Made Fathers?)

Date: June 20, 2021

Text: Ephesians 5:22-23

- Wives, submit yourselves to your own **husbands** as you do to the Lord. 23 For the **husband** is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the **Savior**.

Note: Savior defined in the Greek: *soter*, - salvation, deliverer, preserver, and protector

Goal: To look at how the first five highlighted fathers impacted their families.

I. Five Lost Seasons in the Life of Five Fathers

1. Adam (Lived through a lost season and recovered; cp. Romans 5)
2. Noah (Lived through a flood season and saved his family)
3. Abraham (Lived through an idolatry season and saved his family from)
4. Jacob (Lived through a deceitful season and abuse and saved his family; cp. Genesis 32:24-32)
5. Joseph (Lived through abusive season and saved his family from famine; cp. Genesis 37-50)

Note Romans 5:12: "Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned"

II. Five Observations About The First Five Fathers

1. The Silence of Adam (Genesis 1-5:5)

- He was silent at key moments in his family life (The tree, the death of Abel and the rebellion of Cain)

Note: Genesis 3:8-12, NIV: Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ **But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"** ¹⁰ **He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."** ¹¹ And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" ¹² The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

2. The Courageous Brilliance of Noah (Genesis 5:28-10:1)

- He was willing to be different and avoid following the crowd and God commended him.

3. The Faith of Abraham (Genesis 11:10; Genesis 12-26)

- He believed God and left everything (cp. Romans 4:3)
- v3 What does Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."

Note: He was a father who had faith but frequently struggled with issues.

4. The Deception of Jacob (Genesis 25:19-36)

- He deceived people without guilt
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5. The Wisdom of Joseph (Genesis 37-50)

- He was single for 30 years (Genesis 41:45-46)
- He went from single to ruler to married in one day
- He married Asenath (The daughter of a Potiphara, priest of On who worshipped the sun god)
- He had two sons Ephram and Manasseh (Genesis 41:51-52)

Note: Two observations about Joseph's Family

1. His Asenath wife was given to him: Genesis 41:44-46

- 44 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I am Pharaoh, but without your word no one will lift hand or foot in all Egypt." 45 Pharaoh gave Joseph the name Zaphenath-paneah and gave him a wife, **Asenath** daughter of Potiphara, priest at On. 46 And Joseph went throughout the land of Egypt. 46 Joseph was **thirty years old** when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from Pharaoh's presence and traveled throughout Egypt.

2. His Children where uniquely named: Genesis 41:51-52

- Joseph named his firstborn **Manasseh** and said, "It is because **God has made me forget all my trouble and all my father's household.**" ⁵² The second son he named Ephraim^[1] and said, "It is because God has made me fruitful in the land of my suffering."

Closing:

III. Three Life Changing Lessons From The Response of Joseph, a Great Father

1. He taught us the **important of forgetting** some things (That sons name was Manasseh)
2. He taught us to **believe** we can be fruitful again (That sons name was Ephram)
3. He taught us to **not allow abuse** to blur our vision (Genesis 50:20-21)
 - 20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. 21 So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

One Closing Question:

- How can I save my family when things are out of control? (Speak up, build a new ark, believe you can, tell the truth, and invite wisdom into your life)

Next Time: Common Assumptions People Get Wrong About God

Introduction: Three Things People Get Wrong About God

1. His **Grace** (How far will He go? Romans 6:14)
2. His **Temperament** (What makes Him Angry, Deuteronomy 28)
3. His **Will** (1 John 5:14-15)