

Intro:

Main Point of Text: Joseph's death in Egypt ends Genesis; but the Book has begun to reveal God delivering His people.

Sermon Point: *God is with us!*

Move 1: Genesis is the foundation of your faith journey.

Genesis a book of beginnings/generations. Especially, God's covenant people He chooses through sovereign grace. Redeemed to redeem Creation mandate: (Gen. 1:22 with 12:1-3). Genesis teaches: "have faith": Gen. 15:6 (Rom. 4:3; Gal. 3:6). Majority of members of Heb. 11's "hall of faith" in Genesis.

Move 2: You need to have faith in God's promises to make it to the end of HISStory.

Vs. 25. Why care about bones? Just like his father (Gen. 47:29-31). Solemn oaths to make sure they do it. For they are sure God will do what He said. Hebrews 11:22: Just like Moses, vss. 24-26. Genesis teaches to wait in faith on God: Heb 11:39-40; 12:1. Genesis ends w/ an act of faith.

Move 3: Your faith is not blind: it sees how God has often visited His people.

Knows God visited Patriarchs and their wives. His own experience: 13 years in slavery/prison; 80 years as a prince: Vs. 22. Vs. 23: sees nation growing, his sons fulfilling Jacob's prophecy (48:5, 20). So reflects Jacob's faith: vs. 24-25 (48:21-22). Based also on what God said to Abraham 286 years *before* (Gen. 12:1-3; 15:13-16; Gal. 3:16-17). It will *still* be about 144 years *until* bones taken out with Exodus, and *another* 67 years before buried in Canaan (total of 211!) [Calculations based on info. from F. Jones, *The Chronology of the OT, Revised & Updated Edition*]. Bones are moved, for Israel takes P.L.! God lets His people wait, but visits as promised! Ex. 3:16-17; 4:31; 13:19. Jos. 24:32.

Move 4: Jesus Christ rewards His people's faith with His continual presence.

Jesus is the complete fulfillment of Joseph's words: Luke 1:68, 78; 7:12-16; Acts 15:7-14. Mat. 1:23/Isa. 7:14: "Emanuel". Has fulfilled Gen. 3:15/Ps. 22:1. Now prepares you/heaven to be w/ Him, and visits you in worship (Psalm 22:22/Heb. 2:12). Vs. 24: Jesus will lift you up out of this land and bring you to the P.L. In the mean time, He says Hebrews 13:5.

Conclusion:

God is with us!