

“Change Challenge”

Jacob (Part 20)

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.” (Matthew 24:35)

Radical Revelation

Genesis 45:25-28 – (25) “So they went up out of Egypt and came to the land of Canaan to their father Jacob. (26) And they told him, ‘Joseph is still alive, and he is ruler over all the land of Egypt.’ And his heart became numb, for he did not believe them. (27) But when they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said to them, and when he saw the wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of their father Jacob revived. (28) And Israel said, ‘It is enough; Joseph my son is still alive. I will go and see him before I die.’”

Apprehensive Alteration

Genesis 46:1-7 – (1) “So Israel took his journey with all that he had and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. (2) And God spoke to Israel in visions of the night and said, ‘Jacob, Jacob.’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’ (3) Then he said, ‘I am God, the God of your father. Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for there I will make you into a great nation. (4) I myself will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also bring you up again, and Joseph’s hand shall close your eyes.’ (5) Then Jacob set out from Beersheba. The sons of Israel carried Jacob their father, their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons that Pharaoh had sent to carry him. (6) They also took their livestock and their goods, which they had gained in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob and all his offspring with him, (7) his sons, and his sons’ sons with him, his daughters, and his sons’ daughters. All his offspring he brought with him into Egypt.”

God challenges us to change, to change us for the better

What Does Not Change:

God’s Presence

“Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’ So we can confidently say, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?’” (Hebrews 13:5-6)

“...And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20 NLT)

God's Purpose

**“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”
(Jeremiah 29:11)**

“which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me.” (2 Timothy 1:12)

God's Person

“For I the Lord do not change...” (Malachi 3:6)

“They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, but you are the same, and your years have no end.” (Psalm 102:26-27)

Concerning Change:

**“Each one should remain in the condition in which he was called. Were you a bondservant when called? Do not be concerned about it. (But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity.)”
(1 Corinthians 7:20-21)**

**“My son...do not associate with those given to change.”
(Proverbs 24:21 NKJV)**

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(ESV used unless otherwise noted)**