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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church
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Special

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Joseph's Dead Bones

How important is the Book of Genesis to the Church Age Believer (CAB) today? **Genesis** is mentioned in every book of the New Testament except the three personal letters of (Philemon, 2nd and 3rd John).

In Stephen's messianic speech to the Sanhedrin, he discussed the Patriarch history of Joseph in Egypt (Acts 7:9-19). In the Book of Hebrews chapter of faith, the writer mentions the doctrinal importance of Joseph's Dead Bones:

(Heb.11:22) "By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the exodus of the sons of Israel, and gave orders concerning his bones."

We will examine our lesson text by the following **four homiletic points**.

- (Gen.50:24a) **Premonition of death** "I am about to die."
- (Gen.50:24b) **Promises of God to living** "But God will surely take care of you."
- (Gen.50:25) **Prearrangement of death** "You shall carry my bones up from here."
 - **Recommended Check list for you today:**
 - **A WILL:** An executor; important papers (Insurance / financials) together with a Living Will (for the hospital if needed) and birth certificate.
 - **A PLAN:**
 - If a burial, the cemetery plot,, casket, grave marker; funeral service; personal effects; list of personal contacts with phone numbers]
 - If cremation, the contract with a crematory, memorial service personal effects; list of personal contacts with phone numbers]
- (Gen.50:26) **Plan of God to living** "At the age of 110, Joseph was embalmed and placed in a coffin in Egypt."

What was the message of Joseph's dead bones to the sons of Israel? There were several points to Joseph's message that we will mention in today's lesson. **But the primary message** that I want you to get is this:

"GOD WILL SURELY TAKE CARE OF YOU." (Gen.50:24B)

<p>This lesson will study <u>four aspects</u> of doctrinal importance of JOSEPH'S DEAD BONES.</p>

1. Joseph was God's final witness of the Patriarch period of messianic history (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph's Dead Bones).

(Heb.11:22) "By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the exodus of the sons of Israel, and gave orders concerning his bones."

Joseph's dead bones lay in state for 400 years of Egyptian bondage so that the sons of Israel could be reminded of two great PROMISES OF GOD.

(Gen.50:24) "And Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am about to die,

- **but God will surely take care of you,**
- **and bring you up from this land to the land which He promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.**"

The 400 years were the final years of the Patriarch period.

2. Joseph's charge to his brothers regarding his dead bones was based on the doctrine of the Abrahamic covenant (Gen. 12; 13; 15; 17) [The Land, The Seed, and The Blessing].

The **Promised Land** was the key messianic doctrinal promise during the Egyptian bondage.

(Gen.50:24 "Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am about to die, but God will surely take care of you and bring you up from this land to the land which He promised on oath to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob.'"

(Gen. 13:14-17; 17:7-8)

Joseph believed the Abrahamic Covenant that Canaan was the Promise Land and he wanted his dead bones buried in that Promised Land.

Joseph's dead bones were a doctrinal visual aid for 400 years to the Israelites of God's Promise of the Land.

3. Let me suggest five lessons Joseph's dead bones taught the Israelites during their 400 years of bondage suffering.

1. Joseph's dead bones reminded the Israelites that God is faithful to His Word.
2. Joseph's dead bones reminded the Israelites that God's grace is always sufficient whether in or out of the Promise Land.
3. Joseph's dead bones reminded each generation of Israelites to be faithful custodians of the Word of God and Evangelism. Generational custodianship was important to Joseph's request.
4. Joseph's dead bones reminded the Israelites that they have 'a better future' in the Plan of God. It also reminded them to look beyond the things they were suffering – to that which God would provide.
5. Joseph's dead bones reminded the Israelites that the Plan of God is greater than any one person, group, generation, nation, or adversatives of life.

How important was the doctrinal teaching of Joseph's dead bones to the Israelites? **400 years later, Moses quoted (Gen.50:25) verbatim in (Ex.13:19)**

4. Moses understood the doctrinal importance of Joseph's dead bones and carried them out of Egypt and into Promised Land and into the word of God.

(Joshua 24:32) **Moses** passed this doctrinal truth onto **Joshua** who passed it unto **second generation of Israelites** "who buried Joseph's Dead Bones at Shechem, in the piece of ground which Jacob had brought from the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for one hundred pieces of money; AND THEY BECAME THE INHERITSANCE OF JOSEPH'S SONS." (Joshua 24:29-32)

(Phil.4:19) "And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."