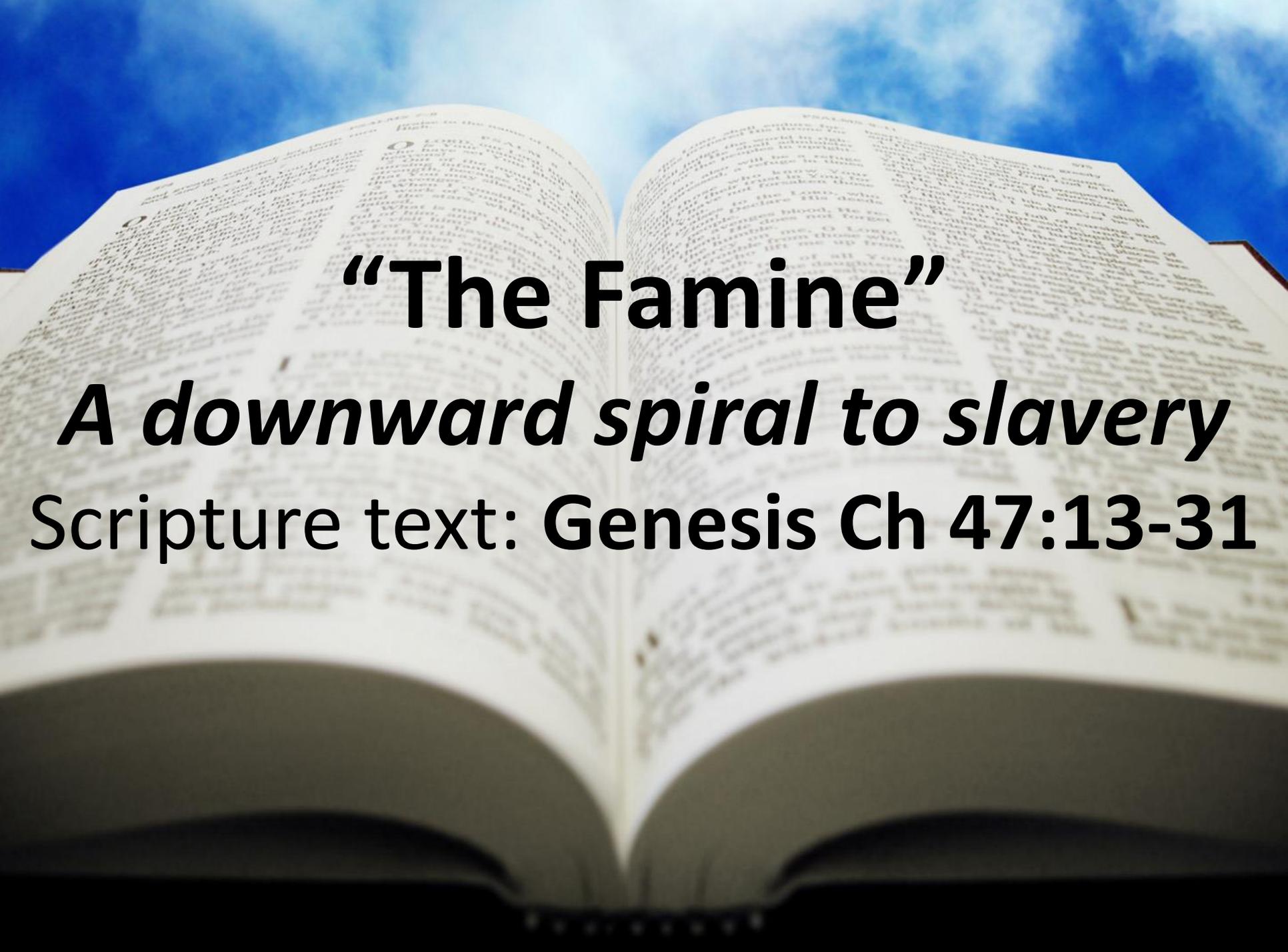


Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church
We're glad you're here!



An open Bible is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with text, and the background is a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The text is overlaid on the center of the Bible.

“The Famine”

A downward spiral to slavery

Scripture text: Genesis Ch 47:13-31

Genesis 47:13 Now there was no food in all the land, for the famine was very severe, so that the land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished by reason of the famine.

languish -

1 a : to be or become feeble, weak, or enervated

b : to be or live in a state of depression or decreasing vitality

2 a : to become dispirited : pine *〈languishing in prison〉*

b : to suffer neglect

3 : to assume an expression of grief or emotion appealing for sympathy

Joel 1:10-13 The fields are destroyed, the ground mourns, because the grain is destroyed, the wine dries up, **the oil languishes**. Be ashamed, O tillers of the soil; wail, O vinedressers, for the wheat and the barley, **because the harvest of the field has perished**. The vine dries up; the fig tree languishes. Pomegranate, palm, and apple, all the trees of the field are dried up, and gladness dries up from the children of man. Put on sackcloth and lament, O priests; wail, O ministers of the altar. Go in, pass the night in sackcloth, O ministers of my God! Because grain offering and drink offering are withheld from the house of your God.

Jeremiah 9:12-15 Who is the man so wise that he can understand this? To whom has the mouth of the LORD spoken, that he may declare it? **Why is the land ruined and laid waste like a wilderness, so that no one passes through? And the LORD says: "Because they have forsaken my law that I set before them, and have not obeyed my voice or walked in accord with it, but have stubbornly followed their own hearts and have gone after the Baals, as their fathers taught them.** Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: **Behold, I will feed this people with bitter food, and give them poisonous water to drink.**

**Due to a poor harvest
season, we are
experiencing
shortages on many
of our canned
vegetable items.**

**We hope to be back
in stock on most items
by the end of August.**



Genesis 47:14-15 And Joseph gathered up all the money that was found in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, in exchange for the grain that they bought. And Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house. And when the money was all spent in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came to Joseph and said, "**Give us food. Why should we die before your eyes? For our money is gone.**"

What will you do once your money is gone?
How will you buy food?

**Civilization Is Only
Nine Meals Away From Anarchy**



Genesis 47:16-17 And Joseph answered, "Give your livestock, and I will give you food in exchange for your livestock, if your money is gone." So they brought their livestock to Joseph, and Joseph gave them food in exchange for the horses, the flocks, the herds, and the donkeys. He supplied them with food in exchange for all their livestock that year.

Once you lose your means of providing income, how long until you are at the mercies of others, and will they have good intentions towards you? Will they see you as a useless eater?

This was the wisest measure that could be adopted, **both for the preservation of the people and of the cattle.** As the people had not grain for their own sustenance, consequently they could have none for their cattle: **hence they were in the most imminent danger of starving;** and the people also were in equal danger; as they must have divided a portion of that bought for themselves with the cattle, which, for the sake of tillage, etc., **they wished of course to preserve till the seven years' famine should end.**

Isaiah 31:1-3 Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help and rely on horses, who trust in chariots because they are many and in horsemen because they are very strong, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel or consult the LORD! And yet he is wise and brings disaster; he does not call back his words, but will arise against the house of the evildoers and against the helpers of those who work iniquity. The Egyptians are man, and not God, and their horses are flesh, and not spirit. When the LORD stretches out his hand, the helper will stumble, and he who is helped will fall, and they will all perish together.

Philippians 4:5-8 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving **let your requests be made known to God.** And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. **Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.**

Daniel 6:5-7 Then these men said, "**We shall not find any ground for complaint against this Daniel unless we find it in connection with the law of his God.**" Then these presidents and satraps came by agreement to the king and said to him, "O King Darius, live forever! All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an injunction, **that whoever makes petition to any god or man for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions.**

Matthew 6:24-26 "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve God and money.** "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet **your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?**

Genesis 47:18b-21 There is nothing left in the sight of my lord but our bodies and our land. Why should we die before your eyes, both we and our land? **Buy us and our land for food, and we with our land will be servants to Pharaoh.** And give us seed that we may live and not die, and that the land may not be desolate." So Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh, for all the Egyptians sold their fields, because the famine was severe on them. **The land became Pharaoh's. As for the people, he made servants of them from one end of Egypt to the other.**

Matthew 16:24-27 Then Jesus told his disciples, "**If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.** For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. **For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?** For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then **he will repay each person according to what he has done.**

Philippians 3:7-11 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith-- that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

It is highly probable, that Joseph was influenced by no political motive in removing the people to the cities, but merely by motives of prudence and humanity; for, as the corn was laid up in the cities, it would be more eligible to bring them from distant towns and villages **to places where they might be more conveniently supplied with food.** to cities.

Genesis 41:48 and he gathered up all the food of these seven years, which occurred in the land of Egypt, and put the food in the cities. **He put in every city** the food from the fields around it.

Genesis 47:22-25 Only the land of the priests he did not buy, for the priests had a fixed allowance from Pharaoh and lived on the allowance that Pharaoh gave them; therefore they did not sell their land. Then Joseph said to the people, "Behold, I have this day bought you and your land for Pharaoh. Now here is seed for you, and you shall sow the land. And at the harvests **you shall give a fifth to Pharaoh, and four fifths shall be your own, as seed for the field and as food for yourselves and your households, and as food for your little ones.**" And they said, "You have saved our lives; may it please my lord, we will be servants to Pharaoh."

Genesis 47:22 Only the land of the priests he did not buy, for **the priests had a fixed allowance** from Pharaoh and lived on the allowance that Pharaoh gave them; therefore they did not sell their land.

1 Corinthians 9:13-14 Do you not know **that those who are employed in the temple service** get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way, the **Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel.**

1 Samuel 8:11-14 He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen and to run before his chariots. And he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his servants.

1 Samuel 8:15-20 He will take the tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and to his servants. He will take your male servants and female servants and the best of your young men and your donkeys, and put them to his work. He will take the tenth of your flocks, and **you shall be his slaves.** And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the LORD will not answer you in that day." **But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel.** And they said, "No! But there shall be a king over us, that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles."

Proverb 11:26 The people curse him who holds back grain, but a blessing is on the head of him who sells it.

Genesis 45:6-8 For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. And **God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth**, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Genesis 47:26 So Joseph made it a statute concerning the land of Egypt, and **it stands to this day, that Pharaoh should have the fifth; the land of the priests alone did not become Pharaoh's.**

Verses 13-31 describe the way Joseph managed the affairs of Egypt giving us an **illustration of dedication**: the people gave him their money, their lands, their possessions, and their own bodies (Rom. 12:1–2). **We should give our all to Christ who has saved us and who cares for us daily.**

Romans 12:1-2 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, **to present your bodies as a living sacrifice**, holy and acceptable to God, **which is your spiritual worship**. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, **that by testing you may discern what is the will of God**, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

So God blessed His people according to the promises He made to Abraham.

They were fast becoming a great nation.

Moreover, God blessed Pharaoh because he had blessed the seed of Abraham with the best of Egypt. Later in the time of Moses, when another Pharaoh oppressed Israel, God dealt harshly with the Egyptians.