

119

MINISTRIES

“The following is a direct script of a teaching that is intended to be presented via video, incorporating relevant text, slides, media, and graphics to assist in illustration, thus facilitating the presentation of the material. In some places, this may cause the written material to not flow or sound rather awkward in some places. In addition, there may be grammatical errors that are often not acceptable in literary work. We encourage the viewing of the video teachings to complement the written teaching you see below.”

Parashah Points: Vayigash – Prophetic Parallels between Joseph and Yeshua

Welcome to another episode of Parashah Points—short thoughts from the weekly Torah Portion.

This week’s Parashah Point comes from Vayigash, which is Hebrew for “he drew near,” and it goes from Genesis 44:18 to Genesis 47:27.

This parashah tells the story of Judah pleading on behalf of his brother Benjamin, whom Joseph took captive (Genesis 44:18-34).

Joseph then reveals his true identity to his brothers (Genesis 45).

Jacob then brings his whole family down to Egypt and reunites with his son, Joseph (Genesis 46).

The parashah concludes with the telling of Joseph’s administration in Egypt during the famine and Israel settling in the land of Goshen (Genesis 47:1-27).

There’s a lot we can talk about in this Torah Portion. Today we’re going to talk about some of the prophetic parallels between Joseph and Yeshua.

Genesis 45:7-8

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.

Joseph said this after he revealed himself to his brothers—the same brothers who were responsible for all of the painful trials he went through. They thought he was dead, but little did they know, God used Joseph’s trials to bring him to a place of honor and rulership over all the land. Joseph acknowledged that everything he went through was part of God’s plan: **“It was not you who sent me here, but God.”**

We can, perhaps, imagine Yeshua saying something similar to His Jewish brothers after He reveals Himself to them as the Messiah. Indeed, one day the eyes of the Jewish people will be opened to the true

identity of Yeshua, just as the eyes of Joseph's brothers were opened to Joseph's true identity. In fact, there are many parallels between Joseph's story and Yeshua's story.

- Just as Joseph was the beloved of his father Jacob, Yeshua was the beloved of His Father in heaven.
- Just as Joseph's own brothers rejected him, Yeshua's own Jewish brothers rejected Him.
- Just as Joseph was put into prison, Yeshua was put into the "prison walls" of a tomb, if you will.
- Just as Joseph was released from his prison and ascended to the right hand of Pharaoh, given authority over all the land, Yeshua rose from the tomb and ascended to the right hand of the Father, given authority over the heavens and the earth (Matthew 28:18).

And just like Joseph's story, Yeshua's death, resurrection, and ascension were all in accordance with the sovereign plan of God:

John 10:18

For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. **This charge I have received from my Father."**

You might ask why it is necessary that Yeshua's identity be hidden from His Jewish brothers for a time. Why have the majority of Jewish people not understood the plan of God in the Scriptures—that Messiah would die for their sins and rise from the grave? Why was Israel given a "spirit of stupor" regarding God's plans about their Messiah? (Romans 11:8).

The reason is the same reason that Joseph's brothers couldn't see the truth concerning Joseph. Joseph *had* to be betrayed; he had to be thrown into prison. This needed to happen in order for Joseph to be put in the position where he would be given authority over Egypt, in order "that many people should be kept alive" (Genesis 50:20).

If the Jewish leadership in the first century had known the plans of God, "they would not have crucified the Lord of glory" (1 Corinthians 2:8). And if Messiah hadn't died to make atonement, we would still be dead in our sins—separated from God. Just as God brought good out of Joseph's rejection by his brothers, God brought good out of Yeshua's rejection by His Jewish brothers:

Romans 11:11

So I ask, did they stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather, through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous.

Israel's rejection of the Messiah ultimately brought about the salvation of the Gentiles. But that's not the end of the story. Just as Joseph eventually revealed his true identity to his brothers and forgave them their sins, Yeshua will one day reveal His true identity to the Jewish people and offer forgiveness and healing to them:

Zechariah 12:10

And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

Thank you for joining us for another Parashah Point!

We pray you have been blessed by this teaching. Remember, continue to test everything. Shalom! For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

EMAIL: Info@119ministries.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/119Ministries

WEBSITE: www.TestEverything.net & www.ExaminaloTodo.net

TWITTER: [www.twitter.com/119Ministries#](https://twitter.com/119Ministries#)