

THE END OF THE BEGINNING  
(Genesis 50:1-26)

- I. Jacob's FUNERAL (Gen. 50:1-14)
  - A. His death caused great GRIEF (50:1-6)
    - 1. Joseph WEPT over his BODY
    - 2. Joseph had his body EMBALMED
    - 3. The Egyptians MOURNED for SEVENTY DAYS
    - 4. Joseph requested LEAVE to take his body to CANAAN
  - B. Jacob was afforded a STATE FUNERAL (50:7-14)
    - 1. The funeral PROCESSION traveled to CANAAN
      - a. Included all the FAMILY of JACOB except the "little ones"
      - b. Included all the SERVANTS of PHARAOH
      - c. Included all the ELDERS of EGYPT
      - d. Included honor guard of CHARIOTS and CAVALRY
    - 2. He was MOURNED in Canaan and BURIED
      - a. It FULFILLED their PROMISE
      - b. It PROCLAIMED their FAITH
      - c. They RETURNED to EGYPT
  - C. Jacob's is the LONGEST funeral description in SCRIPTURE

- II. Jacob's Sons' FEAR (Gen. 50:15-21)
  - A. They anticipated Joseph's VENGEANCE (50:15)
  - B. They asked Joseph's FORGIVENESS (50:16-18)
    - 1. They sent a MESSENGER
    - 2. They CONFESSED their SIN
    - 3. They ASKED for FORGIVENESS
    - 4. They PROFESSED their FAITH
    - 5. They came IN PERSON to present THEMSELVES for SERVICE
  - C. They received Joseph's GRACE (50:19-21)
    - 1. He FORGAVE them
    - 2. He declared God's SOVEREIGNTY
    - 3. He promised PROTECTION and PROVISION for them
- III. Joseph's FAREWELL (Gen. 50:22-26)
  - A. He lived to the age of 110 YEARS (50:22a)
    - 1. That was FIFTY-FOUR YEARS after Jacob's death
    - 2. That was MUCH YOUNGER than any previous generation
  - B. He saw THREE GENERATIONS of progeny (50:22b-23)
  - C. In his "good-bye" to his brothers, he expressed confidence in God's PROMISES (50:24)