

Genesis 50:25-26

25 And Joseph made the sons of Israel swear an oath and said, "God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up from this place."

26 So Joseph died at the age of a hundred and ten. And after they embalmed him, he was placed in a coffin in Egypt.

Meditation:

Joseph was so faithful to God, his trust and reliance in God's leadership was shocking given the tough situations he had faced in his life. On this final page in his life the book of beginnings ends. I was amazed on my read-through of the Pentateuch that the end of this man's life is the conclusion to the book of Genesis. "He was placed in a coffin in Egypt." are the cold and final words to the book of beginnings.

Reviewing this passage more deeply, however, reveals a promise, and foreshadowing of the journey that God has laid out for his people. A journey from captivity in Egypt to the land promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Joseph's foretelling of this coming "salvation" from slavery and the oath that he asks his brothers to take point to a baton of faithfulness that he wished to pass on within God's family, his family.

Paraphrase of Text:

Joseph asked his brothers not to forget that God would continue to be with them and they should carry the faith of their brother with them as they traveled to the land promised to their forefathers.

Prayer:

Dear heavenly Father, please grow my faith that it will become a baton that passes through the generations of my family and yours, providing comfort in your promises and faith in our salvation. Help my brothers and sisters to join me in the journey that you have called us to take as we trust in you, regardless of where you call us to go. In Jesus name, Amen