



Welcome to

Genesis

Week 8



The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of our God
endures forever.

II Timothy 3:16, 17

“All scripture is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness so that the servant of God may be thoroughly quipped for every good work.”



Questions

Genesis 37

Joseph's Dream

Genesis 37:1

Jacob lived in the land where his father had
stayed the land of Canaan

Genesis 37:2

➤ **This this account of Jacobs family line**

Joseph

- 17 years old
- Youngest, only, favorite, alone – not included
- Tended flocks with his four brothers - sons of secondary wives
- Brought back a bad report about them
- First duty to his father - not to the relationships of his brothers

Genesis 37:3

Now Israel loved Joseph more than
any of his sons

Isaac – favorite son

Jacob – favorite son

Joseph – favorite son

Discussion

- Israel had been treated as the favorite son. He knew the feeling of isolation and bitterness this produced.
- Why did he treat his Joseph as the favorite son?

Israel Made Joseph a Robe

- An ornate robe
- Coat of many colors
- A long robe with sleeves
- A ceremonial robe with ornaments
(Royal apparel II Samuel 13:18)

When His Brothers Saw that Their Father Loved Him More Than Any of Them

- They hated him.
- Could not speak a kind word to him

Genesis 37:5

He told both dreams to his brother's

- Why?
- They hated him all the more

Dream #1

- Sheaves of grain – bow down

Dream #2

- Sun and moon and 11 stars – bow down

Result of Telling His Dreams:

- Brothers hated him
- Brothers Jealous
- “Will you rule over us?”
- Brothers knew the interpretation of dream
- Father kept the matter in mind (Mary)

Discussion

➤ Why did Joseph tell his brothers?

Naïve, bragging, be more important/included, ?

Joseph Went to Find Brothers and Flocks

- City of Shechem - a day's journey
- Dothan 13 miles north
(Elisha encircled by God's chariots !!
Kings 6:13-17)
- Sparse population suitable for grazing

Genesis 37:18

- Before Joseph reached them, his brothers plotted to kill him

Genesis 37:19

- Here comes that dreamer
 - Only because of 2 dreams?

21 Ruben heard brothers, tried to rescue Joseph

- Told brothers “No”
- Gave alternative plan
- Don't shed any blood throw him into this cistern.
- Ruben planned to rescue him and take him back to his father
- As the eldest brother Isaac would hold him responsible or Joseph

Brothers Stripped Him of His Robe Threw Him

- Into the empty, dry cistern
- Sat down to eat – Callous

A caravan of Ishmaelites

- Israel's nomadic cousins
 - Judges 8:24 They had golden earrings because they were Ishmaelites

Genesis 37:28

Sold for 20 shekels of silver- the price of a slave

➤ Reuben discovers Joseph is gone

- Brothers kill goat (not sheep)
dip coat in blood
- Bring to father - is this your
sons coat?
- Did not even say his names
– or any relationship
- Distanced themselves

- Joseph put on sackcloth and ashes - signs of mourning
- Refused to be comforted

Discussion

- How did this decision and attitude of Jacob make everyone in the family feel?
- What can we learn about family dynamics from this example?

Sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar

One of Pharaohs Officials

- Captain of the guard
- Had command of the prison



Genesis 38

Judah and Tamar

Judah Left

- Stayed with a man in Adullam
(not on his own)
- Married Shua's daughter, (no name) a Canaanite
- Had 3 sons
 - Oldest son Er
 - Middle son Onan,
 - Youngest son Shelah

Judah got a wife for Er - Tamar

Er was wicked in the Lord's sight,
so the Lord put him to death!

➤ Judah knew - God had put Er to
death

Judah Told Onan

Preform your duty to Tamar as a brother-in-law

- Produce offspring for your brother
- Standard practice
- Unwelcomed duty
- The children, the land, the inheritance
 - Belong to his brother's line not to him

- Whenever Onan lay with Tamar, he spilled his semen on the ground.
- What he did was wicked in the Lords sight
- So He put him to death also

Judah's Solution for Tamar

- Live with your family (as a widow) until Shelah grows up
- Tamar did this

After a “Long Time”

- Judah's wife Shua died

Judah Went to Timnah at Sheep Shearing Time

Sheep shearing was a festive time

- The Canaanite cult encouraged sexuality and fertility magic.

Tamar's Desperate Plan

Tamar posed as a cult prostitute with a veil

- No prostitute except a married cultic prostitute was allowed to wear a veil.
- Not part of common dress

Judah slept with Tamar

- Price – Goat
- Pledge -seal and cord, and staff
- Could not find “temple prostitute”

Judah told - Tamar - prostitution
pregnant

Bring her out and have her burned to
death

Hosea 4:14

Condemns Double Standard

- I will not punish your daughters when they turn to prostitution,
- Nor your daughters-in-law when they commit adultery, because the men themselves consort with harlots and sacrifice with shrine prostitutes —
- A people without understanding will come to ruin!

Question

Every Culture Divides People

- gender, wealth, severity of crimes, education, ability etc.

Christ Unites People

- Gods grace loves equally, forgives equally and judges equally.

How can we be an example, and teach these truths in our communities?

- Tamar was concerned with her right as matriarch of Judah's eldest line.
- She was willing to accept the risk.
- Tamar shows the seal and staff
- “She is more righteous than I, since I wouldn't give her my son Shelah”.

Twin Sons

- Perez - red thread - then Zerah
- Perez - first born in genealogies
- that led to David - and to Christ



Genesis 39

Joseph and Potiphar's Wife

Genesis 39:1-9

Joseph, a Trusted Slave

- Potiphar bought Joseph
- The Lord was with Joseph and he prospered
- Emphasis - hard work and achievement
- Joseph worked hard - and God prospered Joseph

Joseph lived in Potiphar's house

Potiphar saw the Lord was with
him

Question

- How did Potiphar know it was the Lord who was with him and blesses him?

The Lord gave Joseph success and everything he did

Potiphar put Joseph in charge of his household and everything he owned the Lord blessed the household of Potiphar *because of Joseph.*

Discussion

- How does the Lord bless our employer, family, etc because of us?
- Is this something we challenge our community to be aware of?



10 Minute
Break

Joseph was well built and handsome

- Potiphar's wife took notice of Joseph
 - Position of Egyptian women – vote, hold office,
 - Men and women politically and culturally equal - of same class
- Potiphar's wife to Joseph: “Come to bed with me” (many times)
 - Joseph refused

Joseph Gave Respectful Answer

- My master has withheld nothing from me except you - Statement
- How could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God? - Question
- God was his ultimate master -Appeal to highest authority

Joseph Did Not Run Like a Coward

- He ran to save his honor
- Cost - position - life

Potiphar's Wife Accused Joseph *

- Death is what was expected
- 'Potiphar's previous respect for Joseph, his anger and restraint,
 - May reflect a faint hint of misgiving about the full accuracy of his wife's charge'

**Potiphar put Joseph in prison
with the King's prisoners**

Psalms 105:18

‘They bruised his feet with shackles,
his neck was put in irons’

- But while Joseph was there in the prison,
- The Lord was with him;
- God showed Joseph kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden
- Warden put Joseph in charge of everything.

Seeing the hand of God -Joseph's Education

He Learned

- **Home**— About God - The God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob, God of Heaven and Earth
- **Potiphar** — Language(s), culture, hard work, how to handle finances -run a household
 - The life of a slave
- **Prison** — Culture of prison, culture of the court — met kings prisoners — Kings officials

The Lord was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.

“Joseph’s outstanding abilities and integrity... with the touch of God, were constant at every level: as prisoner and as governor, he was simply the same man.”

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Genesis 40

The Cupbearer and the
Baker

Some time later....

Cupbearer (Responsible – Nehemiah – Had Influence - Direct Access to Pharaoh)

- Baker close to pharaoh - held important position
- Both offended Pharaoh
- Not surprising that the captain of the guard (presumably Potiphar - who would remember Joseph)
- (not subordinate, keeper of the prison) brought the cupbearer and the baker to the jail.
- Joseph was servant of prisoners

Cupbearer and Baker Both Had Dreams Same Night

Egyptians Believed Dreams Had

- Meaning
- Could predict the future
- A large body of writing on the art of interpreting dream
- Egyptians regarded dream interpretation as a science - not religious or spiritual

Do not interpretations belong to God?-(Daniel)

Spiritual -Ability only to God Almighty
(not all)

No mention of himself

Genesis 40:6-22

Genesis 40:23

- The chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph; he forgot him

Question

- Have you ever given to the congregation, given sacrificially to someone of your time, expertise or finances and then been forgotten?
- How does that feel?
- What should be our response?



Genesis 41

Pharoah's Dream

2 Years Later...

Pharoah Had 2 Dreams

- Called for magicians and wise men – could not interpret dreams
- Cupbearer remembered Joseph
 - Pharoah sent for Joseph from the dungeon
 - He was shaved * wig
 - Changed his clothes
 - Came before Pharoah

I cannot interpret dreams.

“ But God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires.”

- Only God – The God of Heaven and earth- interprets dreams –
- Not my knowledge of the science of dream interpretations

Joseph Interpreted Dreams

- 7 cows, 7 heads of grain

Joseph Gives Advice

- Plan seemed good – 20%

- Can we find anyone like this man one in whom is the Spirit of God?,
- Gave **name** - Zaphenath-Paneah
- Gave **wife** – Asenath daughter of Potiphera – Priest of On (Moses)
- Joseph was 30 years old
- Before famine had 2 sons Manasseh – Ephraim

7 Years of Plenty

- Collected 20% of grain and stored

7 Years of Famine

- Joseph opened the storehouses
- Sold grain to the Egyptians
- Sold grain to other countries



30 Minute
Break

Genesis 42

Joseph's Brothers Go to
Egypt – 21 years later

- Jacob learned grain in Egypt
- Sent all 10 brothers
- Not Benjamin (afraid harm) in his 20's

Discussion

- How did Jacob's attitude towards Benjamin make the other 10 brothers feel?

In Egypt – Before Joseph

Did not recognize – shaved, older, spoke through an interpreter

- Brothers bowed
- Joseph recognized
- Joseph spoke harshly
 - Accused brothers - being spies

Result:

- Put all in jail for 3 days
- On the third day only one stay in jail – all others go
- “for I fear God”
- Bring back brother or don't come back – to ensure return

Genesis :

- 22 Reuben replied didn't I tell you not to sin against the boy but you wouldn't listen! Now we must give an account for his blood.
- They did not realize Joseph could understand them, since he was using an interpreter

Found Silver in Sacks

Genesis 42:36

You have deprived me of my children.
Joseph is no more and Benjamin is no more,
and now you want to take Benjamin.
Everything is against me.

Genesis 42:38

My son will not go down there with you his
brother is dead and he is the only one left.

Discussion

- The Attitude of Jacob
– and Those Around
Him

Genesis 43

- Second journey to Egypt -less than 2 years

Israel finally allows Benjamin to go - desperateavi

- Take gifts
 - – ‘An indispensable courtesy in approaching a person of rank’ (David)
 - and double the silver
- Brothers went to Joseph’s house at noon

- Brothers bowed low to the ground
- Joseph asked about father
- Saw Benjamin – wept
- Benjamin in his 20's or early 30's –
Joseph about 40 years old
- Joseph's heart tender

- Serve brothers by themselves
 - Joseph by himself
- Seating order -oldest to youngest
- Benjamin – 5 times as much food
- Egyptians believe foreigners would defile the food
 - Jewish custom of not eating with Gentiles



Genesis 44

➤ **A Silver Cup**

Joseph Gave Orders

Fill Sacks -

- Put silver cup in mouth of Benjamin's sack

Brothers Left

Servant caught up with brothers –

- Silver cup – repay good for evil

Genesis 44:9 Rash Oath:

“If any of your servants is found to have it,
He will die: and the rest of us will become
your slaves”

Cup found in Benjamin sack

Genesis 44:14

Joseph was still in the house when Judah and his brothers came in. Judah replied we are now my Lord's slaves-m we ourselves and the one who was found to have the cup. But Joseph said Far be it for me to do such a thing. Only the man who was bound to have the cup will become my slave. The rest of you go back to your father in peace.

Question

- Why did Joseph do all these things to his brothers?

Joseph was wise, and had set the stage to see if his brothers had changed.

He gave all of his brothers the chance for freedom at Benjamin's expense.

All the conditions were there for another betrayal - much higher price than 30 pieces of silver -their freedom.

Judah's plea showed Joseph a
change in heart.

Genesis 44:33

Judah said please let your servant remain here as my Lord slave in place of the boy and let the boy return with his brothers. Do not let me see the misery that would come upon my father.



Genesis 45

Joseph makes himself
known

Joseph gave orders for everyone to leave the room.

- “I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt”
 - Stated fact
- He wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him
- Pharoah’s household heard about it

Brothers Were Terrified

➤ Why?

Genesis 45:5

Joseph's Example

- Do not be distressed
 - Do not be angry with yourselves - for selling me here,
- It was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you.

Genesis 45:6

- Joseph was 39 years old

Genesis 45:8

- It was not you who sent me here,
but God.

Spiritual Insight

You sold me, or, God sent me

A Spiritual and earthly side to every event

Joseph experienced the reality of slavery,
imprisonment, and rulership in Egypt.

Joseph experienced God's blessing and favor

Joseph Decided to Focus on God's:

- Power
- Presence
- Perfect design for his life

You meant it for evil, but God meant it
for good

Other Examples of Spiritual Insight and Perspective:

- Paul said *I am a prisoner of Christ*, - not, I am a prisoner of Rome
- In Gethsemane, Jesus prayed about the cup which *my Father has given me*,
- not, the people who betrayed me



Question

What are We Focusing On?

Attention

Genesis 45:24

Joseph sent his brothers away, and as they were leaving he said to them don't quarrel on the way

➤ Why?



Genesis 46

Jacob and His Family
Go to Egypt

Genesis 45:3

I am the God the God of your father

Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt

I will make you into a great nation there.

I will go down to Egypt with you,

I will surely bring you back again.

➤ Repeats promises from

Genesis 28:15 and **Genesis 15:16**

**Jacob and his entire family, 66
people, their flocks, herds,
belongings**

- Went to Egypt,
- To the land of Goshen
 - Fertile region east of the Nile
Delta

Pharoah Asked the Joseph's Brothers 'What is Your Occupation?'

- Had instructed them what to say
- “Your servants are shepherds, just as our fathers were.
- We have come to live here a little while,
- Because the famine is severe in Canaan and your servant's flocks have no pasture.
- So now please let your servants settle in Goshen”.

They All Settled in Goshen

- By staying in Goshen, Israel's family was able to
 - Maintain their way of life
 - Maintain their devotion to God
- Shepherds were detestable to the Egyptians

Genesis 47:13 – 26

Joseph and the Famine

(Joseph collected $\frac{1}{5}$ of all the grain during the time of plenty)

Joseph- collected all the money for food
-brought it to Pharoah's palace

Joseph - exchanged all the livestock for food

Joseph - bought all the land for Pharoah
- exchanged for food and seed

➤ 1/5 of food from the seed went back to Pharoah

The Pharaohs consider themselves
'owners of all Egypt'

Because of the famine Joseph made in fact
what the Pharaohs had believed

The land became pharaoh's property - The
people became Pharaoh's tenants.

Egypt survived the famine

Genesis 47:28-31

Jacob and Joseph

- Jacob called for Joseph and said put your hand under my thigh
- Promise that you will not bury me in Egypt,
- When I rest with my father's carry me out of Egypt
- Bury me where they are buried.

He leaned on top of his staff

- Joseph was proactive
- Where he was to be buried was more important than preparing for the after life.



10 Minute
Break



Genesis 48



Manasseh and Ephraim

Genesis 48:5

- Your two sons will be reckoned as mine.
- Sons will share in the inheritance
 - will be divided with their uncles

Genesis 48:17-19

Jacob Gives the Blessing

When Joseph saw his father placing his right hand on Ephraim's head he was displeased so he took hold of his father's hand to move it from Ephraim's head to Manassas head. Joseph said to him "no my father this one is the first born put your right hand on his head". But his father refused and said "I know my son I know. He too will become a people and he too will become great. Nevertheless, his younger brother will be greater than he, and his descendants will become a group of nations".

Discussion

- How is this different from Jacob and Esau's blessing?
- How is it the same?

Genesis 49

The background of the slide is an abstract composition of overlapping geometric shapes, primarily triangles. The color palette consists of various shades of blue, from light sky blue to deep navy, and purples, ranging from light lavender to dark, almost black, indigo. The shapes are layered, creating a sense of depth and movement. A thin, light-colored line runs diagonally across the lower-left portion of the image.

Genesis 49:1-28

➤ Jacob blesses his sons

Genesis 49:29 – 33

The Death of Jacob

I am about to be gathered to my people. Bury me with my father's in the cave which Abraham bought as a burial place. Abraham and his wife Sarah, Isaac and his wife Rebecca, and Leah are buried there. When Jacob had finished giving instructions to his sons, he drew his feet up into the bed and breathed his last and was gathered to his people.

Jacob died when he was 147

➤ He lived 17 years in Egypt

Genesis 50

The background of the slide is composed of several overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes, primarily triangles and quadrilaterals. These shapes are in various shades of blue, from light sky blue to deep navy blue, and some in shades of purple. They are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement, with some shapes appearing to recede into the background while others come forward. The overall effect is a modern, abstract design that complements the title text.

Genesis 50:2

Both embalmers and physicians could embalm.

- However, the physicians normally did not perform the magic religious rights of the embalmers.
- The morning period for Jacob was 70 days
 - Only two days less than the official 72 days observed for a Pharoah.

Joseph Traveled With:

- Officials dignitaries of his court
- Dignitaries of Egypt
- All the members of Joseph's household
- His brothers

Everyone went to bury Jacob in the Cave that Abraham had purchased.

- When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead they said
- What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?
- Send a message saying please forgive
- Joseph wept

Genesis 50:18-21

Joseph's brothers came and threw themselves down before him we are your slaves they said

- But Joseph said to them don't be afraid.
- Am I in the place of God?
- You intended it to harm me but God intended it for good

Genesis 50:18-21

- To accomplish what is now being done the saving of many lives.
- So then don't be afraid.
- I will provide for you and your children.
- He reassured and spoke kindly to them.

Discussion

- Did the brothers think Joseph was being kind to them only for his father's sake?
- Did the brothers live in fear and guilt the 17 years Jacob was alive in Egypt?
- What does teach us about fear and guilt today?

Genesis 50:24

Then Joseph said to his brothers
“I am about to die”

Their Response:

- But God will come to your aid and take you out of this land that he promised.
- Joseph did not forget God's promises

Genesis 50:25

- Joseph made the Israelites swear to carry his bones from this place to the promise land.
- Joseph's dying words showed the hope and faith he had in God's promises.
- After they embalmed him, he was placed in a coffin in Egypt
- Moses honored his request.

Genesis 50:26

- Joseph was 110 years old when he died.
- The Egyptians considered 110 to be the ideal lifespan signifying divine blessing.
- Even in death God honored Joseph.

Psalm 20

(first and last class)

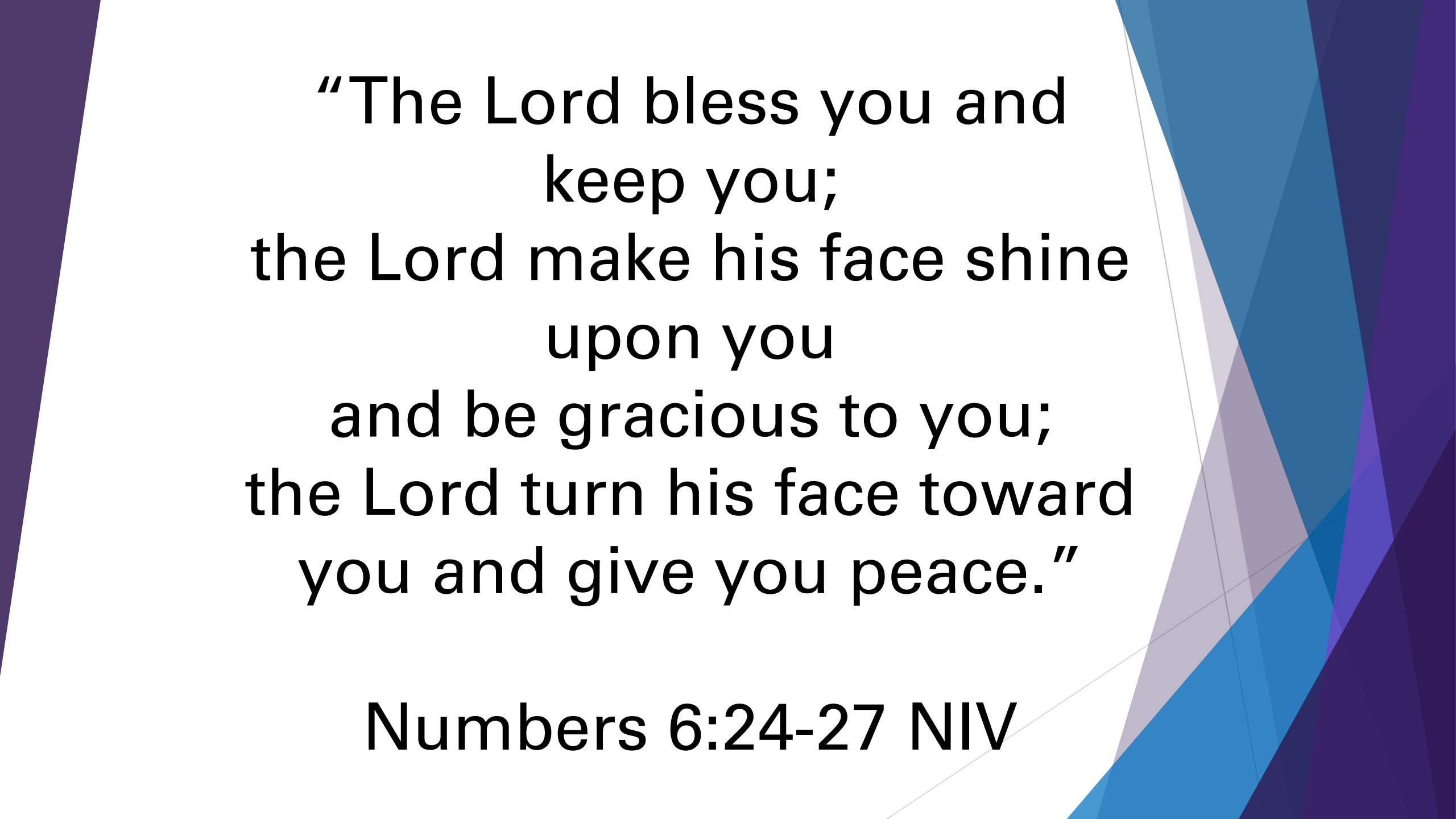




Questions?

A man with a beard and short dark hair is shown in profile, singing into a microphone. He is wearing a dark blue t-shirt. The background is dark and out of focus. Overlaid on the image is the text "AIN'T NOBODY" in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font. The word "AIN'T" is on the top line, and "NOBODY" is on the bottom line. There is some smaller, less legible text between the two main words.

AIN'T NOBODY



“The Lord bless you and
keep you;
the Lord make his face shine
upon you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward
you and give you peace.”

Numbers 6:24-27 NIV