

## Genesis 50: shape and keywords

Then Joseph fell on his father's face and wept over him and kissed him. Joseph commanded the healers in his service to embalm his father. So the healers **embalmed** Israel; they filled forty **days** in doing this, thus filled the **days** required for embalming. And the Egyptians wept for him seventy **days**. When the **days** of bewailing for him were past, Joseph addressed the **house** of Pharaoh, "If, **please**, I have found favor in your eyes, **please** speak to Pharaoh's ear as follows: My father made me **swear**; he said, Behold, '**I am about to die**. In the tomb that I hewed out for myself in the land of Canaan, there **you shall bury** me.' Now therefore let me **go up, please**, so that **I may bury** my father; then I will return." Pharaoh answered, "**Go up**, and **bury** your father, as he made you **swear**."

**So Joseph went up to bury his father.** With him **went up** all the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his **house**, and all the elders of the land of Egypt, as well as all the **house** of Joseph, his brothers, and his father's **house**. Only their children, their flocks, and their herds were left in the land of Goshen. Both chariots and charioteers **went up** with him. It was a very great company. When they came to the threshing floor of Atad, which is beyond the Jordan, they wailed there a very great and powerful wailing; and he observed a time of **mourning** for his father seven **days**. When the Canaanite inhabitants of the land saw the **mourning** on the threshing floor of Atad, they said, "This is a great **mourning** on the part of the Egyptians." Therefore the place was named Abel-mizraim; it is beyond the Jordan.

Thus his sons did for him as he had ordered them. They carried him to the land of Canaan and **buried** him in the cave of the field at Machpelah, the field near Mamre, which Abraham bought as a burial site from Ephron the Hittite.

**After he had buried his father,** Joseph returned to Egypt with his brothers and all who **had gone up** with him to bury his father. Seeing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and returns, yes, returns, on us for all the evil that we did to him?" So they ordered Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this order in the face of death, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore **please** lift all the evil of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do evil to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing this **day**. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he comforted them, speaking to the concerns of their heart.

And Joseph settled in Egypt, he and his father's **house**; and Joseph lived one hundred ten years. Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation; the children of Machir son of Manasseh were also born on Joseph's knees.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "**I am about to die**; but God will visit, yes, visit you and **bring you up** out of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." So Joseph made the sons of Israel **swear**, saying, "When God visits, yes, visits you, **you shall carry up** my bones from here." And Joseph died, being one hundred ten years old; **he was embalmed** and placed in a tabernacle in Egypt.