

18-19 Bible Study #3

9/25/18

Introduction to 2018 – 2019 Bible Study (Cont)

9/25/18

An overview of Genesis

1- 36

Genesis 1-11 “The Early World”

- Two creation stories provide the complete story
- **Adam** and **Eve** began in Paradise
- The Fall initiated by the serpent (devil), changed the relationship between God and man forever
 - The Proto-Evangelium – 1st Good News
- Two sons of **Adam** and **Eve**: **Cain** (farmer, offered from his excess) **Abel** (shepherd, offered a firstling)
 - A jealous **Cain** killed his brother **Abel** (fratricide), sent off to the East, married and produced an “evil line” from **Enoch** to **Lamech** (a murderer and polygamist)
- Seth, born to **Adam** and **Eve** to replace **Abel**, was the father of the good line to **Noah**



1 st	Adam	
2 nd	Cain	Seth
3 rd	Enoch	Enosh
4 th	Irada	Kenan
5 th	Mehujacl	Mahalalel
6 th	Methushael	Jared
7 th	Lamech	Enoch
8 th	Jabal and Jubal, and Tubalcain	Methuselah
9 th		Lamech
10 th		Noah
11 th		Shem, Ham, and Japheth

Genesis 1-11 (Cont)

- Evil expanded and after a union of the two lines, God decides to destroy all of His creation by a flood
- **Noah** built the ark, saved his family, 7 pair of “clean animals”, and 1 pair of “unclean animals”
- The flood was a de-creation followed by new creation sealed by a covenant whose sign was the rainbow
- **Noah's** sons: **Ham** (evil), **Shem** (good) and **Japheth** (not much info)
- “Tower of Babel” via **Nimrod**, a descendant of **Ham**, dispersed the family over the world
- The genealogy of **Shem** takes us to **Abram**, son of **Terah**, brother of **Nahor** and **Haran**

Genesis 11: (Cont)

- ***Haran***, the father of ***Lot***, died before they left **Ur**
- ***Abram*** married ***Sarai***, daughter of the deceased brother **Haran**, sister of ***Lot***, traveled from **Ur** of the Chaldeans to the city of **Haran** with his wife, father, brother and nephew

Genesis 12- 26 Exploits of Abraham

- ***Abram***, called by God, was given 3 promises: land, a people, and the blessing of the nations
- He moved with his family and ***Lot*** to the **land of Canaan** then onto **Egypt** due to a famine
- He told Pharaoh that ***Sarai*** was his sister resulting in plagues and expulsion from the land with wealth
- He returned to **Canaan**, divided the land with ***Lot*** who moved to **Sodom**
- During tribal war ***Lot*** was taken North to **Dan** where ***Abram*** rescued him

THREEFOLD PROMISE TO ABRAHAM
Genesis 12:1-3

UPGRADED TO COVENANTS

1. Land Promise
Genesis 15

2. Kingdom Promise
Genesis 17

3. Promise of Worldwide Blessing
Genesis 22

FULFILLED IN MOSES
Mosaic Covenant – Exodus 24

FULFILLED IN DAVID
Davidic Covenant
2 Samuel 7

FULFILLED IN JESUS
New Covenant in
Jesus Christ
Luke 22

Genesis 12 -26 (Cont)

- On his return, **Abram** visited **Salem** where he offered tribute to **Melchizedek**, king of **Salem** (may have been **Shem**)
- **Melchizedek** blessed **Abram** and provided bread and wine
- **Sarai** was barren, gave her maid **Hagar** to **Abram** producing **Ishmael**
- God changed **Abram's** name to **Abraham** (**Sarai** renamed **Sarah**) and joined into a covenant whose sign was circumcision
- **Abraham** was visited by God and two angels who predicted that **Sarah** would have a son (she laughed)

Genesis 12 -26 (Cont)

- The angels moved **Lot** and his family out of **Sodom** before they destroyed it (along with **Gomorraah**) due to the sins of the people
- **Lot's** two daughters slept with their father producing **Moab** and **Ammon**
- **Sarah** bore **Abraham** the promised son named **Isaac** (He laughs or Laughter)
- As a test of faith God directed **Abraham** to offer **Isaac** as a sacrifice on **Mount Mariah** then prevented the death of the boy by substituting a ram for the sacrifice
- **Sarah** died and was buried in a cave near **Hebron**

Genesis 12 -26 (Cont)

- ***Abraham*** sent a servant to the city of **Nahor** to acquire a wife for **Isaac**
- ***Rebekah***, whose father was ***Bethuel***, son of **Milcah** wife of **Nahor** (***Abraham's*** brother) became ***Isaac's*** wife
- Before ***Abraham*** died he married ***Keturah***, a concubine, who bore him six sons
- ***Abraham*** was buried next to his wife by ***Isaac*** and **Ishmael**

The Descendants of Terah

Terah

Abram & Sarah *Nahor & Miliah* *Haran*

Hagar

Lot

Ishmael (12 tribes of Arabs)

Isaac & Rebekah

Esau ***Jacob & Leah; Rachael (2 maids)***

12 Sons (tribes of Israel)

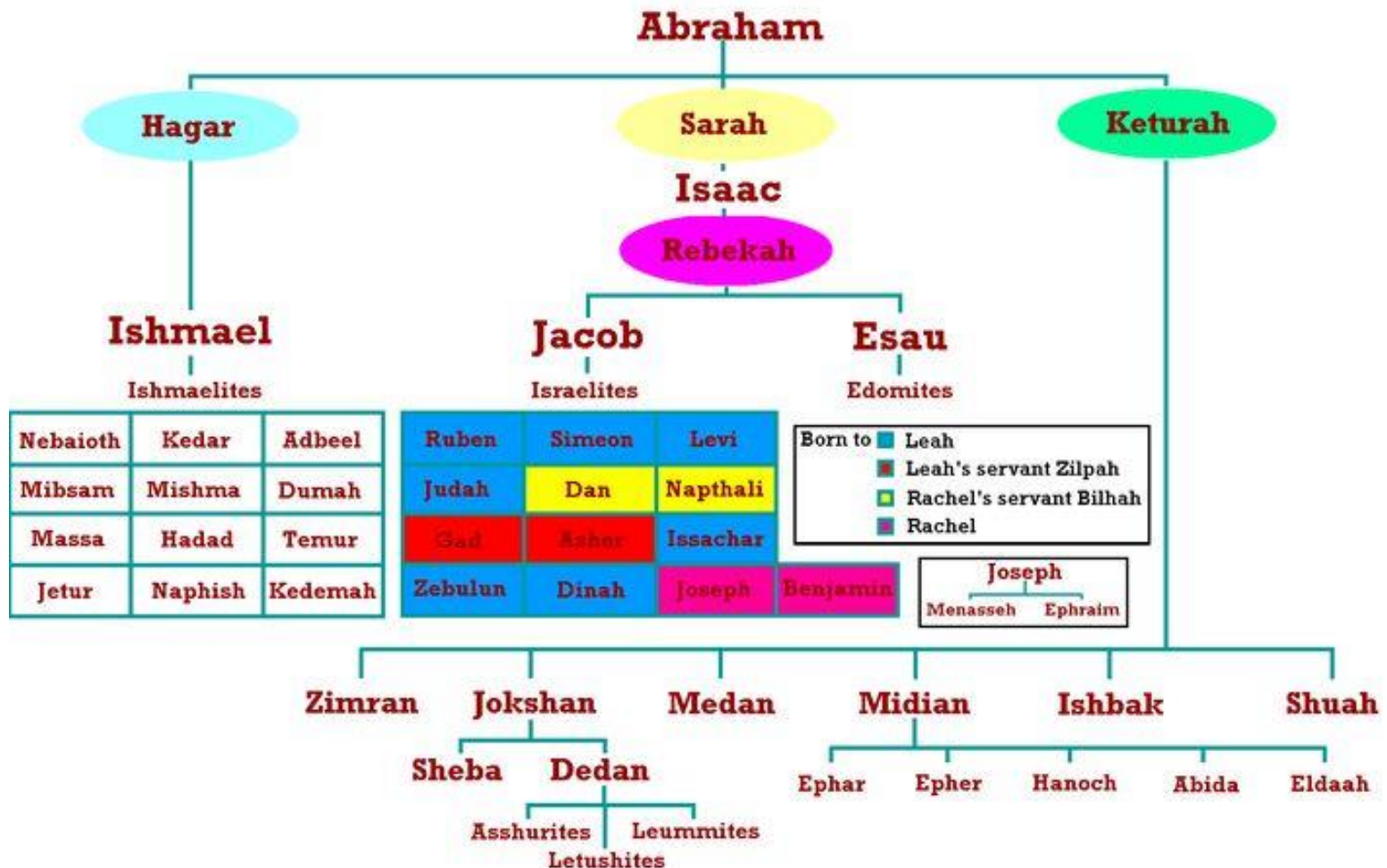
Genesis 26-27 The rest of the Patriarchs

- ***Rebekah***, barren for 20 years, bore ***Esau*** and ***Jacob***
- ***Jacob***, with his mother's help, stole ***Esau's*** birthright and firstborn blessing
- ***Rebekah*** and ***Isaac*** sent ***Jacob*** to **Haran** for his safety where he fell in love with ***Rachel*** the daughter of ***Laban*** (***Rebekah's*** brother)
- En route, ***Jacob*** dreamed about a ladder to heaven and anoints a stone to mark the spot (**Bethel** – house of God)
- ***Laban*** tricked ***Jacob***, on his wedding night by substituting his eldest daughter ***Leah*** as his wife

Genesis 26-27 (Cont)

- ***Jacob*** agreed to work 7 more years for the hand of ***Rachel*** (who was barren for 20 years)
- ***Jacob*** produced 12 sons and one daughter by his two wives: ***Leah*** and ***Rachel***, and their 2 maids: ***Bilhah*** (***Rachel's*** maid) and ***Zilpah*** (***Leah's*** maid)

The Genealogy of Abraham



Born to

- Leah
- Leah's servant Zilpah
- Rachel's servant Bilhah
- Rachel

Joseph

- Menasseh
- Ephraim

Genesis 26-27 (Cont)

- After 20 years, **Jacob** decided to take his family back to **Canaan**
- Before he met his brother **Esau**, and after wrestling all night with an angel, God changed his name to **Israel**
- **Israel** and **Esau** were reconciled
- **Dinah**, daughter of **Leah**, was raped by **Shechem**, a prince of **Canaan**
- Her brothers **Simeon** and **Levi** killed all the men of **Shechem** without consulting their father

Genesis 26-27 (Cont)

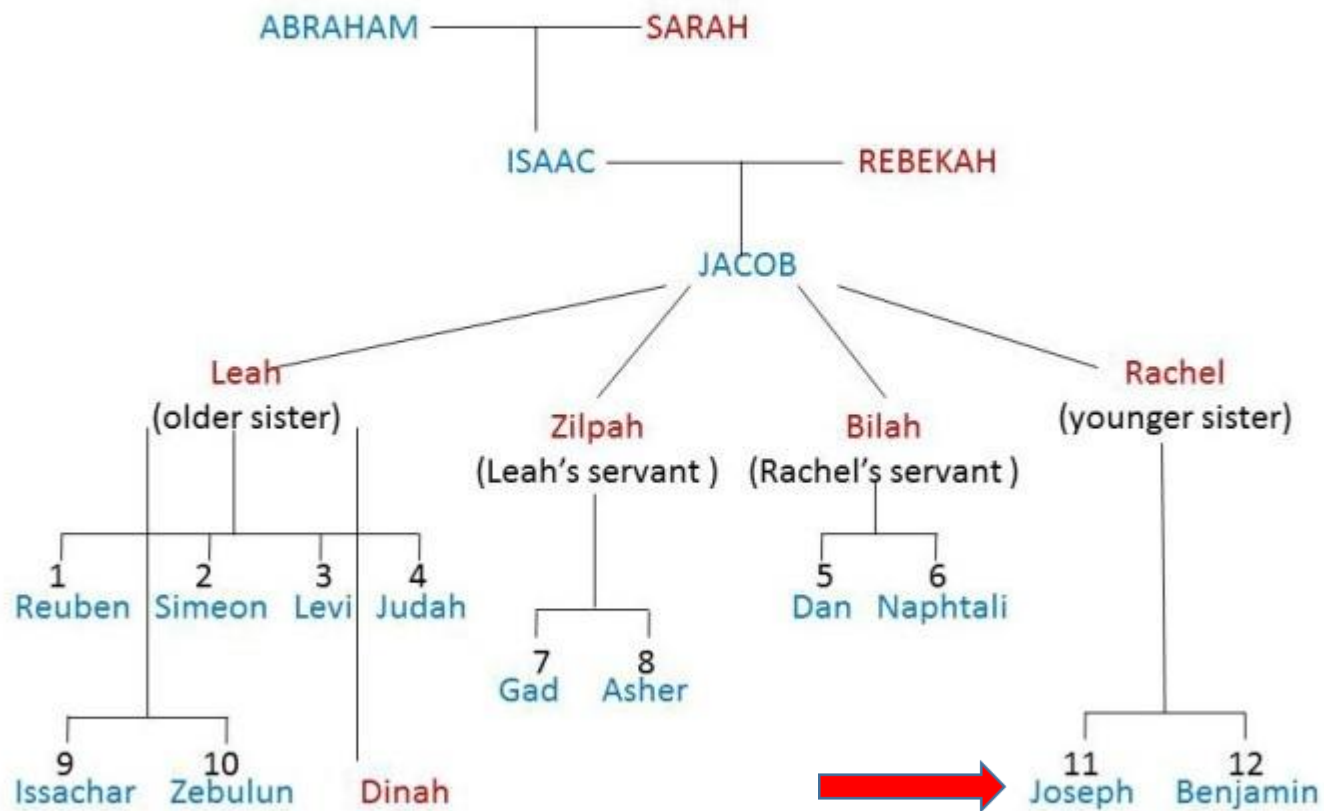
- ***Rachel*** died at the birth of ***Benjamin*** and was buried near **Bethlehem**
- ***Ruben***, first born of ***Leah***, slept with his father's concubine ***Bilhah*** who was ***Rachel's*** maid
- **We will now pick up the story of Joseph**

Genesis 37

Genesis 37

- We resume our study of the **Pentateuch** with the story of ***Joseph***, the 11th son of ***Jacob (Israel)***
- He was also the 1st son of his favorite wife ***Rachel***
- ***Jacob*** was living in **Hebron** when he send his son ***Joseph*** to check on his brothers
- What was ***Joseph*** wearing?

12 Tribes of Israel



Genesis 37 (Cont)

- **Genesis 37:1-4**

- The 17 year old **Joseph**, who was with his brothers shepherding his father's flock, brought an ill report to his father
- Look at the details that explain **Joseph's** role in this story
 - He was the eldest son of his father's favorite wife (Rachael) born to him in his old age
 - He ended up being treated by Jacob as his firstborn son
 - We know this because Jacob gave Joseph a robe with long sleeves (in the Hebrew it says the **sleeves were to the palms**)

Genesis 37 (Cont)

- Most working people wore short sleeved upper garment and a short skirt
- This included soldiers and slaves (servants)
- Those who wore long robes included kings and other people in authority
- Long sleeved flowing robes were worn by Kings and others in authority like priests and scribes
- To gird your loins meant to pull the back of your robe through the front of your legs and tie it to your belt to enable you to run
- The length of your sleeve determined your occupation and whether or not you had to work

Genesis 37 (Cont)

- The length of ***Joseph's*** sleeves indicated that he did not have to work and thus was tasked to report on the performance of his brothers to his father
- The Greek and later Vulgate translations of the Hebrew text said that it was a coat with many threads
- This was changed in the King James to a “coat of many colors”
- But the key point is that the sleeves came to his palms indicating that he was treated in a special way by his father

Genesis 37 (Cont)

- **Genesis 37:5-11**

- *Joseph* tells his brother about his dream in which they were binding the sheaves and his sheaf stood up and their sheaves bowed to his sheaves
- This infuriated his brothers
- He later told of a second dream in which the sun, moon and 11 stars bowed down before him
- This dream even included his mother and father and caused his father to rebuke him

Genesis 37 (Cont)

- **Genesis 37:12-22**

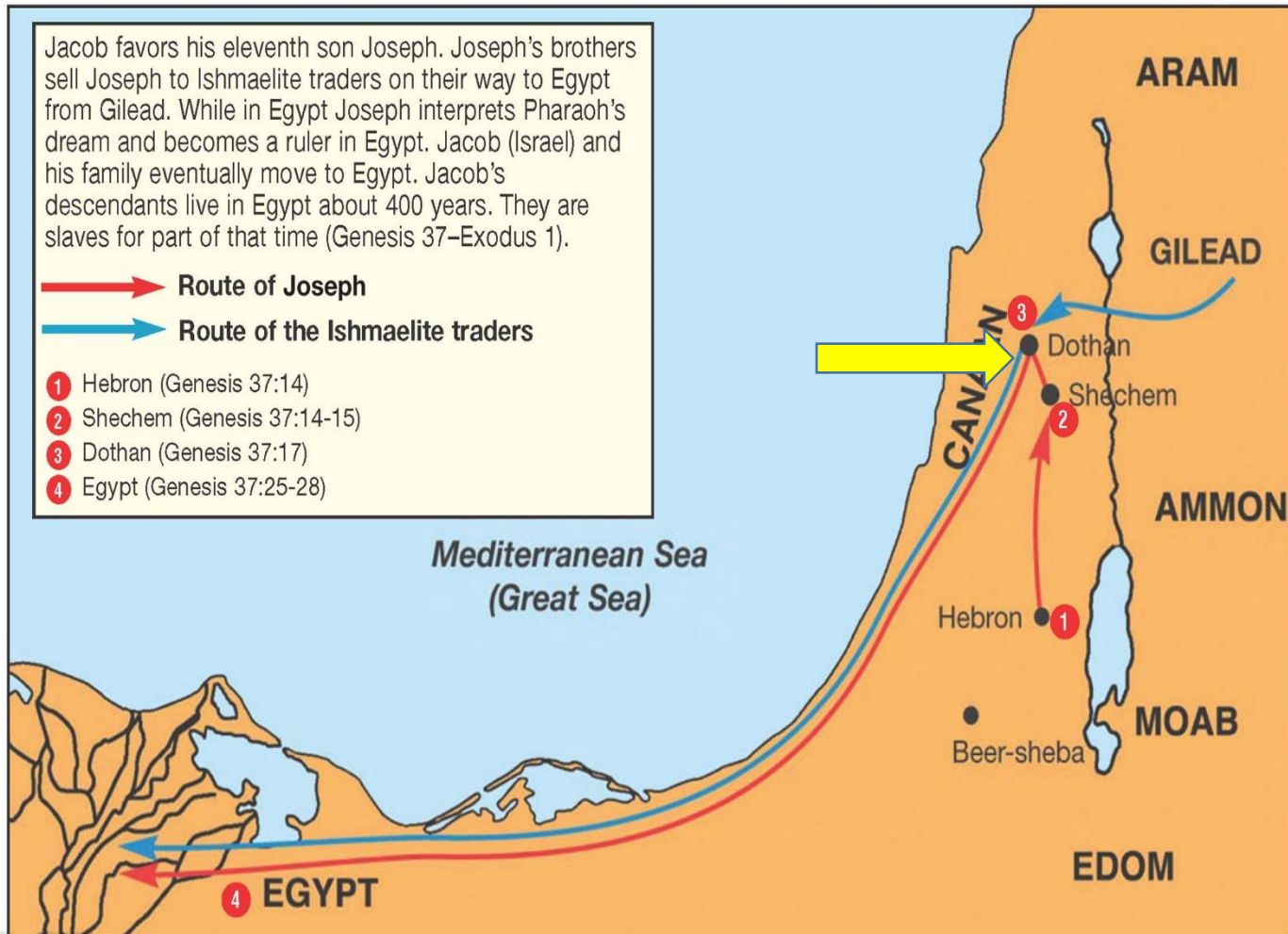
- Here, once again, **Jacob** tells **Joseph** to go and check on his brothers
- After arriving at **Shechem** he learns that they have moved on to **Dothan**
- **Ruben**, the firstborn son of **Leah**, the first wife, should inherit the birthright blessing
- But **Joseph**, although the 11th born, was the firstborn of **Rachael**

Jacob favors his eleventh son Joseph. Joseph's brothers sell Joseph to Ishmaelite traders on their way to Egypt from Gilead. While in Egypt Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream and becomes a ruler in Egypt. Jacob (Israel) and his family eventually move to Egypt. Jacob's descendants live in Egypt about 400 years. They are slaves for part of that time (Genesis 37-Exodus 1).

→ **Route of Joseph**

→ **Route of the Ishmaelite traders**

- 1 Hebron (Genesis 37:14)
- 2 Shechem (Genesis 37:14-15)
- 3 Dothan (Genesis 37:17)
- 4 Egypt (Genesis 37:25-28)



Genesis 37 (Cont)

- **Ruben** understood that if he got rid of **Joseph** he would be the only firstborn son
- But remember, **Ruben's** birthright was already in jeopardy because he had slept with his father's concubine **Bilhah** (who was **Rachael's** maid) (**Gn 35:22**)
- So **Ruben** suggested to his brothers that they spare **Joseph's** life

Genesis 37 (Cont)

- We are not exactly sure of **Ruben's** motives but Father Sebastian believes that he was trying to restore his status with his father
- If he could restore **Joseph**, his father's favorite son, perhaps that would wipe out what he had done with his father's concubine

Genesis 37 (Cont)

- **Genesis 37:23-25**

- The brothers took ***Joseph's*** robe because they saw it as a symbol of his privileged status
- Then they threw him into an empty pit
- Highlight that there was no water in the pit and that they sat down to eat (pit, no water, and eating) and look at **Exodus 2:15**

Genesis 37 (Cont)

- **Genesis 37:26**

- Suddenly we hear about **Judah**
- What do we know about the sons of **Leah**?
 - **Rubin** – slept with his father's concubine
 - **Simeon** and **Levi** – killed the **Shechemites** who raped their sister **Dinah** without obtaining permission from Jacob
- **Judah**, next in line, had done nothing wrong to upset his father
- At this point either **Judah** understood his responsibilities or he may have simply been acting out of charity for his brother Joseph
- The rest of the story indicated that **Judah** was a very good man

Genesis 37 (Cont)

- **Genesis 37:27-36**

- It sounds like the brothers are sitting around eating while planning to kill **Joseph**
- **Reuben** tells them that they should not kill him and then **Judah** jumps in and suggests that they sell him to a group of **Ishmaelites** who were traveling through the area
- **Ishmaelite** and **Midianite** are used interchangeably (Genesis 25:2-6; Judges 8:22,24) because these two peoples were dwelling together
 - The **Ishmaelites** are descendants of Ishmael through Hagar
 - The **Midianites** were descendants of **Midian** through **Keturah** the last concubine of **Abraham**

Genesis 37 (Cont)

- In **Genesis 25**, we see that **Abraham** gave gifts to both sons before he sent them East into the desert
- They became a desert dwelling nomadic people living and shepherding their flocks South and East of the **Dead Sea**
- Eventually, the **Moabites** and **Edomites** will live there
- We will see a bit later in the story that the brothers (minus **Reuben**) pulled **Joseph** out of the pit and sold him to the **Midianites (Ishmaelites)**
- Later in the Book of Judges, we will see **Gideon** the Judge defeat the **Midianites**

Genesis 37 (Cont)

- We also see the ***Amorites*** and ***Canaanites*** being referred to in a general way rather than as a specific people
- Father said that this was similar to people in California referring to all Spanish-speaking people as Mexican even though they came from Central and South America
- We will now step away from ***Joseph*** to look at a strange story about ***Judah*** in **Genesis 38**