

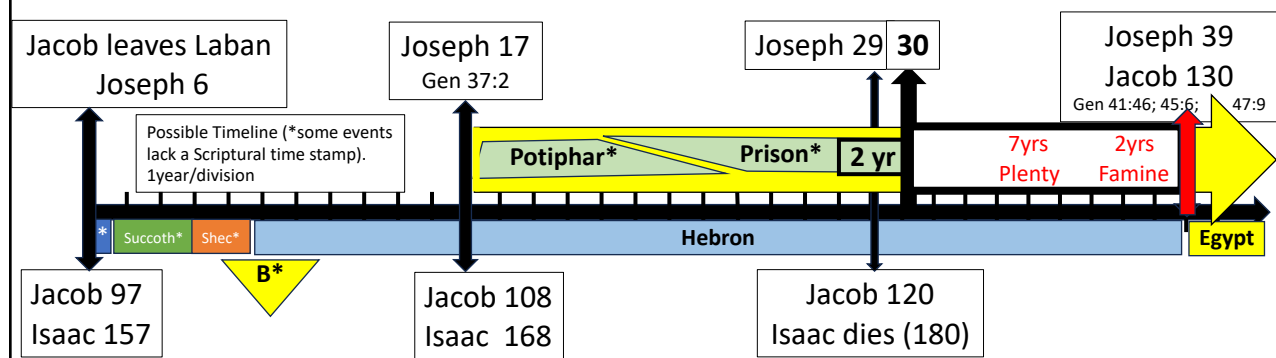
Parashah 41 (B'resheet 43:24-44:17; Jer 42:12-17; 43:12-14; Matt 6:19-24)
The condition of our heart cultivates our intent

Summary by Claudio Ramos

Beit Hallel Congregation – Parashah 41 CR notes

Joseph Loves his Family but Exercises Caution

- Joseph tests his brothers – have they learned their lesson/repented
- Joseph checks the state of their heart – Action and Intent
- We'll look at Joseph's brothers example of their heart condition and how the state of our hearts is crucial in our obedience to HaShem



1

Joseph's 2nd Encounter with his Brothers

Beit Hallel Congregation – Parashah 41 CR notes

- Brothers enter Joseph's house, he asks about them and their father
- V30 When he saw Benjamin, Joseph was overcome with emotion
נִכְמְרוּ רַחֲמָיו Hebrew Idiom, Literally "his mercies were heated up"
- v32 Three groups seated separately (Joseph, Brothers, Egyptians)
 - Brothers are seated according to their birth order (11+1 children in < 7yrs)
- v34 Benjamin is served 5 times more food than his brothers
 - The Test is intensifying – all jailed then only Simeon held back, money given back, waiting for Ben, treating Ben w/extra in front of everyone
- v4 "why have you repaid evil for good?" Similar to *50:20
- *v8 Kal v'chomer; 1 of 13 hermeneutical principles for interpreting Torah
- v9 "let him die" and "we also will be my lord's slaves"
- v16 Judah speaks up; no mention of dying, but offers all brothers
 - "both we and the one in whose possession the cup has been found."
- v17 Joseph offers the final step of his test to confirm their heart's intent
 - "he will be a slave to me, but you all go up in peace to your father"

2

Joseph has hope that a person can change for good

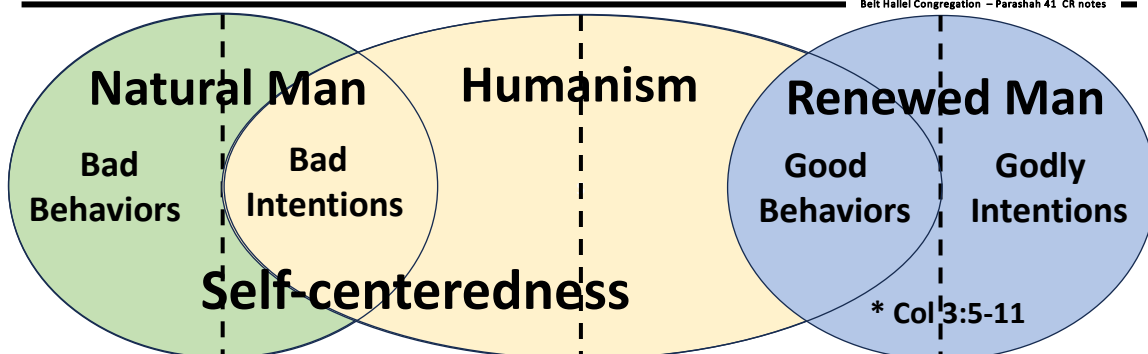
Belt Hallel Congregation – Parashah 41 CR notes

- Gen *37:18-30 takes us back to the scene of the crime – 22 yrs ago
 - They plotted against him to put “the dreamer” to death
 - Reuben rescued him out of their hands ... to restore to his father
 - Judah suggests selling him instead of killing him
 - Reuben returned to pit – tore his garments – “where am I to go?”
- They all acknowledge their sin against Joseph *Gen 42:21-22, 44:13 & 16
 - 42:21 all brothers know they are guilty
 - 42:22 Reuben is consistent in warning his brothers
 - 44:13 “Then they tore their clothes”
 - 44:16 “we are your slaves, both we and the one in possession...”
 - Judah speaks for all as one united voice
- The brothers successfully made it all the way to Joseph’s final test

3

What’s in Man’s Heart?

Belt Hallel Congregation – Parashah 41 CR notes



Rom 5:18 So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men...

Gen. 6:5 Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

* 1Sam 15:22 Jer 44:23 2Cor 11:13-15

Rom. 5:18 ...even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men. ¹⁹ For as through the one man’s disobedience the many were Made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.

4

Joseph ultimately always submits to HaShem

Belt Hallel Congregation – Parashah 41 CR notes

- **Joseph recognizes that a person can change – renewed by the Spirit of God**
 - Joseph saw beyond his personal pain or any bitterness or vengeance
 - Since Joseph overcame his flesh, he knew others could
- **It appears that Joseph's brothers had changed for the Good**
 - They all are willing to be held as slaves in place of Benjamin
 - Their "treasure" is to safeguard their father at their own expense
 - Jealousy, selfishness, hatred and greed no longer rule them
- **Where do we store our treasures?**
- **Do we forgive others?**
- **Do we say to others, "I'm sorry, please forgive me"?**

Pray without Ceasing for those who have Hardened their hearts

5

Our Treasure is where our Heart is!

Belt Hallel Congregation – Parashah 41 CR notes

- **What controls the intent we hold in our hearts – Our Flesh or His Spirit?**
 - Luke 9:23 "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me."
- **Confusion, Selfishness, Greed and Rudeness are not from HaShem**
- **Daily Let's Ensure we Align Our Intent & Actions with Scripture**
 - Phil 2:1-4 Therefore if there is any encouragement in Messiah, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, ² make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. ³ Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴ do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

When you hear His voice Harden not your Hearts!

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