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# GENESIS: IT ALL STARTS HERE

## *PATIENTLY EXPECTING THE KING*

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A message presented by Pastor Marc Minter  
to First Baptist Church of Diana, TX on November 20, 2016

### INTRODUCTION

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Both Jacob and Joseph died in Egypt. The promise they had from God was a great inheritance, but their earthly lives did not last long enough to see it. Strangers in the land of promise had become pilgrims in a foreign kingdom, and yet they heard and believed the promises of God. *“There is coming a King! His kingdom shall never end, and He will come from Israel.”* This promise rings out at the close of Genesis, and it is a reiteration of the promise God made at the very beginning (Gen. 3:15). The conquering King, who would make all things new by bruising the head of that ancient serpent, was the hope of all those who believed and feared God. The same is true today, but we have the marvelous benefit of looking back to the King who did actually conquer. Jesus Christ is now making all things new, and those who believe and fear God are patiently expecting this coming King.

### **GENESIS 49:1-50:26**

After Jacob finished blessing each of his sons (Gen. 49:1-27)...

*“49:29 Then [Jacob] commanded them and said to them, ‘I am to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, 30 in the cave that is in the field at Machpelah, to the east of Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field from Ephron the Hittite to possess as a burying place. 31 There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife. There they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife, and there I buried Leah— 32 the field and the cave that is in it were bought from the Hittites.’ 33 When Jacob finished commanding his sons, he drew up his feet into the bed and breathed his last and was gathered to his people.”*

Joseph and even the Egyptians mourned for Jacob (Gen. 50:1-3); and Joseph buried Jacob in the tomb of Abraham and Isaac (Gen. 50:13).

*“50:22 So Joseph remained in Egypt, he and his father’s house. Joseph lived 110 years. 23 And Joseph saw Ephraim’s children of the third generation. The children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were counted as Joseph’s own. 24 And Joseph said to his brothers, ‘**I am about to die, but God will visit you and bring you up out***

*of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.’ 25 Then Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying, ‘**God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here.**’ 26 So Joseph died, being 110 years old. They embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.”*

## THE POINT I’M AIMING AT TODAY:

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**Because this worldly kingdom is broken and failed, and because God has promised a Restored Kingdom (only better), we should be patiently expecting the King (the true King).**

## MESSAGE OUTLINE:

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- (1) GENESIS BEGAN WITH A FAILED KINGDOM**
- (2) GENESIS PROMISED A RESTORED KINGDOM (ONLY BETTER)**
- (3) GENESIS HAS REPEATEDLY GIVEN US UNMET EXPECTATIONS**
- (4) PATIENTLY EXPECTING THE KING (THE TRUE KING)**

## MESSAGE

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### **(1) GENESIS BEGAN WITH A FAILED KINGDOM**

- God created and blessed, but Adam Failed
  - God created humanity and blessed them, and even commissioned them as His representatives on earth (Gen. 1:28).
  - God created humans as His image-bearers, meant to reflect His character and nature to all creation (Gen. 1:27).
  - Humanity (male and female) were completely exposed to God and to one another, and yet there was no shame (Gen. 2:25).

- Despite this tranquil, blessed, and divinely commissioned existence, humanity rebelled against the Supremely Kind Creator (Gen. 3:6).
- Immediately after their rebellion, the shame of sin is illustrated by their feeble attempt to cover themselves (Gen. 3:7).
- Sin/Corruption became pervasive
  - The first son of the first couple murdered his brother from a position of premeditation and malice (Gen. 4:8).
  - Death became the common experience of humanity, and mortality is now the expectation (Gen. 5:1-32).
  - So heinous is the heart of fallen man that God declared him to be focused only upon evil (Gen. 6:5).
  - Within just a few generations of Noah, the whole of humanity gathered under a barbarous leader to establish a worldly kingdom in defiance of God's authority (Gen. 11:1-4).
- Man's kingdom persistently fails, it remains fractured, and it is utterly hopeless.
  - Consider human history with me...
    - What earthly power has brought final and ultimate success?
    - What philosophy has unlocked the door to unending utopia?
    - What new discovery, higher height of knowledge, or greater grasp of miniscule details has ushered in glorious triumph?
  - Consider your own life...
    - Haven't you ever thought, "If I could only... then I'd be set."
    - Will you acknowledge with me that (based on your past track record) you have no reason to hope for ultimate personal victory?

**Because this worldly kingdom is broken and failed, we should be patiently expecting the King (the true King).**

## (2) GENESIS PROMISED A RESTORED KINGDOM (ONLY BETTER)

- God did not leave our first parents in sin and misery!
  - God visited Adam and Eve in the Garden, but not to destroy them (Gen. 3:9).
  - God cursed humanity for disobedience, but graciously offered a promise of hope (Gen. 3:15).
  
- God made His promise increasingly specific and glorious
  - In Genesis 12, we learn that God's blessing to the world will come through the family line of a nobody named Abram (Gen. 12:1-3).
    - God (out of sheer grace) promised a name, a people, and a kingdom.
  - In Genesis 11, 25, 29, and 30 we see God's power on particular display in human weakness. God promised a victorious offspring through barren women (Sarah, Rebekah, and Rachel)!
  
- God revealed that this coming kingdom of blessing would far exceed man's kingdom under the curse
  - The coming kingdom is a blessing to "**all peoples/families**" (Gen. 12:3, 18:18, 22:18, 26:4, 28:14; cf. Gal. 3:8).
  - The coming kingdom is established on the covenantal promise of God, and not upon the power or prowess of man (Gen. 15:17).
  - The coming kingdom is ruled by a supremely powerful and serene King (Gen. 49:8-12; cf. Rev. 5:5).
    - The prophesied King will have **defeated enemies** (Gen. 49:8).
      - "**your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies...**"
    - He **rules from** a place of **perfect contentment** (Gen. 49:9).
      - "**from the prey, my son, you have gone up...**"
    - He will have **perfect obedience** from His subjects (Gen. 49:10).
      - "**to him shall be the obedience of the peoples...**"

- His coming kingdom will *never end* (Gen. 49:10).
  - “*The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet...*”

**Because God has promised a Restored Kingdom (only better), we should be patiently expecting the King (the true King).**

### **(3) GENESIS HAS REPEATEDLY GIVEN US UNMET EXPECTATIONS**

- Every main character of Genesis has failed to live up to the hype
  - **Adam**, the first created man (Gen. 2:7), failed to be obedient (Gen. 3:6).
  - **Cain**, the son of promise (Gen. 4:1), failed to resist murderous temptation (Gen. 4:7).
  - **Noah**, the only righteous man alive (Gen. 6:9), failed by overindulgence and immodesty (Gen. 9:20-21).
  - **Noah’s sons** (and their sons) failed by defying the authority of God (Gen. 11:4).
  - **Abraham**, the father of faith (Gen. 15:6), failed to patiently wait on the promise of God (Gen. 16:3).
  - **Isaac**, another son of promise (Gen. 17:16, 21:1-3), failed by attempting to make his own choice about which son he would bless with the divine blessing (Gen. 27:1-4).
  - **Jacob**, the man God renamed and made a people (Gen. 32:28), failed by proving to be one of the most manipulative and deceitful people imaginable (Gen. 25:29-34).
  - **Joseph** also failed, but no character flaw is recorded for him... Instead, his failure reminds us of the futility of placing hope even in the best of men. Joseph died (Gen. 50:26).

**Because this worldly kingdom is broken and failed, we should be patiently expecting the King (the true King).**

#### (4) PATIENTLY EXPECTING THE KING (THE TRUE KING)

- There is much in Genesis 49 & 50 that raise this expectation
  - Jacob's blessings upon Judah (49:8-12) and Joseph (49:22-26) are prophetically pointing towards the Messiah.
    - Seeing Christ in **Judah's blessing**:
      - Christ is to receive the ultimate "*praise*" (v8; cf. Phil. 2:11).
      - Christ will subdue all His enemies (v8; cf. 1 Cor. 15:25).
      - Christ is the preeminent one "*among many brothers*" (v8; cf. Rom. 8:29).
      - Christ is the "*Lion of the tribe of Judah*" (v9; cf. Rev. 5:5).
      - Christ shall reign as King forever, the "*scepter shall not depart*" from Him (v10; cf. Heb. 1:8, Rev. 11:15).
      - Christ shall "*tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God*" (v11; cf. Rev. 19:13-16).
    - Seeing Christ in **Joseph's blessing**:
      - Christ is the most "*fruitful*" son (v22; cf. Rom. 8:29).
      - Christ is the living "*Stone of Israel*" (v24; cf. 1 Pet. 2:4) and the chief "*cornerstone*" upon which the whole kingdom of God is built (v24; cf. Eph. 2:20).
      - Christ is the Mediator of exceedingly great blessings, which far surpass any others (v25-26; cf. Eph. 1:3).
      - Christ is "*set apart*" like no other, for He is the only God/man (v26; cf. Jn. 1:14).
  - The whole Bible leaves us with expectation for the coming King.
    - We will dive into the expectation surrounding Christ's first advent in the weeks ahead – "Advent."
    - Christ's second "advent" or coming is a major expectation.
      - As soon as Christ ascended, the promise was given – "This Jesus... will come again" (Acts 1:11).

- The Lord's Supper is both a reminder and an anticipation of Christ's coming (1 Cor. 11:26).
  - The Christian's hope in the face of death is the promise that Christ is coming to bring a final resurrection (1 Cor. 15:23).
- Genesis ends where it began (and so does the Bible): God with man, and no shame – only joy everlasting.
    - Genesis begins: God is with man, and man is in a good land of peace and blessing (Gen. 1:28-31, 2:15-16, 2:25).
    - Joseph said, *“God will visit you and bring you up out of this land to the land he swore to Abraham”* (Gen. 50:24).
    - The author of Hebrews tells us that this “promised land” was meant to point to the greater fulfillment of God's promise (Heb. 11:9-10).
    - We see the ultimate fulfillment of all of this in the new heaven and new earth.
      - *“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away’”* (Rev. 21:1-4).

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## APPLICATION

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### For the sinner:

- You may expect that the true King will deal appropriately with your disobedience.
- You may expect that you will have no part in the Restored Kingdom.
- Your only hope is to throw yourself on the mercy of the King... Ah, but He is merciful indeed.
- This worldly kingdom is broken and failed; God has promised a restoration; therefore, you must trust the true King and place your hope in Him.

### For the saint:

- Because this worldly kingdom is broken and failed, and because God has promised a Restored Kingdom (only better), *we should be patiently expecting the King* (the true King).
- So, do you live with patient expectation? Do you await the arrival of the true King?
- Do you spend your time, treasure, and talent as though this is the only kingdom there is?
- Do you live in greater fear (or hope) of earthly kings?

## SUGGESTED RESOURCES:

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*Christ: the Lion and the Lamb* by John Piper

<http://www.desiringgod.org/messages/christ-the-lion-and-the-lamb>

*Have You Heard the Church's Story* by Jonathan Parnell

<http://www.desiringgod.org/articles/have-you-heard-the-church-s-story>

*Commentary on Genesis 49* by Matthew Henry

<http://biblehub.com/commentaries/mhcv/genesis/49.htm>