

I Hate You
April 6, 2008
Gen 37:1-8
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Synopsis:

Bible in our Hands series: Gen 37-50 (Joseph) and Amos
Listen for the presence of Jesus in the Old Testament

Gen 37-50 Joseph and Reconciliation

Learn:

God works out his good purposes beginning with the mess of our broken lives.

Do:

Grab hold of God's good future and live in the mess of right now.

I.

It Starts with the Future

Gen 37:2 "This is the story of the family of Jacob"

A. READ Gen 50:20 = the end of the story (Together)

- Easter = we know the end of the story
- The future has shown up in Jesus

B. Remember the future as you live in the present

Moltmann quote:

"The Christian faith is lived in witness to the promises of God who can and will make all things right."

Do: Live your life remembering not the past but the future

II.

It Begins with the Mess

Gen 37:4 "They hated him and could not speak peaceably to him"

All of us start with the mess

A. Carter's death in 1980: a mess

-Why?

-Dewitz comment: "These things just happen"

B. Their story: a mess

READ 37:1-8

Genesis organized in stories (begats; see 36:1 Esau = 37:2)

Notice:

Larger story:

Dysfunctional family

Hate, jealousy

Dreams

Deception

Lies

Sex, prostitution, incest

Success

Famine

Prison

Revenge, reckoning, ransom

Grief, guilt, forgiveness

Reconciliation

Shorter story:

Mom trouble: Bilhah (Rachel) and Zilpah (Leah)

Father loves best, coat of many colors

Arrogant son, tells on brothers

Hate (3x)

*God begins with their mess to work out his good purposes

What's your mess right now?

III.

It Ends with Reconciliation

Gen 50:20 "Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good"

A. God works the mess out to a guaranteed future:

Let me give you some Scripture (*Bible in Our Hands*) to help

Scripture quotes:

Psalm 27:13-14 (today's psalm)

Isaiah 43:18

Romans 8:28

Phil 2:12-13

Rev 21:5

B. Carter's death 1980:

Kept singing on the plane:

Be still my soul, the Lord is on your side

Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain

Leave to your God to order and provide

In every change he faithful will remain

Be still my soul, your best your heavenly friend

Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end

C. The Table: God's example of the mess worked for good

Taste and Remember the future good here

Even though we live in the mess now