

JULY 10

“IT’S NEVER A ONE-WAY TICKET.”

READ

Genesis 46:1-6

I’ve heard recently in church circles the phrase, “Going to the next level.” I want to ask you a question. What if your next level is down, not up? Oh, God can move you up, He’s a promoter. But He can also move you over, move you out, move you down. We want to go up. To us, it’s a relief, a breakthrough, an answered prayer. But I’ve found that God never really fashions anything in us when we are “up.” We fear going down, but God spoke to Jacob and told him not to be afraid to go down to Egypt: “That’s where I will achieve greatness in you. Not up here. Down there.” We’re not the ones accomplishing things for God, we’re His people being formed by Him. If God sees that my formation is enhanced down in Egypt, that’s exactly where I’m headed. If you can only be made like Jesus down there, count on it, you’ve got a ticket to Egypt. It’s never a one-way ticket, though. I also read, “I will go down with you and I will also surely bring you up again.” Jacob was not a faithless man being punished. He was a man being fashioned by God. When God says there’s only one place where He can make you great, you’re going to have to go down to Egypt.

PRAY

Lord, may I have the faith to go where You want me to go, even if it’s down to Egypt. Where You lead me, I will follow. I know that You are with me and You are at work in me, preparing something great.

From March 18, 2017