

Reference Codes	xiii
1. Abbreviations	xiii
2. Symbols and Procedures	xvi
3. Editions of Ancient Texts	xvii
4. Short Titles	xviii

■ **Commentary**

22 Abraham's Last Festival and His Testament to Jacob	647
1-6 The Family Celebrates the Festival of Weeks	652
7-9 Abraham's Prayer	655
10-15 Abraham Prays for Jacob	657
16-24 Abraham Gives Commands to Jacob	661
25-26 Abraham and Jacob Lie Down Together	667
27-30 Abraham Blesses the Sleeping Jacob	668
23 Abraham's Death and the Pattern of Human Life Spans	670
1-7 The Death of Abraham	676
8-31 The Pattern of Human Life Spans	679
8-10 Abraham's Short Life in a Period of Decreasing Longevity	680
11-15 Continual Decline in Life Spans	681
16-25 Low Point in the Time of the Evil Generation	686
26-31 The Children and the Reversal in Longevity	694
32 Command That Moses Write the Message	702
Excursus: Werman's Theory about Chapter 23	703
Excursus: The Chronology of Abraham's Life	705
24 Isaac and the Philistines	708
1-2 Narrative Setting (Gen 26:11; 26:1a)	713
3-7 Jacob Gains the Right of Firstborn (Gen 25:29-34)	714
8-11 Famine, Journey to Gerar, Blessing (Gen 26:1-5)	716
12-17 Isaac in Gerar (Gen 26:6, 11-16)	718
18-20 Isaac and His Wells in the Valleys of Gerar (Gen 26:17-22)	719
21-23 Blessing and Sacrifice in Beersheba (Gen 26:23-25)	720
24-33 Isaac's Oath with the Philistines and Curse upon Them (see Gen 26:26-33)	721
25 Rebekah and Jacob	728
1-10 Dialogue between Rebekah and Jacob	731
1-3 Rebekah Instructs Jacob about a Fitting Marriage Partner	731
4-10 Jacob Explains His Behavior and View of Marriage	733
11-23 Rebekah Blesses God and Prays for Jacob	735
Excursus: Patterns in Jubilees 25:11-23	741
26 Jacob, Not Esau, Receives Isaac's Blessing	742
1-2 Isaac's Instructions to Esau	746
3-9 Rebekah and Jacob	746
3-6 Rebekah's Plan	746

7-9	Jacob's Reply and Rebekah's Insistence	747
10-25ab	Isaac's Unwitting Blessing of Jacob	749
25c-34	Isaac and Esau	753
35	Esau's Plot to Kill Jacob	756
27	Jacob Leaves Home and Encounters the Lord in Bethel	757
1-7	Rebekah and Jacob Discuss Plans	760
8-11	Isaac Carries Out Rebekah's Instructions and Blesses Jacob (Gen 27:6–28:4)	762
12-18	Jacob Leaves and His Parents Cope (Gen 28:5)	764
19-27	The Theophany at Luz/Bethel (Gen 28:10-22)	766
28	Jacob Gains a Family and Acquires Wealth	773
1-10	The Marriages and the Law of the Firstborn Daughter (see Gen 29:1, 21-22, 24, 23, 25, 18, 17, 26-27, 28-30)	777
11-24	The Births of Twelve Children	783
25-30	Jacob's Work for Laban	788
	Excursus: The Chronology in Jubilees 28:10-24	790
29	Jacob Leaves Haran and Deals with Laban, Esau, and His Parents (Genesis 31–33)	796
1-4	Jacob and His Family Leave Laban's Home and Go to Gilead	799
5-8	The Encounter between Jacob and Laban in Gilead	801
	Excursus: Laban in Jubilees	803
9-11	A Digression on the Previous Name and Inhabitants of Gilead	804
	Excursus: Jubilees 29:9-11 and Hasmonean History	806
12-20	Jacob Meets Esau and Cares for Isaac and Rebekah	807
30	Dinah, Shechem, Exogamy, and Levi the Priest (Genesis 34)	813
1-4	The Story about the Rape of Dinah and the Response by Jacob and His Sons	819
	Excursus: Dinah's Age	821
5-10	There Is to Be No Such Defilement in Israel	824
11-16	No Marriage with Non-Israelites	830
17-23	The Example of Simeon and Levi	834
	Excursus: Source Texts	835
24-26	The End of the Episode	840
	Excursus: An Interpolator?	841
31	Bethel (1): Jacob Sees His Parents and Isaac Blesses Levi and Judah (Genesis 35)	843
1-3a	Preparations and Travel to Bethel	847
3b-30a	Jacob, His Parents, and His Two Sons Levi and Judah	849
3b-7	Invitations, Arrival with Levi and Judah, and Meeting with Rebekah	849
8-23	Meeting with Isaac and Blessing of Levi and Judah	851
	14b-15 Blessing on Levi's Descendants	855
	16-17 Blessing on Levi	857
	18-20 Isaac's Blessing of Judah	858

	24-30a Further Conversation with Isaac	862
	30b-32 Return to Bethel and Joyful Reflection on His Father's Blessings	864
32	Bethel (2): Tithing, Temple-Building, and Departure (Genesis 35)	866
	1-29 Bethel	871
	1 Levi's Dream	871
	Excursus: Levi, Levites, and the Levi Tradition	874
	2-9 Jacob's Tithes	875
	Excursus: Levi as the Tenth	877
	10-15 Tithes	883
	16-26 Night Appearances to Jacob	885
	Excursus: No Temple in Bethel	890
	Excursus: The Angel Vision from Another Writer?	891
	27-29 An Extra Day	893
	Excursus: An Interpolator in vv. 27-29?	894
	30-34 Departure from Bethel	895
33	Reuben's Sin with Bilhah and Jacob's Move to the House of Abraham	898
	1-9a Jacob and Leah's Absence and Reuben's Sin with Bilhah (Gen 35:21-22a; cf. v. 27)	902
	9b-20 The Angel's Address to Moses	906
	9b-12 The Law regarding the Sin	906
	13-17 Commands for Israel and the Special Case of Reuben	908
	18-20 Israel as a Holy Nation	912
	Excursus: An Interpolator in 33:10-20?	913
	21-23 Jacob and His Family Move to the House of Abraham (Gen 35:22b-25, 27)	914
34	War with the Amorite Kings, Joseph and His Brothers, the Day of Atonement, and the Wives of Jacob's Sons	916
	1-9 War with Seven Amorite Kings	918
	Excursus: War with the Amorite Kings	925
	Excursus: Jubilees 34:1-9 and Hasmonean Sites	926
	10-19 Joseph and His Brothers (Gen 37:13-14, 17-18, 28, 36, 31, 32, 35)	928
	10 Joseph's Mission to His Brothers	929
	11 Their Harsh Treatment of Joseph	929
	12-19 Jacob's Grief and the Day of Atonement	929
	20-21 The Wives of Jacob's Sons	934
35	The Last Instructions and Death of Rebekah	936
	1-8 Conversation between Rebekah and Jacob	941
	9-17 Conversation between Rebekah and Isaac	944
	18-24 Conversation between Rebekah and Esau	949
	25-26 Esau and Jacob with Rebekah	951
	27 Esau and Jacob's Final Meal with Rebekah and Her Death	951
36	Isaac's Last Day and the Death of Leah	953
	1-11 Isaac's Instructions regarding His Burial and His Testament to Esau and Jacob	957
	12-18 Isaac Divides His Estate, Dies, and Is Buried	963

19-20	Esau and Jacob Go to Their Homes	966
21-24	Jacob's Beloved Wife Leah Dies	968
37	Hostilities Break Out between Esau and Jacob	971
1-8	Esau's Sons Want to Fight Jacob for the Birthright but Esau Opposes Their Plan	975
9-10	Esau's Sons Assemble an Army of Foreign Mercenaries	979
11-13	Esau Changes His Mind and Agrees to Attack Jacob	980
14-23	Jacob Is Surprised by the Attack and Has an Unpleasant Exchange with Esau	982
24-25	Jacob Orders a Strike against Esau and His Army	988
38	War between Esau and Jacob and an Edomite King List	989
1-14	The War between the Forces of Jacob and Esau	992
	Excursus: The War with Esau and His Sons and Maccabean History	999
15-24	The Kings Who Ruled in Edom (Gen 36:31-39)	1001
39	The Humble Beginnings of Joseph's Career in Egypt	1003
1-2ab	Jacob in Canaan (Gen 37:1-2a)	1006
2c-4	Joseph Succeeds in Potiphar's House (Gen 39:1-6a)	1007
5-11	Joseph and Potiphar's Wife (Gen 39:6b-20)	1008
12-13	Joseph Succeeds in Prison (Gen 39:21-23)	1015
14-18	Joseph Successfully Interprets Two Dreams (Genesis 40)	1016
40	Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dreams and Becomes Ruler of Egypt	1019
1-7	Pharaoh's Dreams and Joseph's Appointment as Second Ruler in Egypt	1021
8-13	Joseph's Just Rule over Egypt	1026
41	Judah and Tamar (Genesis 38)	1033
1-7	Judah's Sons and Tamar (Gen 38:6-12a)	1037
8-21	Judah and Tamar (Gen 38:12b-26)	1041
	8-12 Tamar Misleads Judah (Gen 38:12b-18)	1041
	13-15 Tamar Disappears (Gen 38:19-23)	1043
	16-21 The Truth Emerges and Twins Are Born (Gen 38:24-30)	1045
22	The Seven Years of Abundance End (Gen 41:53)	1049
23-28	Legal Issues	1049
	23-25 Judah's Remorse and Pardon	1050
	26-28 The Law for Israel	1053
42	Joseph's Brothers Travel to Egypt	1056
1-3	The Famine Begins (Gen 41:54, 56)	1059
4-12	The Brothers Make Their First Trip to Egypt, Encounter a Harsh Joseph, and Return Home (Gen 42:1, 3-5, 8, 7, 9, 17, 25, 29, 30, 36, 38)	1061
13-14	The Famine Grows More Severe and the Egyptians Cope by Imitating Joseph (Gen 43:1)	1065
15-20	Jacob Agrees to Send Benjamin with His Brothers on Their Second Trip to Egypt (Gen 43:1-2; 42:37-38; 43:8-9, 11)	1066

21-25	The Brothers Meet Joseph, Who Devises a Plan to Test Them (Gen 43:15, 29, 23, 26, 34; 44:1-2)	1068
43	Joseph Tests His Brothers and Reveals His Identity	1072
1-13	The Cup as an Instrument for Testing Relations between the Brothers (Genesis 44)	1074
1-8a	Placing and Finding the Cup in Benjamin's Sack (Gen 44:1-13)	1074
8b-10	Confrontation with Joseph (Gen 44:14-17)	1077
11-13	Judah's Speech (Gen 44:18-34)	1079
14-20	Joseph Reveals His Identity (Gen 45:1-20)	1081
21-24	The Return Trip and Announcement of the Good News to Jacob (Gen 45:21-28)	1084
44	The Descent to Egypt by Jacob and His Family	1087
1-6	From Hebron to the Well of the Oath (Gen 46:1-4)	1089
7-10	From the Well of the Oath toward Goshen (Gen 46:5, 6, 28)	1093
11-34	The Seventy Who Descended to Egypt (Gen 46:8-27)	1095
45	Reunion of the Family and Death of Jacob	1103
1-5	The Reunion of Jacob and Joseph (Gen 46:28-30)	1105
6-7	Joseph's Provisions for His Father and Brothers (Gen 46:31-47:12)	1108
8-12	Joseph's Supervision of the Famine Relief (Gen 47:13-26)	1110
13-16	Jacob's Last Days (Gen 47:28-50:14)	1112
46	From Harmony to Oppression	1117
1-2	Harmonious Relations in Egypt	1120
3-11	Deaths of the Twelve Brothers with Burials Delayed by Warfare	1122
12-16	The Egyptian King Initiates Oppressive Measures against the Israelites	1130
	Excursus: The War between Egypt and Canaan	1131
47	From Moses's Birth to His Escape from Egypt	1136
1-8	Moses's Birth and Rescue by Pharaoh's Daughter (Exod 1:22; 2:1-9)	1138
9-10a	Life at Home and in the Royal Court (Exod 2:10)	1143
10b-12	Danger and Flight from Egypt (Exod 2:11-15a)	1145
48	Moses's Return to Egypt, the Plagues, and the Exodus	1147
1-3	Moses to Midian and Back (Exod 2:15b-4:31)	1150
4-8	Revenge through Ten Plagues (Exod 5:1-11:10; 12:29-32)	1153
9-19	Defeat of Mastema and the Egyptians (Exod 12:33-36; 14)	1157
49	The First Passover and the Laws of Passover	1166
1	The Timing of Passover	1170
2-6	The First Passover	1171
	Excursus: The Agent of the Tenth Plague	1173

7-15	The Proper Time for Celebrating Passover	1176
16-21	The Proper Place for Celebrating Passover	1183
	Excursus: The Heavenly Tablets Reference in 49:8	1185
22-23	The Festival of Unleavened Bread	1188
50	Sabbaths, Weeks, and Jubilees	1192
1	Sabbath Laws in the Wilderness of Sin	1194
2-5	Sabbaths of Years, Jubilees, and the Chronological System	1194
	Excursus: The Chronology in the Book of Jubilees	1199
6-13	Sabbath Laws	1201
	Excursus: The Number of Prohibited Kinds of Labor	1210
	Excursus: Is the Unit 50:6-13 Part of the Original Text?	1212

■ **Back Matter**

Bibliography	1215
Index	1251
1. Passages	1251
2. Names	1307