

# The Truth Will Set You Free

## Genesis Chapter 45

Gen 45:1

### 1) The Revealing vs 1-7 **Reveal Himself, Who They Were, Who God Is**

Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried, "Have everyone go out from me." So there was no man with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers.

Gen 45:2

He wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard {it,} and the household of Pharaoh heard {of it.}

- *These brothers are a little unnerved. Remember earlier, (Gen 43:18) they were thinking they were invited to Joseph's house as a trap that there, they would be attacked and be killed or thrown into slavery. But now they were accused as criminals, Thieves punishable by death.*
- *This Egyptian Grand Visier isn't listening to their side of the story and is acting crazy. Crying Loudly. He kicks everyone out of the room. Is this it? He's going to kill us.*

Gen 45:3

**HIMSELF**

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

- *"Dismayed" KJV uses troubled. Think of all the emotions they would be feeling*
  - Shock *Would never have seen that one coming.*
  - Disbelief *How could this be?*
  - Terrified *What is going to happen now?*
  - Guilt *All their secrets sins are revealed.*
  - Relief *It seemed to work out for Joseph. Ends justify the means.*
  - Grief *Dad isn't going to forgive them for this.*
  - Humbled *Remembering Joseph's dream about bowing down*
- *Their dismay is a shadow of what will happen when the Jews see Jesus for who He is again: And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn. (Zechariah 12:10)*

Gen 45:4

**WHO THEY ARE**

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Please come closer to me." And they came closer. And he said, "I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.

- *This is the first time Benjamin hears the truth.*
- *"Come Closer" was the instruction one so they could see for themselves that he was indeed Joseph, but secondly so they would see Joseph's heart was not to harm them.*
- *Joseph assures them that he is just Joseph.*

Gen 45:5

"Now do not be grieved or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here, for **God sent me before you to preserve life.**

- *Joseph encourages them not to forget what they did, but to understand what God has done. Psalm 105:16-24 God called for the famine and sent the man.*
- *With our sin, it is advisable not to forget what we have done. That we were/are sinners. But that is not all. With that reality, we need to understand what God has done. Forgiveness vs. Forgetfulness*
  - *Eph 1:6-7 "We have forgiveness thru His Grace"*
  - *Luke 17:4 "No Limit Set"*
  - *2 Cor 7:10 "Godly sorrow worketh repentance"*
  - *Luke 17:3 "If he says 'I repent', forgive him"*
  - *Matt 18:23-35 "The unmerciful servant / We need to forgive as we have been forgiven"*
  - *Isaiah 38:17 "Our forgiveness complete because God accomplishes it"*
  - *Psalm 103:2-3 "He Pardons All (say again) All Our Iniquities"*
- *When the brothers first appeared to Joseph they were claiming that they were honest men. (Gen 42) They have been tested twice and have proved that they have changed in many ways. But now, having their past transgressions in front of them they cannot proclaim that they are honest men. They must cry for mercy.*

Gen 45:6 "For the famine {has been} in the land these two years, and there are still five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvesting.

- *Famine is going to continue for 5 more years*
- *Somewhere along the way Joseph had to have dealt with his victimization. For what he is about to do could not be done unless he has forgiven his brothers completely. Remember forgiveness is not forgetfulness. It is greater. Forgiveness can still remember the wrong but operates from the focus on the Greatness of God knowing His is all knowing and in control of all things.*

Gen 45:7 **WHO GOD IS** "God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant in the earth, and to keep you alive by a great deliverance.

- *Joseph not only had to deal with forgiveness but had to receive from God the plan. This was not just God turning a bad situation into good, but the entire thing was God's good plan. Think about it, Was Joseph ever starved, sick, beaten. No, he actually was taken care of. His feelings got hurt but he was never really in danger. The Lord was With Him.*
- *This great deliverance was to preserve Israel as a distinctive nation. In Canaan they were more and more becoming pagan. In Egypt they will be forced to remain truly the Lord's people.*
- *GRACE - These brothers were the recipients of a great grace. They do not deserve a great deliverance. This is all God. The sons of Israel do not deserve this by their merit.*

Gen 45:8 **2) The Recovery** vs 8-15 sponsorship

"Now, therefore, it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his household and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

- *God Sent Joseph and God Made Joseph excel for His purpose.*

Gen 45:9 "Hurry and go up to my father, and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, "God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay.

Gen 45:10 "You shall live in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children and your flocks and your herds and all that you have.

Gen 45:11 "There I will also provide for you, for there are still five years of famine {to come,} and you and your household and all that you have would be impoverished."

- *Even tho they will have some explaining to do, Joseph tells them to go get Dad.*
  - *Tell him Joseph is Lord of Egypt*
  - *To Come right away*
  - *Need to live in Goshen, be near Joseph*
  - *Bring Every one children, flocks, herds) Acts 2 says this was 75 people.*
  - *Joseph will provide (there will be 5 more years of this)*

Gen 45:12 "Behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin {see,} that it is my mouth which is speaking to you.

- *Joseph offers them proof that these are true. He is speaking Hebrew.*

Gen 45:13 "Now you must tell my father of all my splendor in Egypt, and all that you have seen; and you must hurry and bring my father down here."

Gen 45:14 Then he fell on his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept on his neck.

Gen 45:15 He kissed all his brothers and wept on them, and afterward his brothers talked with him.

- *Must be a genuine forgiveness to embrace after all that has transpired in the past.*
- *They talked with him. They must have had a million questions and did he have some stories.*
- *Remember in Chapter 37 the brothers HATED him.*

Gen 45:16 **3) The Ratification** vs 16-28

Now when the news was heard in Pharaoh's house that Joseph's brothers had come, it pleased Pharaoh and his servants.

- *Pharaoh heard the cries earlier from Joseph's hose and inquired about the noise. When it was reported back Joseph still had favor with Pharaoh.*

Gen 45:17 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Say to your brothers, 'Do this: load your beasts and go to the land of Canaan,

Gen 45:18 and take your father and your households and come to me, and I will give you the best of the land of Egypt and you will eat the fat of the land.'

Gen 45:19 "Now you are ordered, 'Do this: take wagons from the land of Egypt for your little ones and for your wives, and bring your father and come.

Gen 45:20 'Do not concern yourselves with your goods, for the best of all the land of Egypt is yours.' "

- *Pharaoh confirmed Joseph's promise and in fact commanded the brothers to fulfill Joseph's wish*
- *This is how he provided*
  - *They were to take their cattle back so they would have enough provision for the journey*
  - *Pharaoh offered the same invitation Joseph did. Land, Provision for all.*
  - *He gave them wagons to fetch the children with.*
- *"DO NOT CONCERN YOUR SELF WITH YOUR GOODS" So many people worry about their stuff when they come to Jesus. What we are gaining is the splendor of the kingdom yet we will hold on to temporal stuff and risk losing the true riches*
- *Matt 16:24-28 "Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? "For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and WILL THEN REPAY EVERY MAN ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS. "Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."*

Gen 45:21 Then the sons of Israel did so; and Joseph gave them wagons according to the command of Pharaoh, and gave them provisions for the journey.

Gen 45:22 To each of them he gave changes of garments, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred {pieces of} silver and five changes of garments.

Gen 45:23 To his father he sent as follows: ten donkeys loaded with the best things of Egypt, and ten female donkeys loaded with grain and bread and sustenance for his father on the journey.

Gen 45:24 So he sent his brothers away, and as they departed, he said to them, "Do not quarrel on the journey."

- *This is an interesting instruction. The brothers didn't show great leadership except in recent accounts with Judah but the journey would entail doubts, waves of guilt, fear of change, and the uncomfortable looming discussion with Dad.*
- *Joseph aware of this gave this instruction to show his leadership and understanding of their position. The Holy Spirit will, in our lives, be that calming firm instructor to us as we experience doubts, waves of guilt, fear of change and some uncomfortable discussions.*
- *We cannot help but take this as an instruction to The Church. We, the Church (All the different denominations) are not to quarrel on the journey.*

Gen 45:25 Then they went up from Egypt, and came to the land of Canaan to their father Jacob.

Gen 45:26 They told him, saying, "Joseph is still alive, and indeed he is ruler over all the land of Egypt." But he was stunned, for he did not believe them.

- *Jacob's heart fainted. These guys cannot go and return without coming back with some sort of news that causes heart failure in Jacob.*

Gen 45:27 When they told him all the words of Joseph that he had spoken to them, and when he saw the wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of their father Jacob revived.

- *The story of Joseph and God's plan revived Jacob. We see in our lives that the story of Jesus and God's plan will revive up. This is true revival.*

Gen 45:28 Then Israel said, "It is enough; my son Joseph is still alive. I will go and see him before I die."

- *Surely his heart is revived. In Genesis 42:36 he said, "all these things are against me" Here he now says, "it is enough."*

### **Our Salvation Resembles The Brother's Deliverance**

Be Humble

Grace

Understand the Greatness of God's Plan

Provision in Jesus

- He Suffered
- He Made Deliverance Possible
- Was Concealed to us
- Then Made Known
- Calls Us to be Near Him
- Embraces Us
- Talks with Us

Affirms His Provision with Another

- Were sent to get others that may be impoverished
- Provides for the Journey
- Speaking the Splendor of the Land

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