

JOSEPH

#15, I am Joseph! – Gen 45:1-28

Joseph's game of "cat-n-mouse" with his brothers finally ran its course! He had closely watched his brothers as he put them through some very difficult circumstances, but the unseen wall of distrust had melted away!

Genesis chapter 45

1 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.

2 He wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard of it. 3 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.

[1.] v:1 could not control himself What is it, about this verse, that makes one think that Joseph had another "unseen wall of distrust"?

[2.] v:2-3, could not answer him, OK, Joseph was dead but now alive. They should be happy! So now what's bothering them?

dismayed at his presence, * OT:926, to tremble inwardly (or palpitate), i.e. (figuratively) be (causative, make) (suddenly) alarmed or agitated

Strong's Numbers and Concordance

4 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.

[3.] v:4, And they came closer, Did they "come closer" because he was their brother or he that was a big wig in Egypt?

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5 "Now do not be grieved or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. 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. 7 " God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant in the earth, and to keep you alive by a great deliverance. 8 "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.

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. 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.

[4.] v:4 again, How would the statement, I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt really "nail down" Joseph's real identity?

[5.] v:5-8, When the brothers heard Joseph state that the famine had five more years to go, their reaction was probably:

a) We knew that, we heard in at the coffee shop while waiting for our grain.

b) How does he know how long the famine will last.

c) None of the above, It went right by them.

[6.] question [5.], Can you think of a reason/s why things go "right past" Christians?

[7.] v:5-8 again, to preserve life, Xtra credit. What else was God doing?

[8.] v:9-10, You shall live in the land, Why might you come to the conclusion that Joseph didn't suspect how God would fulfill His promise to Abraham (Gen 15:13)?

[9.] question [8.], As twice born Christians, how can we successfully deal with situations that God is going to bring into our lives?

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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." 12 "Behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth which is speaking to you. 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." 14 Then he fell on his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept on his neck. 15 He kissed all his brothers and wept on them, and afterward his brothers talked with him.

16 Now when the news was heard in Pharaoh's house that Joseph's brothers had come, it pleased Pharaoh and his servants. 17 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Say to your brothers, 'Do this: load your beasts and go to the land of Canaan, 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.'" 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. 20 'Do not concern yourselves with your goods, for the best of all the land of Egypt is yours.'"

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

[10.] v:11-13, What 3 things did Joseph tell his brothers they "must" do?

[11.] v:15, his brothers talked with him. Write down what you think were the topics of conversation?

[12.] v:16-20, best of the land Would Pharaoh's benevolence to Israel cause resentment in the hearts of the Egyptians?

[13.] question [12.], If twice born Christians ever feel resentment, how is it manifest?

[14.] v:21-23, and Joseph gave, What was the favoritism shown in these gifts?

[15.] v:24, he said to them, Name some thing/s that might be the source of the reaction Joseph described?

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

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

[16.] v:25-26, he did not believe, If you were Jacob, who would you look at to try and verify the account?

[17.] v:25-26 again, stunned, As Christians how is it possible to predict another person's reaction to news, good or bad?

[18.] v:27, the spirit of their father Jacob revived, Elaborate on what this phrase means?

[19.] v:27-28, Jacob decided they told the truth by the wagons? What was used the first time the guys wanted him to believe bad news?

My ship has finally come in! Nothing can ever threaten this family again!