

God's Advance Man

Genesis 45:1-28

Introduction

I Joseph Revealed Himself

- A. He could no longer control himself
 - 1. He sent everyone out and **wept** loudly - Gen 43:30
- B. He revealed himself to his brothers - Isa 65:1
 - 1. They were **speechless** and terrified - Rev 6:15-17

II Joseph Reassured His Brothers

- A. He invited them to come close to him - Jn 20:27
- B. He encouraged them not to be **distressed** or angry
- C. He acknowledged God's sovereignty: - Rom 8:28
 - 1. God sent him ahead to **save** lives - Acts 2:22-24
 - 2. God made him father to Pharaoh - Ps 105:21-22
 - 3. God made him **ruler** over all Egypt - Acts 7:9-10

III Joseph Instructed His Brothers

- A. He told them to **go back** to Canaan and tell Jacob:
 - 1. That God had made him lord of all Egypt - Phil 2:9-11
 - 2. To come down to Egypt and live in Goshen - Jn 17:24
 - 3. That they would be **provided** for - Phil 4:19
 - 4. About all the honor accorded to him - Jn 17:24
- B. He told them to bring Jacob quickly
- C. He reached out to Benjamin and his brothers:
 - 1. He embraced, kissed and **wept** over them
 - 2. He **talked** with them - Lk 24:27

IV The Palace's Response

- A. Pharaoh and his officials were pleased - Lk 15:10
- B. Pharaoh instructed Joseph's brothers:
 - 1. To load up and return to Canaan
 - 2. To bring their father and families
 - 3. To **enjoy** the best of the land of Egypt - Mk 10:29-30
- C. Joseph provided them with:
 - 1. Transportation, provisions, **new** clothing - Eph 1:3-4
- D. Joseph gave Benjamin:

- 1. 300 shekels of **silver**
- 2. 5 sets of clothing - Gen 43:34
- E. Joseph sent his father:
 - 1. The **best** things of Egypt, grain and provisions
- F. Joseph instructed his brothers not to **quarrel** - Col 3:12-14

V Jacob's Response

- A. Jacob's sons told him:
 - 1. That Joseph was **alive!** - Lk 24:6
 - 2. That Joseph was ruler of all Egypt - Eph 1:20-23
- B. Jacob's response:
 - 1. He was **stunned** and didn't believe them - Mk 16:11
 - 2. He was convinced and spiritually **revived** - 1 Pt 1:8-9
 - 3. He was eager to see Joseph before he died - Lk 15:24

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

- 1. Share a time when God used challenging circumstances in your life to bring about His divine and eternal plan.
- 2. In your opinion, what were the factors that led to Joseph being sold into Egypt as a slave: 1) Joseph's own youthful arrogance? 2) His brother's jealousy? 3) Satan's evil plan? 4) God's sovereign and divine plan? What does your conclusion tell you about God's sovereignty in your own circumstances?
- 3. In light of the 20 years of injustice suffered at the hands of his brothers, what factors contributed to Joseph's ability to forgive his brothers? Is there a relationship in your life that currently is strained? Ask the Holy Spirit for the wisdom and humility needed to pursue a God-honoring and biblical reconciliation.
- 4. Memorize Romans 8:28 and thank God by faith for the challenges you may be currently facing knowing that in **ALL** things, God is working for the good of those who love Him and have been called according to His purpose.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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