

Genesis - Lesson 45

Genesis Chapter 45

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Memory verses for this week: **Pro 16:3** Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.

Introduction: We continue our study on the book of Genesis this week as Joseph finally reveals who he is to his brethren. This has to be rated as one of the most heart touching human experiences found in the Bible or anywhere else. Truly it abounds with so many lessons that we are not able to cover them all in this week's lesson.

I. Joseph Made Known to his Brethren

Gen 45:1 *Then Joseph could not refrain himself before all them that stood by him; and he cried, Cause every man to go out from me. And there stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known unto his brethren.*

Gen 45:2 *And he wept aloud: and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard.*

Gen 45:3 *And Joseph said unto his brethren, I am Joseph; doth my father yet live? And his brethren could not answer him; for they were troubled at his presence.*

The occasion finds Joseph overwhelmed with emotion. He sends out all the other men in the room that were Egyptians. This of course came after the brother's repentance which we studied about last week in chapter 44. Joseph's object in dealing with his brethren has been reached. They are sorrowful and repentant. It is impossible for an unrepentant sinner to know Jesus Christ. We must understand who we are before we can come to God on His terms.

Joseph was made known in time to save them.

Gen 44:9 *With whomsoever of thy servants it be found, both let him die, and we also will be my lord's bondmen.*

Gen 44:10 *And he said, Now also let it be according unto your words: he with whom it is found shall be my servant; and ye shall be blameless.*

They did not have to go through with the agreement they had made. Joseph shows tenderness as he sent the Egyptians out. He was overwhelmed with joy to have his family back. Seven times he wept. (Gen. 42:24; 43:30; 45:2,15, 46:29, 50:1,17.0

While this was great joy to Joseph to tell the brothers the truth, to them it was great terror. They were troubled in his presence and had no idea how he would deal with them.

So will Israel be in the presence' of the Lord.

Zec 12:10 *And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have*

pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

Gen 45:4 And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.

Gen 45:5 Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.

Gen 45:6 For these two years hath the famine been in the land: and yet there are five years, in the which there shall neither be earing nor harvest.

Gen 45:7 And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

Gen 45:8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

Joseph goes into detail with his explanation. Joseph has maintained his close walk with God, and he realizes that the Sovereign God had sent him. This wasn't by coincidence that he came into Egypt at the time he came. The Saving God had sent him to save not only thousands of Egyptians but also even his own family there in Canaan as well as many in other outlying countries. The famine was across all the land.

Gen 45:9 Haste ye, and go up to my father, and say unto him, Thus saith thy son Joseph, God hath made me lord of all Egypt: come down unto me, tarry not:

Gen 45:10 And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast:

Gen 45:11 And there will I nourish thee; for yet there are five years of famine; lest thou, and thy household, and all that thou hast, come to poverty.

Gen 45:12 And, behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaketh unto you.

Gen 45:13 And ye shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that ye have seen; and ye shall haste and bring down my father hither.

Gen 45:14 And he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck, and wept; and Benjamin wept upon his neck.

Gen 45:15 Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that his brethren talked with him.

While the brothers feared for the worst, since they knew they probably deserved harsh treatment, rather an invitation is given to them in verse 9 and 10. He makes a promise to take care of them for the upcoming five additional years of famine. Joseph tells them to go and tell his father that his son Joseph still lived and now had all this glory in Egypt. And they were to bring him and all their possessions and come and stay with Joseph in Egypt. They have both the promise from Joseph, and the prospect of coming to stay in a place where they could be safe and nourished. He then comes and embraces his brother Benjamin and both wept.

Adam Clarke said this about the land of Goshen that Joseph promised for his family.

Thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen - Probably this district had been allotted to Joseph by the king of Egypt, else we can scarcely think he could have promised it so positively, without first obtaining Pharaoh's consent. Goshen was the most easterly province of Lower Egypt, not far from the Arabian Gulf, lying next to Canaan, (for Jacob went directly thither when he came into Egypt), from whence it is supposed to have been about fourscore miles distant, though Hebron was distant from the Egyptian capital about three hundred miles. At Goshen Jacob stayed till Joseph visited him, Gen 46:28. It is also called the land of Rameses, Gen 47:11, from a city of that name, which was the metropolis of the country.

Several Dispensation Types are seen here in Chapter 45.

1. Like Christ and Moses, he was rejected the first time.

Exo 2:14 And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known.

Joh 1:11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

Joh 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

2. Like Christ, Joseph wept over others.

3. Like Christ, he sent for his own.

1Th 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

1Th 4:14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

1Th 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

1Th 4:17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

1Th 4:18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

4. Like Christ, Joseph was sent to preserve life.

5. Joseph dealt with them in marvelous grace. He invited them to come near in verse 4. So will the Lord deal with Israel in grace.

Zec 13:1 In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

Isa 54:6 For the LORD hath called thee as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a

wife of youth, when thou wast refused, saith thy God.
Isa 54:7 For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee.
Isa 54:8 In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer.

God also invites the trembling repentant sinner to come near.

6. Even though they were responsible for their sin, yet God had sent Joseph. The same can be said of Christ and the Jews.

Act 2:23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

Act 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

II. Joseph's Brethren Commissioned

Gen 45:16 And the fame thereof was heard in Pharaoh's house, saying, Joseph's brethren are come: and it pleased Pharaoh well, and his servants.

Gen 45:17 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Say unto thy brethren, This do ye; lade your beasts, and go, get you unto the land of Canaan;

Gen 45:18 And take your father and your households, and come unto me: and I will give you the good of the land of Egypt, and ye shall eat the fat of the land.

Gen 45:19 Now thou art commanded, this do ye; take you wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones, and for your wives, and bring your father, and come.

Gen 45:20 Also regard not your stuff; for the good of all the land of Egypt is yours.

The brothers were encouraged by Pharaoh. Verse 16 says that Pharaoh heard and was pleased. This is certainly a testimony of the esteem that Pharaoh had for Joseph. The Hebrews promised a good place in Egypt by Pharaoh in verses 17 and 18. Pharaoh also provided for their transportation. They did not need to worry about bring all their 'stuff' as Pharaoh called it, but he promises the goods of Egypt for them.

Matthew Henry said this about the promises of Pharaoh to Joseph's family.

Here is, 1. The kindness of Pharaoh to Joseph, and to his relations for his sake: he bade his brethren welcome (Gen 45:16), though it was a time of scarcity, and they were likely to be a charge to him. Nay, because it pleased Pharaoh, it pleased his servants too, at least they pretended to be pleased because Pharaoh was. He engaged Joseph to send for his father down to Egypt, and promised to furnish them with all conveniences both for his removal thither and his settlement there. If the good of all the land of Egypt (as it was not better stocked than any other land, thanks to Joseph, under God) would suffice him, he was welcome to it all, it was all his own, even *the fat of the land* (Gen 45:18), so

that they need not *regard their stuff*, [Gen 45:20](#).

What they had in Canaan he reckoned but stuff, in comparison with what he had for them in Egypt; and therefore if they should be constrained to leave some of that behind them, let them not be discontented; Egypt would afford them enough to make up the losses of their removal. Thus those for whom Christ intends shares in his heavenly glory ought not to regard the stuff of this world: The best of its enjoyments are but stuff, but lumber; we cannot make sure of it while we are here, much less can we carry it away with us; let us not therefore be solicitous about it, nor set our eyes or hearts upon it. There are better things reserved for us in that blessed land whither our Joseph has gone to prepare a place.

Gen 45:21 And the children of Israel did so: and Joseph gave them wagons, according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and gave them provision for the way.

Gen 45:22 To all of them he gave each man changes of raiment; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver, and five changes of raiment.

Gen 45:23 And to his father he sent after this manner; ten asses laden with the good things of Egypt, and ten she asses laden with corn and bread and meat for his father by the way.

Gen 45:24 So he sent his brethren away, and they departed: and he said unto them, See that ye fall not out by the way.

So the children of Israel were equipped by Joseph. By the commission of Pharaoh, he gave them wagons and provisions. Also he gave them wearing apparel and precious silver. Verse 23 says he also sent wealth to his father. All of this was good, and at the end, Joseph gave them a warning. "See that ye fall not out by the way." How God's people need to heed this warning today. Satan is out to destroy our testimony and our lives if we will hearken to him. We need to stick to God's ways so that we do not fall out by the way.

John Gill said this about "Not Falling Out by the Way"

Gen 45:24 So he sent his brethren away, and they departed,.... From Egypt to Canaan with the wagons, asses, and rich presents:

and he said unto them, see that ye fall not out by the way; the Targum of Jonathan adds, about the affair of selling me; which he had reason to fear they would, from what they, and particularly Reuben, had said in his presence, [Gen 42:21](#); he was jealous this would be the subject of their discourse by the way, and that they would be blaming one another about it, and so fall into contentions and quarrels; that one would say it was owing to the reports of such an one concerning him

Gen 45:25 And they went up out of Egypt, and came into the land of Canaan unto Jacob their father,

Gen 45:26 And told him, saying, Joseph is yet alive, and he is governor over all the land of

Egypt. And Jacob's heart fainted, for he believed them not.

Gen 45:27 And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said unto them: and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived:

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

The brothers make it back home and they enlighten Jacob. They testified that Joseph was alive. In the beginning, Jacob did not believe at the first. But when he looked at the things sent, he changed his mind. Jacob believed when he saw the wagons. All his life he had depended upon the material, the things of this world. Even so, he did not believe until he saw the material, that is the wagons.

Israel wanted then to go and see Joseph. Please notice the change from Jacob to Israel. His original name, "Jacob" meant supplanter, and it symbolized his fleshly ways. The name "Israel" was not carnal but spiritual. It was given to him by God and it revealed that he was a prince with God.

More Emblems and Types are presented.

1. Joseph sends for Jacob. Christ is going to re-gather Israel to their own land where he will reign.

2. Joseph's brethren go forth to declare his glory. So will Israel one day.

Isa 66:19 And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles

So should we as Christians go forth today and declare His glory.

3. Joseph's joy was shared with others. Likewise, we should we share our joy with others.

4. Joseph's brethren go forth seeking others to bring to Joseph. So should we be seeking to bring others to our Joseph, the Lord Jesus Christ.

5. Joseph had a prepared place for them. So has Christ prepared a place for us.

Joh 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

Joh 14:2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

Joh 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

6. They testified of one who was thought to be dead, but was now alive. That was the message of the New Testament Church.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What was the occasion of Joseph being made known to his brethren?

It was a private time when Joseph sent out all the other Egyptian men and only he and his brethren remained.

2. How many times is it recorded that Joseph wept?

Seven

3. How does this typify our Lord Jesus Christ?

Jesus loved his own nation of Israel and wept over them.

4. What did Joseph say was the reason that God sent him before them into Egypt?

To preserve life.

5. Give some dispensational types of Christ seen in Joseph.

The first 3 were:

- a. Like Christ and Moses, he was rejected the first time.
- b. Like Christ, Joseph wept over others.
- c. Like Christ, he sent for his own.

6. How did Pharaoh receive the news about Joseph's brethren?

He was glad for Joseph.

7. What preparation was made to bring Jacob down to Egypt?

He sends wagons down to bring them back and promises the best of the land for them when they returned.

8. When did Jacob believe that Joseph was still alive?

Not at first, but after seeing the wagons, he believed.

9. What does the name "Jacob" symbolize? The name "Israel"?

Jacob means "Supplanter." Israel means "a Prince with God"

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Prov 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

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Practice Random Acts of Kindness. Each act spreads, and many will be blessed.