

**THE UNVEILING OF JOSEPH;
HIS PARDON AND PURPOSE**
Genesis 45

INTRODUCTION

Joseph has been separated from his family for decades, having been sold into slavery by his brothers over 20 years ago. But now, he is second to Pharaoh, and knows he was sent by God to provide for his family through the famine that grips their world. He has had interaction with his brothers, tested them, and is convinced that they are changed men. Finally, the time has come for reconciliation with his family! Genesis 45 records **The Unveiling Of Joseph; His Pardon And Purpose.**

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Genesis 45. Joseph and his brother are reconciled, and our study of the attitudes and actions that enable this sweet reunion provide practical lessons to consider. But, beyond human relationships, Joseph and his brothers show how to be rightly reconciled to God today. God wants to reveal Himself. How does He do this? Through Jesus Christ! **John 1:18, John 14:9, Hebrews 1:1-2. Selah**

Pray for wisdom and understanding, and let's begin.

I. Genesis 45:1-3. Joseph unveils his person. Overcome by emotion, Joseph wept aloud. Jesus wept too. **Luke 19:41-42.** Until now, the brothers can't see Joseph for who he is. Today, some can't see Jesus for who He is. **2 Corinthians 4:3-4.**

II. Genesis 45:4-5a. Joseph unveils his pardon and purpose. His brothers were grieved as their actions long ago are exposed in the light. But Joseph is not angry or holding their actions against them. The Lord was in control, and they are different now. Joseph knows that God rules and he (we) should be forgiving, as Jesus is. **Luke 6:36-37, Luke 23:34, Ephesians 1:7.**

III. Genesis 45:5b-8. But God! Meditate upon these verses, beloved. Of course the brothers are guilty of doing what they did. The antidote for all resentment and bitterness is to process everything through the sovereignty and providence of God. **For God,... And God,... But God!** Circumstances, people & their actions – all are used by God. **Psalm 37:23, Romans 8:28**

IV. Genesis 45:9-13. Joseph unveils his plan and promise. Sent by the Lord in advance to prepare and provide for Jacob's family, Joseph reveals his plan. He will provide a fertile land, Goshen, separated from the world (Egypt) and its influences. He will supply nourishment for them in time of famine. Come. He (Joseph, Jesus) has made all things ready for you. Amazing! **Psalm 23:1-2, Ezekiel 3:3, John 6:35 & 58, John 21:12.**

V. Genesis 45:14-15. Joseph weeps over his lost brothers. These are tears of love. Restored, they are able talk openly. Imagine the conversation as Joseph is able to glorify God for all He has done. **Psalm 79:19, Psalm 126:2-3.**

VI. Genesis 45:16-21. Joseph unveils his provision. Giving just a taste of the riches that await the sojourners, Joseph supplies their every need in abundance. God's riches abound! **Isaiah 55:1-2, Philippians 4:19.**

VII. Genesis 45:26-29. Jacob's response. Joseph is alive and well!! Could this be true? What should Joseph do with this good news? **"I will go and see him before I die."** We can be reconciled again to God through His Son.

Joseph is a type of Jesus Christ in Genesis 43-45, revealing keys to reconciliation with your heavenly Father, after sin has caused your separation from Him. Do not miss this clear picture of the salvation offered by God's grace through Jesus Christ. Perhaps God will send a famine to move you towards Him. Be prepared now – what is your life built upon? Jesus invites all to come!

CONSIDER Joseph and his brothers were finally reconciled. God made a way. Review **Genesis 45:5-10.**

o They sold Joseph, breaking their relationship. But do not be grieved. **"For God sent me before you..."**

o They spent years in guilt and anguish for their actions. But there is hope. **"And God sent me before you..."**

o They are offered full pardon, a full restoration. Come home! **"But God... has made me lord of all..."**

"...Come down to me, do not tarry. You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children... There I will provide for you..." Genesis 45:9-11

PRAY

- o for reconciliation in your life, whether it be with the Lord, a relative, or a friend. As Joseph was an example of Jesus Christ in the process of reconciliation, may you be as well!
- o for an opportunity to share the God's plan of reconciliation with someone this week.
- o for great fruit to come forth from the Prophecy Conference this month.
- o that the shipment to Puerto Rico would arrive safely and be a blessing to many.
- o Safety for our missionaries as they proclaim the name of Jesus to a lost world!