

Genesis 45

1,2 The brothers must have been so confused. They must have thought, why in the world is this great man balling his eyes out?

3 It is so hard to imagine how stunned and terrified they must have been. Surely they believed him for he is speaking Hebrew and that would account for all the things that happened. But what now? It reminds me of when Peter must have seen the risen Lord.

In a picture, the Son is resurrected as Lord and King. We as sinners sold his life in Judas. We thought now he is no more and we will not have to account for our sin. But He is alive - He went to jail during those three days but came out victorious and because the Spirit of God is in Him like it is in no other He is given authority over all.

Every life has fat years and lean years. Are you letting Him store up for you what you will need? If you come to Him you will have bread, but you must face your sins...

4,5 Oh the mercy and grace of God! Don't beat yourself up about Jesus going to the cross for your sins. It is God's plan to save you. Accept it and rejoice in his provision.

6 There will one day be seven years of tribulation, but they are followed by a 1000 abundant years.

7 Joseph understands the God of Providence was behind it all. We see even more of Joseph's Christ-likeness in his forgiveness and understanding.

8 Dear Joseph - he can see the hand of God even in those things that tore his heart. God works through everything, including evil. God did not author the evil in his brother's hearts but He certainly used it to send Joseph to a place in which He could prepare him to save the world from starvation. Not only that, but in the process He paints a wonderful picture of his Son. God would do the same with each of us. Suffering increases our capacity for God and thus our usefulness to touch the world around us to salvation. Joseph did not hold a grudge or become bitter. He recognized the Sovereignty of God and trusted His omnipotent hand.

9 -12 They must have still been in shock and needed a little more affirmation.

13 He wants his father to be proud of him, but also to encourage him that it is safe, and to share the testimony of what God had done.

14 15 years away from his little brother. What a reunion!

15 He loves them too. I'm gonna hug some people in heaven that have sold me into slavery for they are my brothers. They had a lot of catching up to do. Questions about how it happened, requests for forgiveness, "did you have the silver put back in our bags?"

16 Everyone likes Joseph. He is saving their nation and the people of the world around him.

17 – 19 We can look at this in two ways. The spiritual aspect of God providing for us through Jesus, which is what I have focussed on. But there is also the picture of Egypt is a symbol of the world. The world entices us to come and be a part of it. It promises everything. We end up slaves.

20 Hello worldling Christian- Never mind about your belongings, God has prepared a place for you that is beyond your wildest dreams. No need to amass clothes and goods and things here in this life. The best of all of heaven is yours - Christ Jesus!

21 –23 Israel sent the best of Canaan, and got back the best of Egypt.

24 He knows his brothers. Christians - we are on our way to heaven, but while your going to get your friends and relatives, "Don't quarrel on the way!" If the brothers would only hear this, I mean my Christian brothers. What has happened to us is too good to let anything else fill our lips. Jesus has gone before us. He is Lord of all! He says He will give us the best. What are you whining about? PRAISE HIM!

25,26 If we knew the truth about our place in Christ we couldn't believe it either.

27 All this time he has been in the dumps! Jesus is alive! Cheer up Christians!

28 See the "I'm convinced!" at the end of Ro 8 I'm convinced that nothing can separate us from His love. He's alive! I will see the King face to face and I will be changed!