

Genesis 45

Genesis 45.1-8

V1 – Joseph was on verge of crying

-**What did he order done?** For everyone to leave except his brothers

V2 – **How loudly did Joseph cry?** The Egyptians heard him, and the household of Pharaoh heard him

V3 – Joseph told them who he was

-**What was the reaction of his brothers?** Speechless; they couldn't say a word

-It must have taken them totally by surprise

V4 – **Words of Joseph?** "Come closer to me - I am Joseph..."

-**What were they probably expecting if this really was Joseph?** Punishment for what they had done to him (selling him into slavery)

V5 – **But how did Joseph tell them to feel?** Not grieved or angry with themselves

-**Why?** Because God had used Joseph to preserve life

Read Romans 8.28 – All things...

-God uses even bad things to produce good results

-**Have you ever had something bad happen which later turned out to be good?**

-We may get behind slow driver, but maybe an accident would have happened up the road otherwise

V6 – **Where were they in time?** Two years into famine

-Five more years still to go

V7 – **What was the plan of God?** To use Joseph to preserve his family and relatives

V8 – God had changed the hatred of the brothers into love

-Joseph was "father" to Pharaoh – head man

Genesis 41.9-15

V9 – **Instructions of Joseph?** Go and get Jacob and move everybody here to Egypt

V10 – **What part of Egypt would they live in?** Land of Goshen – See maps in standard Bible reference book

V11 – Joseph will provide for all their needs for the next five years

V12 – Maybe they still were in shock – maybe they still did not believe that it was really Joseph

V13 – **Joseph's main request?** For Jacob to come to Egypt as soon as possible

V 14 – Who did Joseph cry on next? Benjamin

V 15 – Why did Joseph do next? Kissed all his brothers

Note: His brothers had not said a word up until this point

-Joseph had prolonged revealing himself to his brothers to test them – to see if they had changed

-Read *Beacon Bible Commentary*, I, 153-6

Genesis 45.16-20

V 16 – What was Pharaoh’s reaction to learning about Joseph’s brothers? Happy

V 17-18 – What did Pharaoh suggest? That they immediately leave for Canaan and bring all the relatives back

V 19 – He ordered wagons from Egypt to be sent

V 20– How would the relatives be taken care of? The best of the land of Egypt

Genesis 45.21-28

V 21 –Joseph seems to have taken charge of getting them all to Egypt

V 22 – What did Joseph give to his brothers? Changes of clothing

-What did he give to Benjamin? 300 pieces of silver and 5 changes of clothing (still favoritism in the family)

V 23 – What presents did Joseph send for Jacob? Ten donkeys loaded with the best things of Egypt, ten female donkeys loaded with grain and bread and food

V 24 – Advice of Joseph to his brothers? Don’t fight or argue on this trip

V 25 – They arrived in the land of Canaan

V 26 – What was Jacob’s reaction to news about Joseph? Stunned; he did not believe them

-An article in the Chicago Tribune a few years ago: A man was reported killed in World War II – a telegram was sent to his family, but it was a mistake – he later arrived home alive

V 27– They gave Jacob all the details about Joseph

V 28 – Did Jacob believe it all? Yes – he wanted to go to Egypt to see Joseph

Lessons:

- Forgiveness – Joseph was able to forgive his brothers
- Ability to change – his brothers were able to change and not be so jealous and vicious

Revised 2012-12-23