

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

JN. 5:39



Jn. 5:39 “**Search the scriptures....they are they which testify of me.**”

Jn. 5:46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for **he wrote of me.**

Rom. 15:4 For whatsoever things were **written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.**

Gen. 45

Review

We began in Genesis with the beginnings of the human race.

I. THE PRIMEVAL HISTORY: BEGINNINGS OF THE HUMAN RACE, 1:1—11:32

II. THE PATRIARCHAL HISTORY: BEGINNINGS OF THE HEBREW RACE, 12:1—50:26

A. The Progenitor: Abraham, 12:1—25:11

B. The Pilgrim: Isaac, 25:19—27:46

C. The Propagator: Jacob, 28:1—36:43

D. The Provider: Joseph, 37:1—47:26

1. Joseph's Background, 30:24-25
2. Joseph's Boyhood, 37:1-11
3. Joseph's Betrayal, 37:12-36
4. Joseph's Brother, 38:1-30
5. Joseph's Bondage, 39:1—40:23
6. Joseph's Blessing, 41:1-44
7. Joseph's Bride, 41:45-52
8. Joseph's Brethren, 41:53—47:10
 - a. The Mystery Phase, 41:53—44:34
 - b. The Majesty Phase, 45:1-24
 - (1) The Revelation of Joseph, 45:1-1
 - (a) Of His Person, 45:1-16
 - i. A Sudden Revelation, 45:1
 - ii. A Sobering Revelation, 45:2
 - iii. A Simple Revelation, 45:3a
 - iv. A Successful Revelation, 45:3b
 - (b) Of His Purposes, 45:4-16
 - i. His Purpose in Pardon, 45:4-5

❖ He Deals with Their Guilt, 45:4

Tonight, we continue looking at Gen. 45, “***The Majesty Phase***,” when Joseph reveals to his family all the glory that is now his in Egypt. This phase is a symbolic teaching to the Lord’s future dealings with the nation of Israel, as well as practical lessons for us today. This incident will be a good picture of then the nation of Israel realizes the identity of the Lord Jesus as their reigning king.

Last week we saw how Joseph expressed his pardon by dealing with the guilt of his brothers.

❖ He Deals with Their Grief, 45:5

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.

- Joseph encouraged his brothers not to be grieved or angry with themselves over the past.
- Joseph did not deny the fact that his brothers sold him as a slave, but he attributed the slavery incident to be God's handiwork for a greater purpose – you sold/God sent.

Rom. 8:28 And we know that **all things work together for good to them that love God**, to them who are the called **according to *his* purpose**.

- Mankind's freewill works together within the intricacies of God's sovereignty and His providential control.
- The cross is a picture of man's punishment and also, God's pardon = tragedy into triumph.

i. His Purpose in Provision, 45:6-12

❖ Seeing Grace, 45:6

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.

- Joseph expressed his knowledge of the future – a type of Jesus' omniscience.

❖ Saving Grace, 45:7

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.

- Joseph was a savior to his brethren as a type of Jesus as Savior.
- Joseph's knowledge was given as a preparation for posterity and for the provisions needed in the future.

Psa. 37:23 **The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD:** and he delighteth in his way.

Prov. 16:9 A man's heart deviseth his way: but **the LORD directeth his steps.**

❖ Sovereign Grace, 45:8

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.**

- The providence of God, along with His sovereignty, superintends over the affairs of mankind in harmony with the freewill of man.
- Like the Lord Jesus, Joseph went from rejection and pain, to ruler with all power.

❖ Sanctifying Grace, 45:9

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:

- Like Jesus, Joseph emphasized the importance of his father and fellowship with Him.

❖ Sufficient Grace, 45:10-12

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:

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.

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

- Joseph planned to settle his family in Goshen, shielding them from foreign cultural influence. Safeguarded by the Egyptians' prejudices (Gen. 46:33–34), Israel develops as a nation without dangers posed by intermarriage with foreign peoples.

2 Cor. 12:9 And he said unto me, **My grace is sufficient** for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, **that the power of Christ may rest upon me.**

- Joseph promised to “nourish” his family. Jesus promises to provide for His children.

Mt. 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and **all these things shall be added unto you.**

- Joseph used Benjamin as his source of verification of truth.
- The Lord used Paul, of the tribe of Benjamin, as a source of verification of truth.

ii. His Purpose in Praise, 45:13

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.

- Joseph, like Jesus, is glorified in the eyes of his father.

Jn. 17:5 And now, **O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. ...**

24 Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; **that they may behold my glory**, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.

iii. His Purpose in Proximity, 45:14-16

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

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

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.





- The immediate interaction between Joseph and his brothers expressed a special affinity for Benjamin, and then “...**all** his brethren.”

Rom. 2:11 For **there is no respect of persons with God.**

Eph. 4:32 And **be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another**, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

- Upon achieving reconciliation with his brothers, Joseph’s “...fame thereof was heard...”
- After believers are reconciled to God, they are to be His ambassadors to all the world.

2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

18 And **all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;**

19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

20 **Now then we are ambassadors for Christ,** as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

Summary

- The brothers selling of Joseph into slavery is similar to the cross as a picture of man's punishment and also, God's pardon = tragedy into triumph.
- Joseph expressed his knowledge of the future – a type of Jesus' omniscience.
- Joseph was a savior to his brethren as a type of Jesus as Savior.
- Like the Lord Jesus, Joseph went from rejection and pain, to ruler with all power.

- Like Jesus, Joseph emphasized the importance of his father.
- Joseph promised to “nourish” his family. Jesus promises to provide for His children.
- Joseph, like Jesus, is glorified in the eyes of his father.
- As the fame of Joseph was spread, so should believers spread the Good News to all the world.

Conclusion

Mt. 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30 For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light.