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Fall on The Mount

Sermon on
the Mount
Series 2023

**June 11
2023**

V:9
Peacemakers



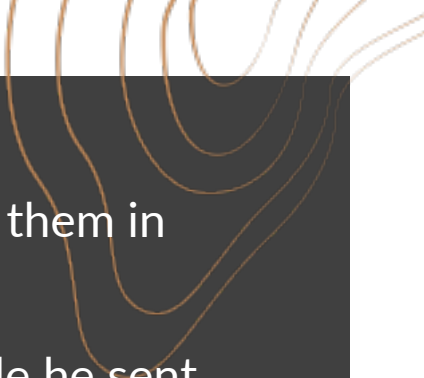


Matthew 5:9 NIV

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

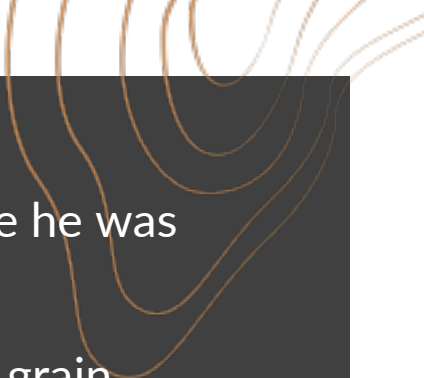
Summary of Joseph's Reunion With His Brothers Genesis Chapters 42-45

The predicted famine brings an unexpected twist in the story. The ten brothers of Joseph who sold him into slavery come to Egypt begging grain, only Benjamin the youngest remained home. Canaan was in famine. When the brothers bowed before the prince of Egypt they did not recognize him, he was now grown up and decked in royal robes. But Joseph recognized *them*. Had he forgiven them? When they came and bowed before him the scriptures say that he remembered the dreams which he had dreamed of them. Remember? Their stalks of wheat bowing down to his stalk? We get no glimpse of how he remembered the dreams. But as we shall see mercy won out over revenge.



Joseph, tests his brothers, suggesting they are spies and puts them in prison. The brothers insisted they are honest men.

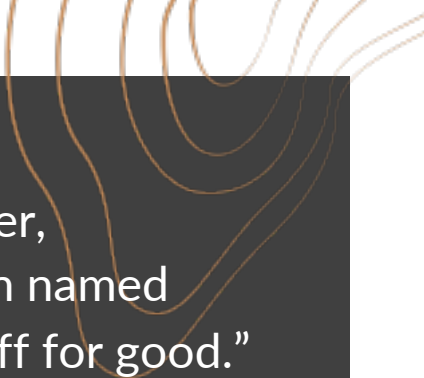
Joseph chooses to keep one of them, Simion, as prisoner while he sent the rest back to Canaan with the grain they purchased on the condition that they return to Egypt with their youngest brother Benjamin. The brothers said to one another, “Surely we are being punished because of our brother Joseph. We saw how distressed he was when he pleaded with us for his life, but we would not listen; that’s why this distress has come on us.” Reuben, the eldest, replied, “Didn’t I tell you not to sin against the boy? But you wouldn’t listen! Now we must give an accounting for his blood.”



They did not realize that Joseph could understand them, since he was using an interpreter.

To further test them Joseph had the money they paid for the grain secretly replaced in their sacks- what would they do now? Months later they did return with Benjamin.

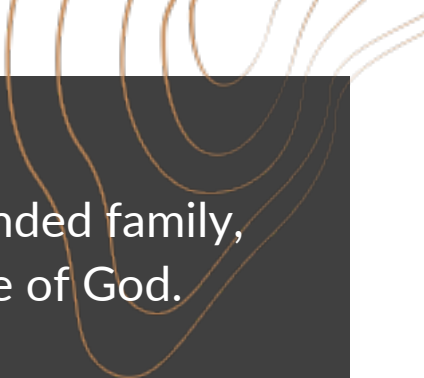
Then, as he sent them back home a second time with grain, Joseph planted in Benjamin's saddle bags a silver cup. He then sent his soldiers after them to confiscate the cup and bring them back to Egypt for punishment. The sentence: Benjamin, youngest son of Jacob, had to stay in Egypt and become his servant.



Brother Judah, who had intervened to save Joseph's life earlier, intervened again. He said, "My father has already lost one son named Joseph. If he were to lose Benjamin too, it would finish him off for good."

Moved by Judah's compassion, Joseph could conceal his identity no longer. He wept aloud. "I am Joseph, your brother whom you sold into slavery."

Upon this disclosure the brothers were terrified. Would not Joseph now wreak revenge? Instead Joseph showed he had conquered vengefulness and bitterness, and he forgave them. He called for a family reunion and had father Jacob brought to Egypt.



His response to their fear was remarkable. His vision transcended family, tribe, nation. It took in the universal, overreaching Providence of God.

Listen to his words:

Do not be pained that you sold me here. For it was to save life that God sent me on before. God sent me here to save the lives of many, even your lives, to keep you alive as a great body of survivors. (Genesis 45:7)
So do not waste yourself in grief. Go get Father Jacob and bring him here.

And so they did.

A Family of Pain and Dysfunction



THE BIG QUESTION:

**Can this family make peace
- for real ?!?!?!?**



Joseph REMEMBERED!!! So did his brothers!

To reconcile and find peace,
memory must be activated!
We need to remember in order to forgive and be
forgiven - we can't just FORGET.



South Africa: Truth And Reconciliation Council *My Own Story*

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