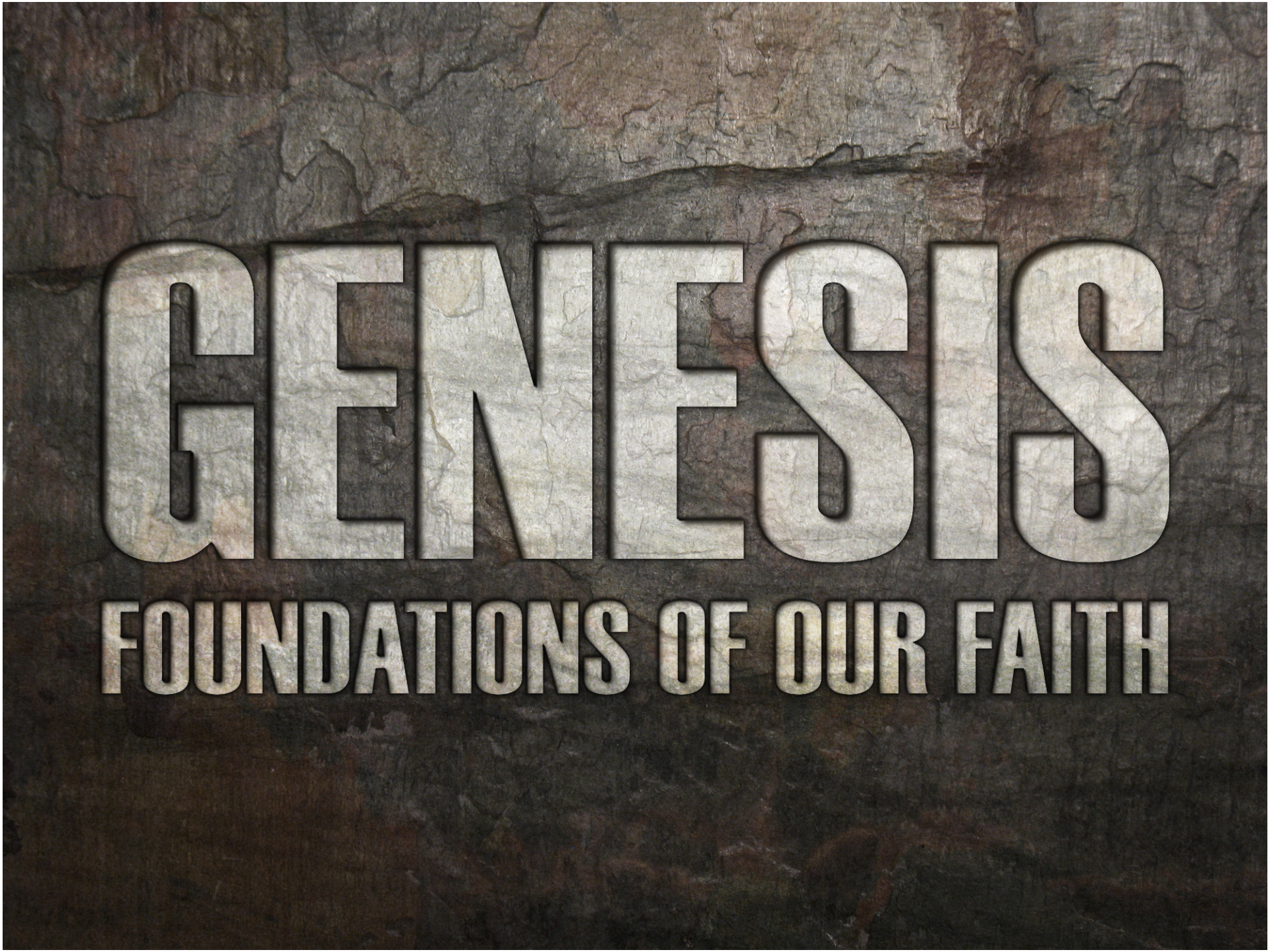

GENESIS
FOUNDATIONS OF OUR FAITH

Joseph Reunited and Reconciled with His Brothers

Genesis 42-45

GENESIS

Chap. 42	Joseph’s brother’s first visit to Egypt
Chap. 43-44	Joseph’s brother’s second visit to Egypt
Chap. 45	Joseph’s revelation of his identity

GENESIS

42: 1,2 “…Jacob said to his sons, ‘Why are you staring at one another?’ And he said, ‘Behold, I have heard that there is grain in Egypt; go down there and buy some for us from that place, so that we may live and not die.’”

GENESIS

42:6 “Now Joseph was the ruler over the land… And Joseph’s brothers came and bowed down to him with their faces to the ground.”

This was a partial fulfillment of Joseph’s dreams in Gen. 37:7-9



GENESIS

42:7 When Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them, but disguised himself and treated them harshly.



GENESIS

42:9 “…You are spies; you have come to look at the undefended parts of our land!”

42:10,11 “Then they said to him, ‘No my lord, but your servants have come to buy food. We are all sons of one man; we are honest men, your servants are not spies!’”

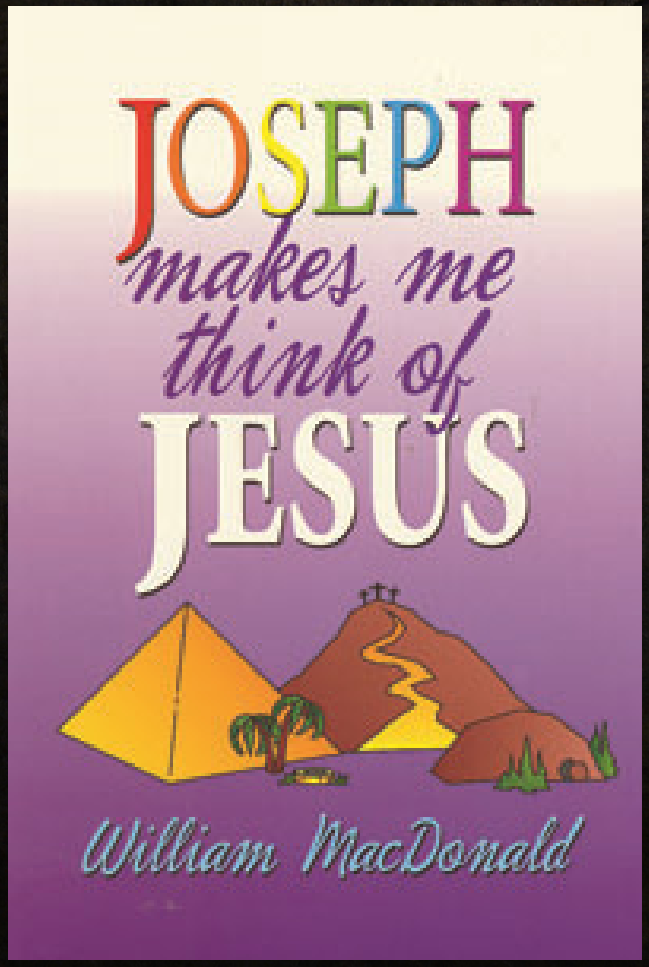
42:12-17 Joseph continues to accuse them of spying and confines them to prison.

42:18-20 Joseph's proposal.
"Do this and live, for I fear God."

GENESIS

42:21 Then they said to one another, ‘truly we are guilty concerning our brother, because we saw the distress of his soul when he pleaded with us, yet we would not listen; therefore this distress has come upon us”.

42:23,24 They did not know, however that Joseph understood. And he turned away from them and wept.



GENESIS

42:28 My money has been returned…it is even in my sack. And their hearts sank and they turned trembling to one another saying ‘What is this that God has done to us?



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GENESIS

Chap. 43-44 Joseph's brother's second visit to Egypt

43:1,2 "The famine was severe in the land…"
Jacob orders his sons to "Go back and buy us a little food."

43:3 "…The man solemnly warned us 'you shall not see my face unless your brother (Benjamin) is with you.'"

43:8,9 "Judah said to his father Israel, 'Send the lad with me… I myself will be surety for him…'"

GENESIS

43:11 Jacob reluctantly accepted Judah's offer and sends presents to the governor of Egypt.

43:16-34 Joseph holds a banquet in his house for his brothers, yet they were afraid.

44:1-13 Joseph orders grain and provisions for his brother's journey home. He commands that his silver cup be placed in Benjamin's sack.

44:10 Joseph's steward replied: "he with whom it is found shall be my slave and the rest of you shall be innocent.



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GENESIS

44:18–32 Judah offers himself as a substitute for Benjamin.

See the change in Judah!

- In chap. 37 Judah convinced his brothers to sell Joseph for profit.
- In chap. 38 Judah separated from his family to be with a pagan Adullamite & marry a Canaanite woman.
- Judah visits a prostitute who turned out to be his own daughter-in-law, Tamar, in disguise.
- Judah hypocritically condemns Tamar to be burned!
- In chap. 43 he is willing to become surety for Benjamin
- In chap. 44 he offers himself as a slave in place of Benjamin.

44:18–32 Judah pleads with Joseph and offers himself as a substitute for Benjamin to remain in Egypt as a slave.

Centuries later One would come from the tribe of Judah, “the Lion of the tribe of Judah,” who offered Himself as a substitute on our behalf.



GENESIS

Chap 45 Joseph's revelation of his identity to his brothers.

Vs 1-3 "Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried, "Have everyone go out from me." So there was no man with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard of it. 3 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

GENESIS

45:4 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Please come closer to me." And they came closer. And he said, "I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.
45:5 "And now do not be grieved or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life…
45:7 and to keep you alive by a great deliverance. Now therefore it was not you who sent me here, but God and He has made me a father to Pharaoh…

45:9–15 Joseph instructs his brothers to go and tell their father the news that God had made him lord of all Egypt.
Vs 13 “Tell my father of all my splendor in Egypt”

45:16–24 When Pharaoh hears about Joseph’s reunion with his family, he and his servants were pleased.

45:25–28 When they got home they share the amazing news with their father.

Lessons:

- Be sure your sin will find you out. Num. 32:23.
- The circle of confession & forgiveness should be as wide as the circle of offense.
- Forgiveness is possible when the offender is willing to confess and repent, and the offended is willing to forgive. Eph. 4:32
- God can change hearts! 2Cor. 5:17
- One believer yielded to God can do great things.
- Trust God to work out His purposes. Rom. 8:28,29