

JOSEPH'S BROTHERS SEEK FORGIVENESS

Genesis 50:15-20

Pastor DeWayne F. Davis Sr. 2-23-20

Asking for forgiveness brings healing to a wounded heart or broken relationship.

1. A CONSCIENTIOUS ADMISSION – v. 15

a) *Hyped Awareness! – v. 15a*

Genesis 42:21-23 What the 10 brothers did to Joseph years ago re-surfaces in their consciences. Guilt, shame and a well-deserved retribution and revenge for what they did was finally admitted.

b) *Hypothetical Avenging! – 15b*

The 10 brothers had never asked Joseph for forgiveness for what they had done to him. Joseph took the high ground *45:1-5*

God was up to something; using their mistreatment of him as the launching pad to get Joseph moving into his divine destiny. *Proverbs 28:1a APPL.* A guilty conscience creates all sorts of hypothetical fears of “What if this comes back on me somehow?” Especially when the truth would ruin one’s reputation or future.

2. A CONFESSORIAL ADVOCATE – 16-18

a) *Confession by Proxy – vv. 16-17*

They sent a servant to speak to Joseph on their behalf by appealing to him based upon what their father Jacob wanted Joseph to do when the matter came up; forgive their transgression and sin. Joseph Cried: 1) Asked for forgiveness 2) They were free from guilt 3) They misjudged his character

b) *Confession in Person – v. 18*

They came to Joseph with the utmost humility of bowing down (paying him homage) and committed to be his slaves (paying him back) for what they’ve done.

3. A COMPASSIONATE ACQUITTAL – vv. 10-21

Joseph acquits them of the wrong they’ve done and shows compassion by viewing his entire life within the context of God being in control.

a) *The Divine Over My Duties – v. 19* Joseph wasn’t in the place of God, to Whom vengeance belongs.

b) *The Damage That Was Done – v. 20a* Their motives were evil!

c) *The Divine in The Details - 20b 45:5b* God was sovereignly working behind the scenes using the details to get him to where he needed to be. (*Psalms 76:10*)

d) *The Divine Destination – v. 20b*

God had a determined purpose unbeknownst to Joseph until he arrived there.

e) *The Duty of The Delivered – v. 21 –*

Drop revenge – 50:21a;

Meet any needs 50:21b;

Be Kind – 50:21c

Acts 2:22-24