

JOSEPH REVEALS HIMSELF TO HIS BROTHERS

Genesis 45:1-8

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It was a long a tedious process to find out if his brothers were sincere; they passed the test. Joseph now decides to reveal himself to his brothers.

1. JOSEPH'S CRYING - vv. 1-2

a) He wanted privacy – v. 1 He didn't want anyone from the Egyptian servants/race to know the details of what they were going to talk about, namely the past and what they did to him. Joseph wanted to cover their faults.

b) He wept profusely – v. 2 Joseph had such a great emotional and mental breakdown that was so loud, those outside the door could hear him crying so profusely, they ran and told Pharaoh that he'd lost it.

2. JOSEPH'S CONFESSION & CONCERN – v. 3

They were ready to rediscover who he was. He speaks in Hebrew (*42:23*). He wanted to know if Jacob was really still living! He didn't think about how it would ring in their ears; their response? *v. 3b* They were TERRIFIED!! They didn't know what to say. Is this really Joseph? The Vice-Regent of Egypt?

3. JOSEPH'S CONFIRMING – v. 4

a) The sign of Identity – v. 4a - When he first confessed to them in *v.3* that he was Joseph, they didn't believe him. So, he asked them to come closer. For what purpose? *Genesis 17:9-13* Joseph didn't want to leave any room for doubt.

b) Their sin of selling – v. 4c - If this wasn't Joseph, then how did this ruler know of their sin of human-trafficking when they sold him into slavery? Joseph's brothers are literally preparing their minds to be put to death by him.

4. JOSEPH'S COMFORTING – vv. 5-8

a) God was in control – v. 5a - God is in control of everything to accomplish His pre-ordained, pre-planned purposes in heaven, on earth and even in hell.

5b; 7a; 8b They were instruments influenced to bring God's will to pass.

b) God had a purpose – 5b-7 - Joseph said, *"I was God's rescue plan to preserve life.* The seven-year famine would've killed off the seed of Abraham! God sent me to keep you alive, to deliver you from certain death." *Romans 8:28*

c) God gave me position – v. 8b – Joseph's ascent to the counsellor (father) of Pharaoh, steward over all his household and ruler over all the land was GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY! *Genesis 37:18-20; 26-28; Psalms 105-16-22; Acts 7:9-14*