

Series: Stand Fast In the Lord

# LESSONS FROM THE SCHOOL OF GRACE GENESIS 45:1-15

Text:

Introduction:

What a marvelous story! The years have come and gone since Joseph was a lad in his father's house and since the time his father sent him out with a coat of many colors to discover the well-being of his brothers.

The favorite son became the target of evil minded cruel brothers.

The tables have turned. Joseph has now become the prime minister of the greatest country in the world at that time, the most populated and richest nations with the most bountiful crops.

You remember the program that Joseph recommended to Pharaoh. God gave Joseph wisdom to say, "This is the way we can prevent people from starving to death."

We need to get back to the Bible way of doing things. We need to get back to God's plan, God's program for

our lives individually, for our churches and for our nation.

Joseph has now come through a prison, through a false accusation, through a terrifying pit experience by his own brothers, sold to strangers, into Egypt. He has moved from prison to prime minister.

God always works according to a plan and a program. And now God's plan called for a family reunion.

Notice how God brought this about.

## **1. THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD**

A. The providence of God sent Joseph into Egypt to preserve the nation of Israel.

### ***Genesis 45:5***

*<sup>5</sup> Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.*

### ***Genesis 45:7-8***

*<sup>7</sup> And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. <sup>8</sup> 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.*

1. That can be applied to our Joseph, or Jesus Christ. God sent his son into this world to save His people.

### **John 3:16**

<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

B. The providence of God placed Joseph in a prominent position in the land of Egypt.

### **Genesis 45:8**

<sup>8</sup> 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.

1. That too can be said of Christ. One day God will send Jesus Christ again to this world as King of Kings and Lord of all.

### **Revelation 19:11-16**

<sup>11</sup> And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. <sup>12</sup> His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on his head *were* many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. <sup>13</sup> And he *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The

Word of God. <sup>14</sup> And the armies *which were* in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. <sup>15</sup> And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. <sup>16</sup> And he hath on *his* vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

C. The providence of God brought Joseph's family to the place where Joseph was.

### **Genesis 45:9**

<sup>9</sup> 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:

1. One day Jesus will come and He will sound His voice. When the trumpet sounds, the voice of God and the voice of the archangel will be heard; the trumpet of God shall sound and the dead shall rise.

### **John 14:1-3**

<sup>1</sup> Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.

## 2. THE PROVISION OF GRACE

### **Genesis 45:6**

*<sup>6</sup>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.*

Five more years of famine, while the grace of God through Joseph would insure provision

A. God works through individuals.

1. He does not bless machines, denominations, fellowships or conferences.

2. He blesses men.

3. His grace

- Sweetens the bitter waters of adversity
- Heals the breach between Himself and sinful man
- Lightens the load of life's heavy burdens
- Narrows the gap between friend and foe
- Calms the storms that threaten our lives

- Soothes the sores caused by sin's corruption.
- Fathoms the depths of man's depression and degradation
- Solves the problems that separate families
- Brings together those who have been torn apart

B. God works through adversity.

1. This brings us from where we are to Him.

### **3. THE PROMINENCE OF GLORY**

#### ***Genesis 45:13***

*<sup>13</sup> 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.*

A. That little boy for whom the coat of many colors was made is now wearing the robe of royalty.

B. One of these days the glory of the Lord will be seen not only by the Father, but by the whole human race.

## **Habakkuk 2:14**

*<sup>14</sup> For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.*

## **4. PRESCRIPTION FOR FAMILY MAKEUP**

A. Arrange a suitable environment for a family get together.

### **Genesis 45:1-3**

*<sup>1</sup> Then Joseph could not refrain himself before all them that stood by him; and he cried, Cause every man to go out from me. And there stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known unto his brethren. <sup>2</sup> And he wept aloud: and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard. <sup>3</sup> And Joseph said unto his brethren, I am Joseph; doth my father yet live? And his brethren could not answer him; for they were troubled at his presence.*

1. Joseph ordered everyone out
2. A family cannot get together until they first come together.

B. Acknowledge the plan and purpose of God in the operation of your family.

1. If you ever leave God out it is all over.

**Genesis 45:5**

*<sup>5</sup> Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.*

**Genesis 45:8**

*<sup>8</sup> 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.*

2. God has a plan for those circumstances now transpiring in your life.

**Romans 8:28**

*<sup>28</sup> 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.*

- C. Accept the verbal input of the offenders in the case.

**Genesis 45:15**

*<sup>15</sup> Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that his brethren talked with him.*



E. All these will result in two things.

**Genesis 50:15-21**

*<sup>15</sup> And when Joseph's brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, Joseph will peradventure hate us, and will certainly requite us all the evil which we did unto him. <sup>16</sup> And they sent a messenger unto Joseph, saying, Thy father did command before he died, saying, <sup>17</sup> So shall ye say unto Joseph, Forgive, I pray thee now, the trespass of thy brethren, and their sin; for they did unto thee evil: and now, we pray thee, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of thy father. And Joseph wept when they spake unto him. <sup>18</sup> And his brethren also went and fell down before his face; and they said, Behold, we be thy servants. <sup>19</sup> And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive. <sup>21</sup> Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.*

A. Confession

B. Concession

Close:

From then on that family that had been shaken up, the family that had suffered a break up is now enjoying a make-up.

May I appeal to you, if there is anything that drives a wedge between you and the Heavenly Father or anything that brings a division between you and a member of your family, ask the Lord for wisdom, and to help you not to become bitter.

Have a family make up.

God wants that more than you can imagine.