

The Tears of Joseph

Don Williams March 27, 2022

Genesis 41:57

"And all the world came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe everywhere."

Genesis 42:6

"Now Joseph was the governor of the land, the person who sold grain to all its people. So, when Joseph's brothers arrived, they bowed down to him with their faces to the ground."

Genesis 42:8

"Although Joseph recognized his brothers, they did not recognize him."

Genesis 42:18-24

"On the third day, Joseph said to them, 'Do this and you will live, for I fear God: ¹⁹ If you are honest men, let one of your brothers stay here in prison, while the rest of you go and take grain back for your starving households. ²⁰ But you must bring your youngest brother to me, so that your words may be verified and that you may not die.' This they proceeded to do."

²¹ They said to one another, 'Surely we are being punished because of our brother. 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.'"

²² Reuben 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.' ²³ They did not realize that Joseph could understand them, since he was using an interpreter."

²⁴ He turned away from them and began to weep, but then came back and spoke to them again."

Joseph's heart is moved by Forgiveness

Matthew 6:14-15

"For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

Forgiveness doesn't mean that the offense never happened, it means that the offense will no longer control our lives.

Genesis 43:30

"Deeply moved at the sight of his brother, Joseph hurried out and looked for a place to weep. He went into his private room and wept there."

Joseph's heart is moved by people

We cry for people....not for things.

Genesis 45:1-3

"Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, 'Have everyone leave my presence!' So, there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. ² And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's household heard about it."

³ Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph! Is my father still living?' But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence."

Joseph's heart is moved by God

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