

From the Bottom of the Pit

Read the Whole Text: Genesis 39-50

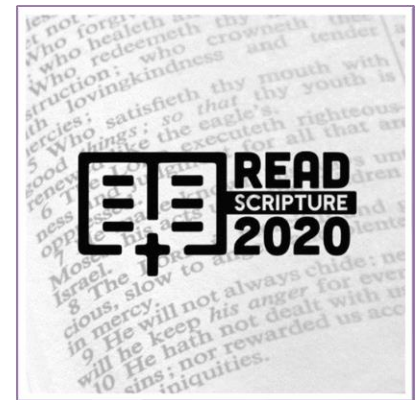
Core Verses: Gen. 45:1-8

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.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! ⁵ And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. ⁶ For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. ⁷ But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.^[a]

⁸ "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt.



Origins Overview

Genre: Torah/Pentateuch

Narrative Story (originally oral)

Context

The Story of God's People

Author

Moses and Early Israelite community (~15th cent. BC)

Additional Resources

Watch:

"Bible Story: Joseph//You Are Not Forgotten

And/Or

"How to read the Bible: Plot"

Podcasts from:

"The Bible Binge"-Joseph and his brothers

"Bema Discipleship"-Into the Pit & Out of the Pit

February Memory Verse:

"Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments."-Deuteronomy 7:9

Questions for Reflection During the Week

Read the selected text above from Genesis 45 three times:

What do you notice in the text above?

Are there key words?

Who are the main characters?

What do the characters do?

What do you learn about God from this text?

What do you learn about the world?

What do you learn about humans?

Space for Sunday Notes:

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Side Study:

Read Genesis 50:15-26

What assumptions do Joseph's brothers make after their father dies?

What does this reveal about their view of Joseph?

What can we learn about Joseph from his response to his brothers' false assumptions?

As his own death approaches, how does Joseph affirm his faith in God's promises?

What does this text teach us about who God is? Who humans are?

How will you live differently because of this text?

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