

Jacob and Joseph Are Reunited

Genesis 46–50

Joseph gave them wagons, and provisions¹ for their journey. To each of them he gave a change of clothes, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred shekels of silver² and five changes of clothes. Then he sent his brothers away, and as they departed, he said to them, “Do not quarrel on the way.”

So they went up out of Egypt and came to the land of Canaan to their father, Jacob. They told him, “Joseph is still alive, and he is ruler over all the land of Egypt.” He did not believe them. But when they told him all the words of Joseph, and when he saw the wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, Jacob revived. Israel said, “It is enough; Joseph my son is still alive. I will go and see him before I die.”

Jacob sent Judah ahead of him to Joseph to show the way before him, and they came into the land of Goshen. Joseph prepared his chariot³ and went up to meet Israel, his father. He presented himself to him and fell on his neck and wept. Jacob said to Joseph, “Now let me die, since I have seen your face and know that you are still alive.” Joseph brought in Jacob, his father, and stood him before Pharaoh, and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.

Joseph settled his father and his brothers and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land. Joseph provided his father, his brothers, and all his father’s household with food.

When the time of his death drew near, Jacob called his sons and said, “Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you what shall happen to you in days to come.”⁴ When Jacob finished commanding his sons, he was gathered to his people.⁵ When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they sent a message to Joseph, saying, “Forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.”

Joseph wept and said, “You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.”

Explanatory Notes

¹Food for the brothers and their animals. ²As a special sign of brotherly love. ³A two-wheeled royal wagon. ⁴Judah received the blessing of the Savior. Genesis 49:8–12. ⁵He died.



He fell on his neck and wept.

For Reflection

1. What were Joseph’s brothers afraid of after the death of their father?
2. Why are those who trust in Jesus as their Savior able to forgive others?
3. Read the verse in “Words to Remember.” How did God work for good in Joseph’s life? How does He work for good in our lives?

Words to Remember

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose. *Romans 8:28*