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BUT GOD

A STUDY OF THE
LIFE OF JOSEPH

"AVOIDING THE
ELVIS SYNDROME"
GENESIS 45:16 - 46:30

AUGUST 1, 2021

Introduction: While the basis of our salvation is God's grace alone, the evidence of our salvation is our obedience to God. The story of how Joseph's brothers and father reacted to Joseph's forgiveness illustrates two ways God's grace can change our lives.

I. The Brothers: A Change in Attitude (Genesis 45:16-28)

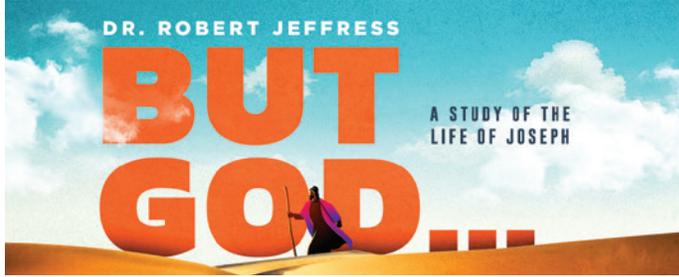
Genesis 45:16 "Now when the news was heard in Pharaoh's house that Joseph's brothers had come, it pleased Pharaoh and his servants."

Genesis 45:17-20 ¹⁷ "Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, 'Say to your brothers, Do this: load your beasts and go to the land of Canaan, ¹⁸ and take your father and your households and come to me, and I will give you the best of the land of Egypt and you will eat the fat of the land.' ¹⁹ Now you are ordered, 'Do this: take wagons from the land of Egypt for your little ones and for your wives, and bring your father and come. ²⁰ Do not concern yourselves with your goods, for the best of all the land of Egypt is yours.'"

Genesis 45:24 "So he sent his brothers away, and as they departed, he said to them, 'Do not quarrel on the journey.'"

James 2:14, 17 ¹⁴ "What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁷ Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself."

Ephesians 2:8-10 ⁸ "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them."



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II. **Jacob: A Change in Latitude** (Genesis 45:26-46:30)

Genesis 45:26 "They told him, saying, 'Joseph is still alive, and indeed he is ruler over all the land of Egypt.' But he was stunned, for he did not believe them."

Genesis 45:28 "Then Israel said, 'It is enough; my son Joseph is still alive. I will go and see him before I die.'"

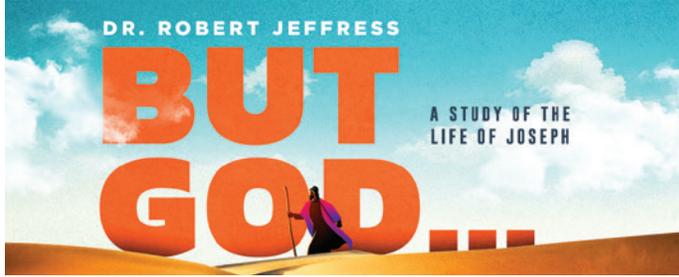
Genesis 46:3-4 ³ "He said, 'I am God, the God of your father; do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make you a great nation there. ⁴ I will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also surely bring you up again; and Joseph will close your eyes.'"

A. **Difficulty** (Genesis 45:18)

Genesis 45:18 "And take your father and your households and come to me, and I will give you the best of the land of Egypt and you will eat the fat of the land."

B. **Desire** (Genesis 45:28)

Genesis 45:28 "Then Israel said, 'It is enough; my son Joseph is still alive. I will go and see him before I die.'"



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C. **Direction** (Genesis 46:3-4)

Genesis 46:3-4 ³ “He said, ‘I am God, the God of your father; do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make you a great nation there. ⁴ I will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also surely bring you up again; and Joseph will close your eyes.’”

Genesis 46:30 “Then Israel said to Joseph, ‘Now let me die, since I have seen your face, that you are still alive.’”

Proverbs 3:5-6 ⁵ “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding, ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.”

D. **Delight** (Genesis 46:28-30)

Genesis 46:5-7 ⁵ “Then Jacob arose from Beersheba; and the sons of Israel carried their father Jacob and their little ones and their wives in the wagons which Pharaoh had sent to carry him. ⁶ They took their livestock and their property, which they had acquired in the land of Canaan, and came to Egypt, Jacob and all his descendants with him: ⁷ his sons and his grandsons with him, his daughters and his granddaughters, and all his descendants he brought with him to Egypt.”

Genesis 46:28-30 ²⁸ “Now he sent Judah before him to Joseph, to point out the way before him to Goshen; and they came into the land of Goshen. ²⁹ Joseph prepared his chariot and went up to Goshen to meet his father Israel; as soon as he appeared before him, he fell on his neck and wept on his neck a long time. ³⁰ Then Israel said to Joseph, ‘Now let me die, since I have seen your face, that you are still alive.’”

Conclusion