

THE STORY OF
JOSEPH

SEEING THE BIGGER PICTURE

JACOB DIES & JOSEPH PROMISES

CHAPTER 49-50:14

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶ So they **sent a message** to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you."' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the **God of your father.**" Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ His brothers also came and **fell down before him** and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "**Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹ So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.**" Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

GENESIS 50:15-21

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If we learn anything positive about the brothers here, it is that they now clearly recognize “the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.” (50:17).

TREMPER LONGMAN III

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GENESIS 50:15-21

JOSEPH'S TRIALS:

- Brothers want to kill him
- Brothers decide to sell him as a slave
- Slave master's wife frames him for crimes he does not commit
- He is thrown in prison
- He is left and forgotten about in prison for years before release



INTERPRETING THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.”

— Joseph

*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

*³⁷ No, in all these things **we are more than conquerors through him who loved us**. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

// Romans 8:37-39

Peter's Sermon at Pentecost

“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—²³ **this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.**²⁴ God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.”

ACTS 2:22-24

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Those who nailed Jesus to the cross are not exonerated for their act. They are guilty, as were Joseph's brothers and any who harm us. However, knowing that even those evil actions **do not hinder God working his purposes through us** both comforts us in our pain and keeps us from working out our revenge on those who hurt us.

TREMPER LONGMAN III



LIVE THE TEXT



Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, **never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God,** for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”

²⁰ To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, **but overcome evil with good.**

ROMANS 12:17-20



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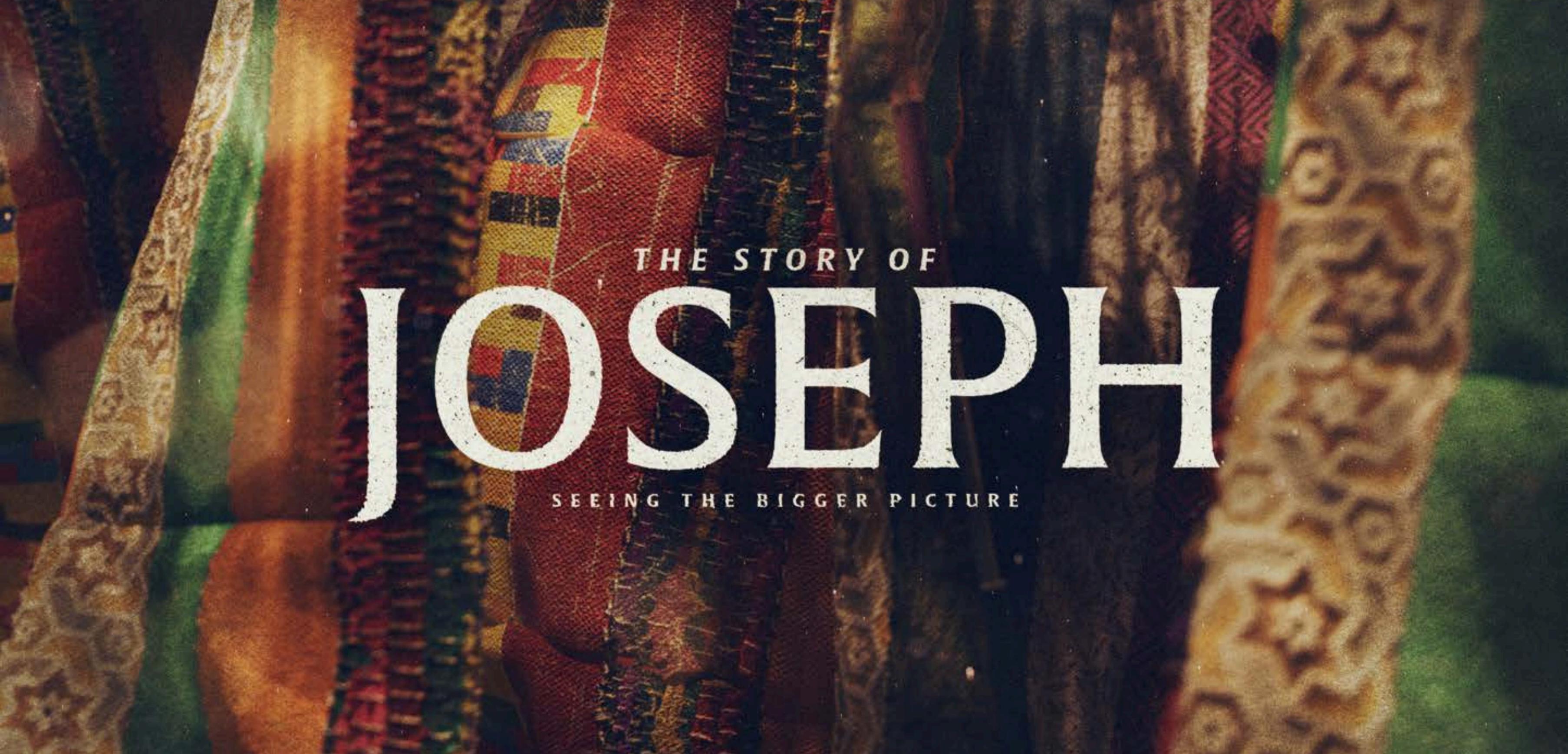
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“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good”

JOSEPH | GENESIS 50:20A



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