

“There are few more dramatic moments than this in all history.”
—James Boice

“It is likely that the Hebrew word asks not so much whether he is above ground or below ground, heart beating or not. It is the equivalent of our question, ‘Is my father well?’ He wants to know on a personal level how his father is doing.” —Sidney Greidanus

“This is the theological heart of Joseph’s forgiveness.”—Bruce Waltke

“…they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him
—Genesis 37:4

“Then they said to one another, ‘In truth we are guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the distress of his soul, when he begged us and we did not listen. That is why this distress has come upon us. And Reuben answered them, ‘Did I not tell you not to sin against the boy? But you did not listen.” —Genesis 42:21-22

“What sustains us, when surrounded by hatred, is not our ability to explain God’s providence, but the unshakable fact of God’s providence. And that fact will sustain us to the degree that we believe

that nothing-absolutely nothing-can happen to us but 'by God's fatherly hand.' This is why stories of God's providence abound in Scripture, but explanations of the mystery of how it works do not. Our faith needs the certainty of the fact, not the fathoming of the mystery."
—John Piper

"Remember this, had any other condition been better for you than the one in which you are divine love would have put you there."
—Charles Spurgeon

"It may well be that in the deliverance of his brothers and his father Joseph perceives that far more is at stake than the mere physical survival of twelve human beings. What really survives is the plan of redemption announced first to his great grandfather. At least the reader is cognizant of that fact." —Victor Hamilton