

J O S E P H

EXPOSED HEARTS

Time of Testing

- ❖ Noon meal... day went well
- ❖ Ch. 44 - “Then” - food, money returned again
 - ❖ and my silver cup! Youngest targeted
 - ❖ Abruptly “shown the door” 3
 - ❖ As soon as it was light
 - ❖ Get to cities edge – pursuit!

Evil for Good

- ❖ House steward sent... “done wrong”
- ❖ Hasty vow: death/slavery – not demanded
- ❖ “According to your words” but only guilty one
 - ❖ Searched eldest to youngest
 - ❖ Benjamin’s sack brings despair, torn clothes
 - ❖ All return

Judah and his brothers

- ❖ Time of reform and restoration of Judah
- ❖ 15 – “What is this deed you have done?”
 - ❖ God has found out the iniquity – 1st time godly line
 - ❖ God, not you, has done this!
 - ❖ “your servants...my lord’s slaves” unity
- ❖ Joseph denies judging all for one – “go up to your father in peace”

A private word

- ❖ You asked about our family, we told you
- ❖ Focus of father on the youngest
- ❖ “his life is bound up in the lad’s life” (30)
- ❖ I became the surety, guarantee (32)
- ❖ I will stay in place of the lad
- ❖ For the sake of my father...family – evil! (34)

The Heart

- ❖ Do we shed God's tears? Pray His prayers?
Do we Dream His Dreams for His people?
- ❖ Moses – Ex 32:11-14; 30-35; 33:12-16
- ❖ Daniel 9 (see 18ff)
- ❖ Ezra 9 (see 6ff)
- ❖ Paul – Rom 9:1-5
- ❖ Jesus – John 17

Joseph Revealed - Ch 45

- ❖ Judah's revelation and change is enough
 - ❖ Joseph sees the changes God has made
 - ❖ Do we?
 - ❖ Compassion and forgiveness with love
- ❖ Joseph clears the room of Egyptians
- ❖ Loud weeping... household of Pharaoh!

Up Close and Personal

- ❖ I am Joseph!
- ❖ Is my father still alive??? 43:7,27
- ❖ Brothers are speechless, dismayed
 - ❖ What thoughts they must be thinking!
- ❖ “Please come closer to me.”
 - ❖ This is the last thing they would have expected!
 - ❖ Invitation to intimacy...

First Things

- ❖ I am your brother Joseph whom you sold...
- ❖ No changing the truth, no excuses...
- ❖ Facing the hurt with new eyes...
- ❖ Do not be grieved...
- ❖ Do not be angry with yourselves...
- ❖ You sold me here... ?!

It was all GOD!

- ❖ God sent me to preserve life (5)
- ❖ God sent me before you to preserve (7)
- ❖ God made me father, lord, ruler (8)
- ❖ God made me lord of all Egypt (9)
- ❖ It all made sense, now!
- ❖ Famine still has 5 years to go...(6)

Go, get dad!

- ❖ Go to my father... quickly!!!
- ❖ You will live here:
 - ❖ Food, provision, safety, “be near me” (10)
 - ❖ Tell my father and bring him here!
- ❖ Affection and reconciliation
 - ❖ Benjamin first (14)
 - ❖ Then all the brothers (15)

Forgive

- ❖ Because God forgave us! Mt 6:12-15;
 - ❖ Eph 4:32; Col 3:13
- ❖ To have our prayers heard - Mk 11:25,26
- ❖ To be like Father – Lk 6:36, 37
- ❖ To properly reflect the Kingdom:
 - ❖ Mt 5:44; Lk 6:27; Rom 12:20; 1Th 5:15
- ❖ Affection/love is our greatest power
 - ❖ Jn 13:34, 35; 1Jn 2:10-11; 4:19-21