

## Introduction

Joseph was first rejected by his own kinsmen. Afterwards he was exalted to Pharaoh's right hand and became a savior to the world, and especially to the children of Israel. The second time his brothers saw him he was revealed to them.

When you simplify the story, you can see the more significant meaning! It is an illustration for us of God's past, present, and prophetic dealings with the nation of Israel:

^ Like Joseph, Jesus was first rejected by *His* own kinsmen:  
John 1:11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

%o Like Joseph, Jesus was afterwards raised to God's right hand and has become Savior to the world, and especially to the children of Israel:

Acts 5:31 Him God has exalted to His right hand *to be* Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

^ Like Joseph, it will be at His Second Coming that all Israel will see Jesus revealed and be saved!

Romans 11:26 And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob..."

Joseph is a type of Jesus revealing Himself to Israel as their Savior. Rejected the first time, He was raised and will return to reveal Himself to them.

Joseph is also a type of Jesus revealing Himself to *you* as *your* Savior. While the nation of Israel dwells in unbelief, the Gospel is being preached to all nations, tribes, tongues, and kindred's - just as prophesied:

{ Acts 28:28 "Therefore let it be known to you that the salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles, and they will hear it!"

{ Romans 11:25 ...blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.

#1 Joseph Is A Type Of Jesus Revealing  
Himself To Israel As Their Savior

In verse seven you read, "...God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth..." The margin of my Bible translates the word "posterity" as *remnant*; "...God sent me before you to preserve a *remnant* for you in the earth..." In our text you see that the remnant was reserved and that it was revived.

^ The Remnant of Israel...

This is an important concept. Time and again the Old Testament mentions a *remnant* in Israel's past history *and* in Israel's prophetic history.

For example, even as Elijah complained to the Lord that he alone was left of the believers in Israel, the Lord answered and said there was a remnant:

1 Kings 19:18 "Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.

The Old Testament mentions the remnant in Israel's prophetic history:

Micah 2:12-13 "I will surely assemble all of you, O Jacob, I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together like sheep of the fold, Like a flock in the midst of their pasture; They shall make a loud noise because of *so many* people. The one who breaks open will come up before them; They will break out, Pass through the gate, And go out by it; Their king will pass before them, With the LORD at their head."

This Scripture, and many others, speak of a future remnant regathered in the promised land at the time of Jesus Christ's return to earth.

‰ The Remnant Reserved...

Joseph reserved the remnant during a seven year time of great trouble on the earth. Just so, it is through the seven year Great Tribulation that Jesus will reserve a remnant in Israel:

Daniel 12:1 At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands *watch* over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, *Even* to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered...

^ Jesus will also *revive* the remnant...

In Genesis 45:26-27 you read,

Genesis 45:26 ...And Jacob's heart stood still, because he did not believe them.  
Genesis 45:27 But when they told him all the words which Joseph had said to them, and when he saw the carts which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived.

It was as if Jacob was dead from unbelief, but was revived when he believed on Joseph! It is a picture of the spiritual life Jesus will give to the nation of Israel at His return:

Zechariah 12:10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for *his* only *son*, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

Israel will be *regathered*...A remnant will be *reserved* through the Great Tribulation...The remnant will be *revived* at the Second Coming of Jesus.

The prophet Ezekiel gives us another look at all of this in Ezekiel 37:1-12, the famous vision of the Valley of Dry Bones:

Ezekiel 37:1 The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it *was* full of bones.

Ezekiel 37:2 Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, *there were* very many in the open valley; and indeed *they were* very dry.

Ezekiel 37:3 And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" So I answered, "O Lord GOD, You know."

Ezekiel 37:4 Again He said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!'"

Ezekiel 37:5 "Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live.

Ezekiel 37:6 "I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I *am* the LORD." "

Ezekiel 37:7 So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone.

Ezekiel 37:8 Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but *there was* no breath in them.

Ezekiel 37:9 Also He said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, "Thus says the Lord GOD: "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." "

Ezekiel 37:10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Ezekiel 37:11 Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!'"

Ezekiel 37:12 "Therefore prophesy and say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

God showed Ezekiel a vision of a valley full of dry bones, and then God made the dry bones come to life again. The dry bones represent the nation of Israel regathered in the promised land. In 37:8 you read,

...as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but *there was* no breath in them.

This has been Israel's condition from her regathering in 1948 until the present time. There is no spiritual life in them! But Ezekiel anticipates the day when the bones would live again:

Ezekiel 37:10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.

It is through the Great Tribulation that God will reserve a remnant. Then, at His Second Coming, Jesus will revive the remnant and Israel's restoration will be complete.

## Himself To You As Your Savior

Israel's restoration commenced in 1948; it continues through the Great Tribulation, and it will culminate at the return of Jesus. In a very special way, Jesus is the Savior of Israel.

In the meanwhile the Gospel is being preached to all men everywhere. The Apostle Paul tells us in 1 Timothy 4:10 that Jesus "is *the* Savior of all men, especially of those who believe." This is also illustrated for you in Genesis Forty five. Joseph had become, in a sense, the savior of all men, but especially of those who believed!

We don't ever want to press types and illustrations too far. Nevertheless, we can identify three ways in which Joseph is a type of Jesus revealing Himself to you: The men were drawn to him, they made a decision, and they became disciples.

^ They were drawn to Joseph...

As we pick up the story, Joseph had sent his servant after them and they had returned.

Genesis 45:1 Then Joseph could not restrain himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Make everyone go out from me!" So no one stood with him while Joseph made himself known to his brothers.

Genesis 45:2 And he wept aloud, and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard *it*.

Genesis 45:3 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I *am* Joseph; does my father still live?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed in his presence.

Through circumstances, conscience, and conviction of sin, these men were drawn into the presence of Joseph. The circumstances of the famine sent them to Egypt; Egypt pricked their conscience; they were brought under conviction. Joseph's servant went after them and they came to Joseph.

Through circumstances, conscience, and conviction of sin, *you* were drawn to Jesus Christ...

Joseph sent a servant after these men. Jesus sent Someone after you, too. You were drawn to Jesus by God the Holy Spirit.

‰ Joseph's brothers made a decision...

Genesis 45:4 And Joseph said to his brothers, "Please come near to me." So they came near. Then he said: "I *am* Joseph your brother, whom you sold into Egypt.

Joseph said "Come near"; they came near. "Come" is the great word of invitation to eternal life:

Isaiah 55:1 "Ho! Everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters; And you who have no money, Come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.

Isaiah 55:3 Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; And I will make an everlasting covenant with you...

Matthew 11:28 "Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Matthew 11:30 "For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light."

John 7:37 On the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

Revelation 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

The invitation to "come" in these verses is to "everyone," "all," "anyone," and "whoever desires." As we quoted earlier, Jesus "is the Savior of all men, especially those who believe."

You are drawn to Jesus and asked to "come." You are held responsible for your decision! While Jesus is the Savior of "all men," not everyone will be saved. Only those who decide to "come" by believing on Him by grace through faith have eternal life.

^ Joseph's brothers became disciples...

Joseph promised to provide for their every need. He initiated and enjoyed intimate fellowship with them. His relationship with them was a source of great joy in and help from the palace. He commissioned them to tell Jacob of his glory. He exhorted them to persevere along their way.

These same things characterize *you* as a disciple of Jesus! Having been drawn to Him, having decided to come to Him, you are His disciple.

{ Like Joseph and his brothers, Jesus will provide for your every need.

Genesis 45:5 "But now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life.

Genesis 45:6 "For these two years the famine *has been* in the land, and *there are* still five years in which *there will be* neither plowing nor harvesting.

Genesis 45:7 "And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

Genesis 45:8 "So now *it was* not you *who* sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

Genesis 45:9 "Hurry and go up to my father, and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph: "God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not tarry.

Genesis 45:10 "You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near to me, you and your children, your children's children, your flocks and your herds, and all that you have.

Genesis 45:11 "There I will provide for you, lest you and your household, and all that you have, come to poverty; for *there are* still five years of famine."

Compare Ephesians 1:3, "Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,"

{ Like Joseph and his brothers, Jesus initiates and enjoys intimate fellowship with you.

Genesis 45:12 "And behold, your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that *it is* my mouth that speaks to you.

Genesis 45:13 "So you shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that you have seen; and you shall hurry and bring my father down here."

Genesis 45:14 Then he fell on his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept on his neck.

Genesis 45:15 Moreover he kissed all his brothers and wept over them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

{ Like Joseph and his brothers, your relationship with Jesus is a source of great joy in and help from the palace.

Genesis 45:16 Now the report of it was heard in Pharaoh's house, saying, "Joseph's brothers have come." So it pleased Pharaoh and his servants well.

Genesis 45:17 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Say to your brothers, 'Do this: Load your animals and depart; go to the land of Canaan.

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

Genesis 45:19 'Now you are commanded; do this: Take carts out of the land of Egypt for your little ones and your wives; bring your father and come.

Genesis 45:20 'Also do not be concerned about your goods, for the best of all the land of Egypt *is* yours.'"

Genesis 45:21 Then the sons of Israel did so; and Joseph gave them carts, according to the command of Pharaoh, and he gave them provisions for the journey.

Genesis 45:22 He gave to all of them, to each man, changes of garments; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred *pieces* of silver and five changes of garments.

Genesis 45:23 And he sent to his father these *things*: ten donkeys loaded with the good things of Egypt, and ten female donkeys loaded with grain, bread, and food for his father for the journey.

Compare Luke 15:10, "**Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.**"

Compare Hebrews 1:14, " Are they [angels] not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?"

{ Like Joseph and his brothers, you are commissioned to tell others of His glory.

Genesis 45:9 "Hurry and go up to my father, and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph: "God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not tarry."

Genesis 45:17 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Say to your brothers, 'Do this: Load your animals and depart; go to the land of Canaan.

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

Genesis 45:19 'Now you are commanded; do this: Take carts out of the land of Egypt for your little ones and your wives; bring your father and come.

Genesis 45:20 'Also do not be concerned about your goods, for the best of all the land of Egypt is yours.'"

{ Like Joseph and his brothers, you are exhorted to persevere along the way.

Genesis 45:24 So he sent his brothers away, and they departed; and he said to them, "See that you do not become troubled along the way."

### Conclusion

We live in exciting times! Israel has been regathered as a nation in her land. The remnant will be reserved through the Great Tribulation and will be revived at the return of Jesus.

Our part is to "not become troubled along the way." As disciples, we are to focus wholeheartedly on sharing the glory of our Lord with others who He is drawing to Himself and calling to a decision.