

Genesis 46:28-31

28 Now Jacob sent Judah ahead of him to Joseph to get directions to Goshen. When they arrived in the region of Goshen, 29 Joseph had his chariot made ready and went to Goshen to meet his father Israel. As soon as Joseph appeared before him, he threw his arms around his father and wept for a long time. 30 Israel said to Joseph, "Now I am ready to die, since I have seen for myself that you are still alive." 31 Then Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's household, "I will go up

Genesis 50:15-26

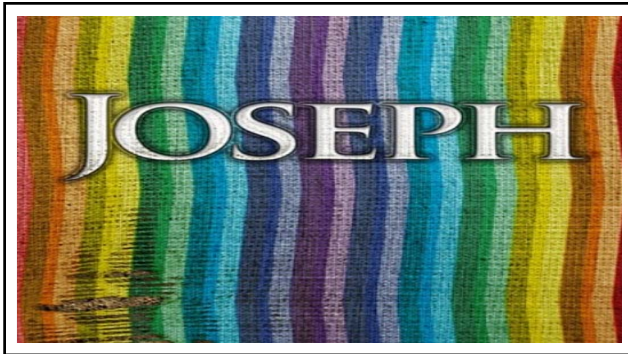
15 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" 16 So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: 17 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

Genesis 50:15-26

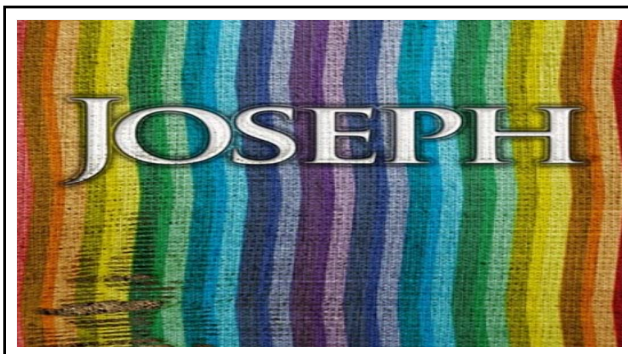
18 His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said. 19 But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? 20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. 21 So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them. 22 Joseph stayed in Egypt, along with all his father's family. He lived a hundred and ten years

Genesis 50:15-26

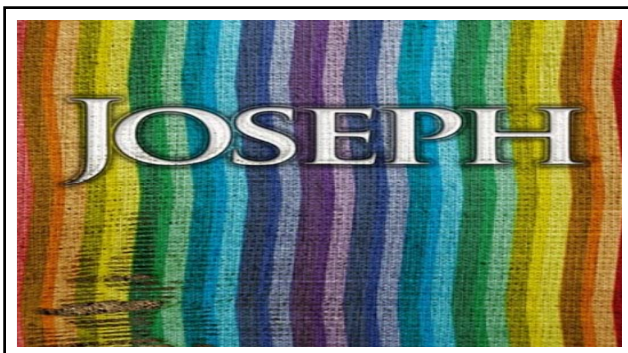
23 and saw the third generation of Ephraim's children. Also the children of Makir son of Manasseh were placed at birth on Joseph's knees. 24 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die. But God will surely come to your aid and take you up out of this land to the land he promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." 25 And Joseph made the sons of Israel swear an oath and said, "God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up from this place." 26 So Joseph died at the age of a hundred and ten. And after they embalmed him, he was placed in a coffin in Egypt.



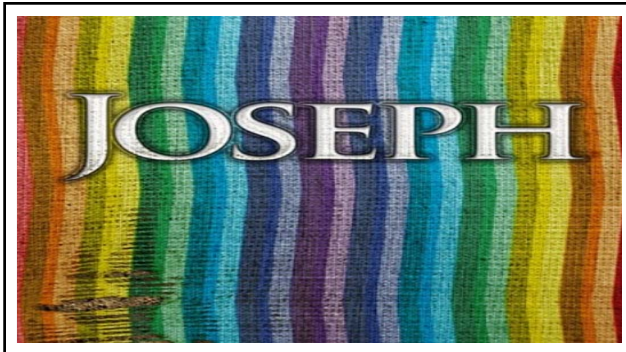
80% OF "2,100 MEN STUDIED" EXPERIENCED A "MID-LIFE CRISIS" BETWEEN THE AGES OF 34-42!



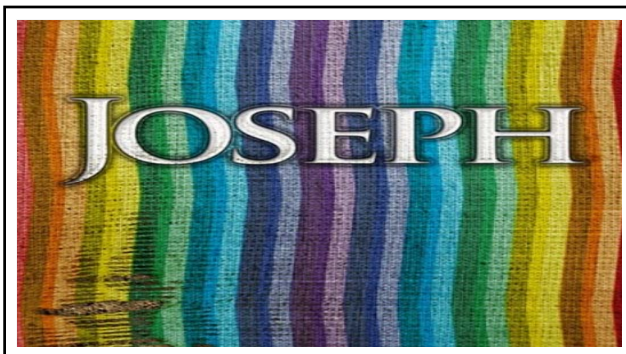
The Bible says, "We're to be FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH, and God will give us a "CROWN OF LIFE!"



1.) Joseph was "FAITHFUL TO GOD" by being "FAITHFUL TO HIS FAMILY".



Genesis 46:28,
"Now Jacob sent Judah ahead of him to Joseph to get directions to Goshen. When they arrived in the region of Goshen, Joseph had his chariot made ready and went to Goshen to meet his father, Israel. As soon as Joseph appeared before him, he threw his arms around his father and wept a long time! Jacob said to Joseph, 'now I'm ready to die, since I have seen for myself that you are still alive!'"



Genesis 43:32b,
"Egyptians could not eat with Hebrews, for that is detestable to Egyptians!"

Genesis 46:34b,
"All shepherds are detestable to Egyptians!"

**JACOB WAS A
"WHINEY" OLD MAN:**

Genesis 37:35,

“He refused to be comforted. I’ll go down to the grave to my son.”

Genesis 42:38,

“No, my son will not go down with you! If harm comes to him on the journey you are taking, you will bring my gray head down to the grave in sorrow.”

Genesis 45:28,

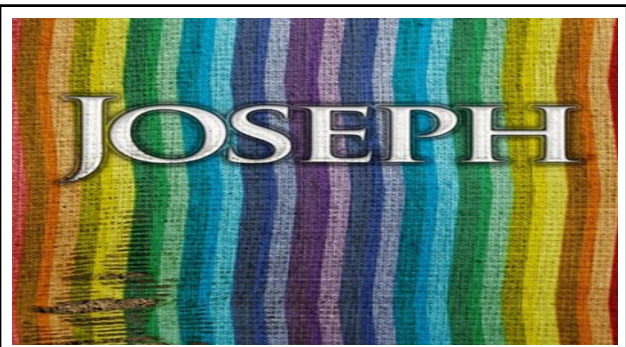
“And Jacob said, ‘I’m convinced my son Joseph is still alive. I will go see him before I die.’”

Genesis 46:30,

“Now I am ready to die, since I have seen for myself that you are really alive.”

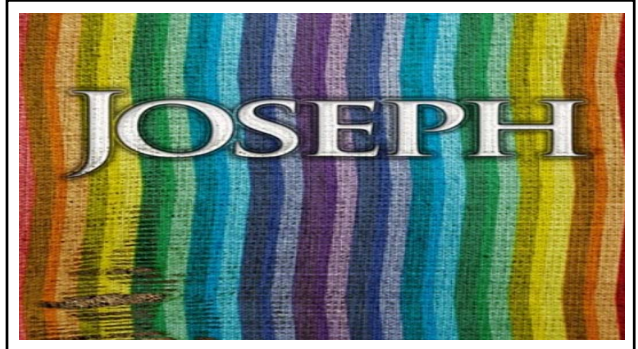
Genesis 48:21,

“I am about to die!”

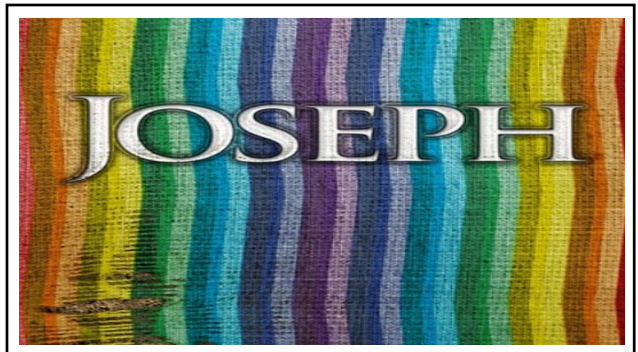


Genesis 46:29,

“Joseph had his chariot made ready and went out to meet his father!”



You may have an “IMPORTANT POSITION”, but you never get “TOO IMPORTANT” to “HONOR YOUR PARENTS”!



Genesis 47:4,

“Pharaoh asked the brothers, ‘what is your occupation?’ ‘Your servants are shepherds’, they replied to Pharaoh, ‘just as our fathers were.’”

Genesis 47:7a,

“Then Joseph brought his father Jacob in and presented him before Pharaoh.”

Genesis 47:7b,

"After Jacob blessed Pharaoh, Pharaoh asked him, 'how old are you?' And Jacob said to Pharaoh, 'the years of my pilgrimage are a hundred and thirty. My years have been few and difficult, and they do not equal the years of the pilgrimage of my fathers.'"

Genesis 47:10,

"Then Jacob blessed Pharaoh and went out from his presence."

Genesis 47:11, "So Joseph settled his father and his brothers in Egypt and gave them property in the best part of the land, the district of Rameses, as Pharaoh directed. Joseph also provided his father and his brothers and all his father's household with food, according to the number of their children."

Genesis 48:1-2,

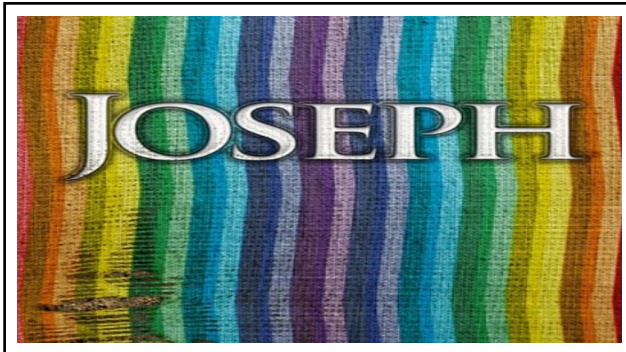
"Some time later Joseph was told, 'your father is ill'. So he took his two sons Manasseh and Ephraim along with him. When Jacob was told, 'your son Joseph has come to you', he rallied his strength and sat up in bed."

Genesis 49:33,

"When Jacob had finished giving instructions to his sons, he drew his feet up into the bed, breathed his last and was gathered to his people."

Genesis 50:1,

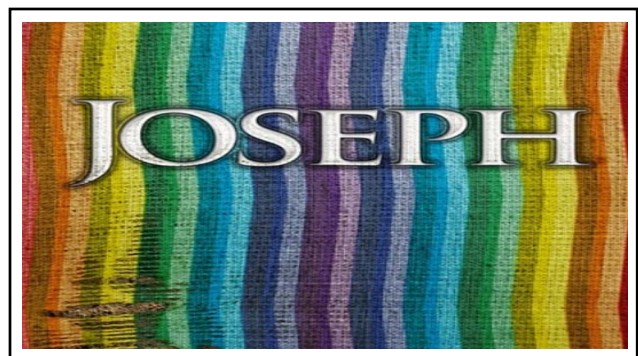
"Joseph threw himself upon his father and wept over him and kissed him."



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- 1.) Joseph was "FAITHFUL TO GOD" by being "FAITHFUL TO HIS FAMILY".
 - 2.) Joseph "CONTINUED TO WORK DILIGENTLY", even though he had "ACHIEVED SUCCESS"

"I DREAD SUCCESS! To have SUCCEEDED is to have FINISHED ONE'S BUSINESS on earth. I like a state of CONTINUAL BECOMING, with a GOAL in FRONT, and not BEHIND."

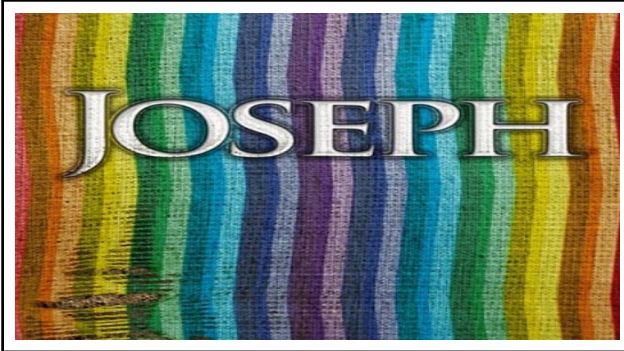
George Bernard Shaw, Irish Playwright



GOD ISN'T FINISHED WITH US WHEN WE REACH 45-55-65-75 YEARS OF AGE!

"If HARD WORK is the "KEY" to SUCCESS, most people would rather PICK THE LOCK!"

Claude McDonald, British Soldier & Writer



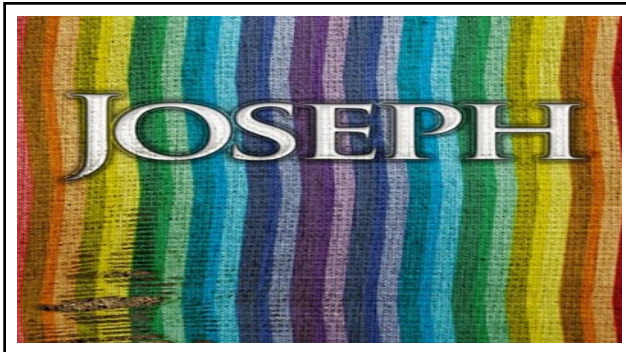
Genesis 47:13-14, "There was no food in the whole region because the famine was severe, both Egypt and Canaan wasted away because of the famine. Joseph collected all the money that was to be found in Egypt and Canaan in payment for the grain they were buying and he brought it to Pharaoh palace."

Genesis 47:15, "When the money of the people of Egypt and Canaan was gone, all Egypt came to Joseph and said, 'give us food. Why should we die before your eyes? Our money is used up'. 'Then bring your livestock', said Joseph. 'I will sell you food in exchange for your livestock, since your money is gone.'"

Genesis 47:20,
"So Joseph bought all the land in Egypt for Pharaoh. The Egyptians, one and all, sold their fields because the famine was too severe for them. The land became Pharaoh's, and Joseph reduced the people to servitude."

Genesis 47:23, "Joseph said to the people, 'Now that I have bought you and your land, today, for Pharaoh, here is seed for you so you can plant the ground. But when the crop comes in, give a fifth of it to Pharaoh. The other four-fifths you may keep as seed for the fields and as food for yourselves

and your household and your children.' 'You have saved our lives' they said. 'May we find favor in the eyes of our Lord; We will be in bondage to Pharaoh.' So, Joseph established it as a law concerning land in Egypt; that a fifth of the produce belongs to Pharaoh."

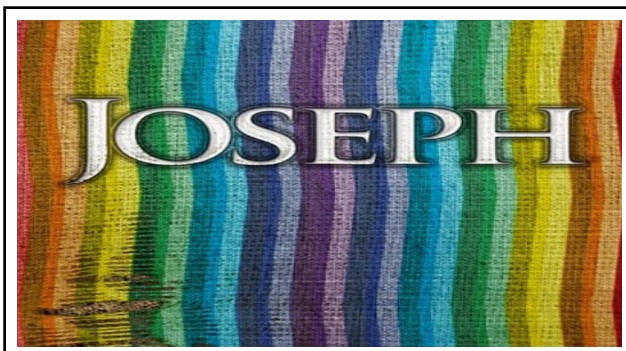


2 Thessalonians 3:10,

**"If a man will not work,
neither let him eat."**

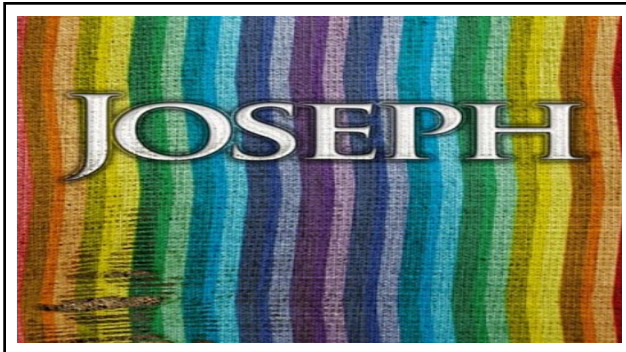
**JOSEPH NEVER QUIT;
HE KEPT RIGHT ON
SERVING AND WORKING
HARD!**

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- 1.) Joseph was "**FAITHFUL TO GOD**" by being "**FAITHFUL TO HIS FAMILY**".
 - 2.) Joseph "**CONTINUED TO WORK DILIGENTLY**", even though he had "**ACHIEVED SUCCESS**"
 - 3.) Joseph "**MAINTAINED HIS FAITH IN GOD**" even though he **LIVED** all his "**ADULT YEARS**" in a "**PAGAN ENVIRONMENT**"



Genesis 50:15,

"When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, 'What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?'"



Genesis 50:16,

"So they sent word to Joseph saying, 'Your father left these instructions before he died: This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father."

Genesis 50:17b,

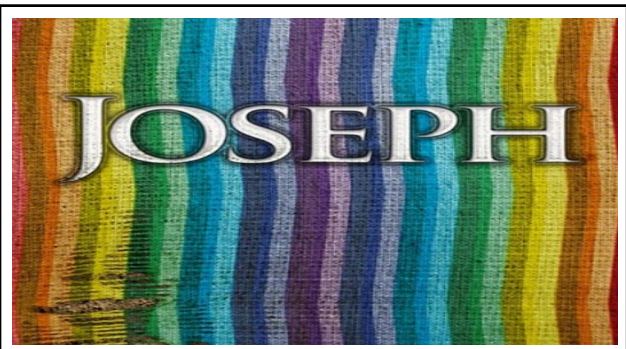
"When their message came to him, Joseph wept!"

Genesis 50:20,

"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children. And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them."

1 John 1:9,

"If we confess our sin, He will be faithful and just to forgive us, and cleanse us of all unrighteousness,"



You see, God is either "THE GOD OF PERFECT GRACE", or He is "NOT GOD!" Grace "FORGETS", period! He Who is "PERFECT LOVE", cannot "HOLD GRUDGES". I believe in His "LOVING FORGETFULNESS!!" And, I believe He has a "GRACIOUSLY FORGETFUL MEMORY!!"

Max Lucado, Christian Pastor & Author

Psalms 103: 12,

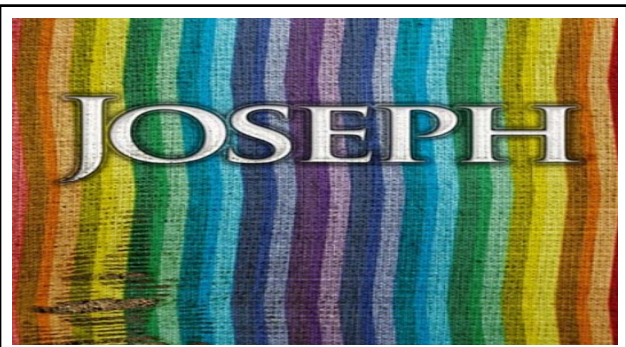
"As far as east is removed from west, so far have I have removed your transgressions from me."

Genesis 50:24, "Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am about to die. But God will surely come to your aid and take you up out of this land to the land He promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob'. And Joseph made the sons of Israel swear an oath and said, 'God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up from this place.'"

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- When SOLD into SLAVERY, "God was with him...."
 - When FALSELY ACCUSED and IMPRISONED, "God was with him..."
 - When INTERPRETING DREAMS before Pharaoh, "God was with him.."
 - When DISTRIBUTING GRAIN during famine "God was with him..."

Genesis 50:26,

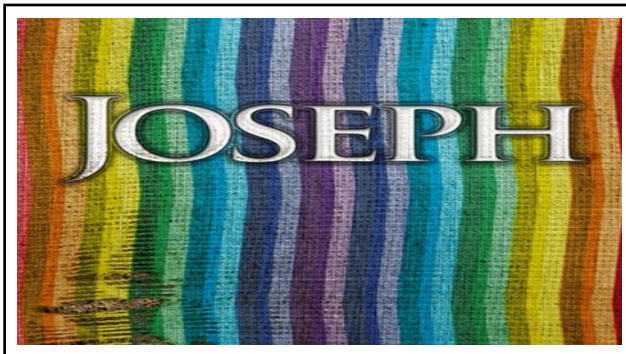
"So Joseph died at the age of 110. And after they embalmed him, he was placed in a coffin in Egypt."



2 Corinthians 4:16-5:1,

“Therefore, do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen.”

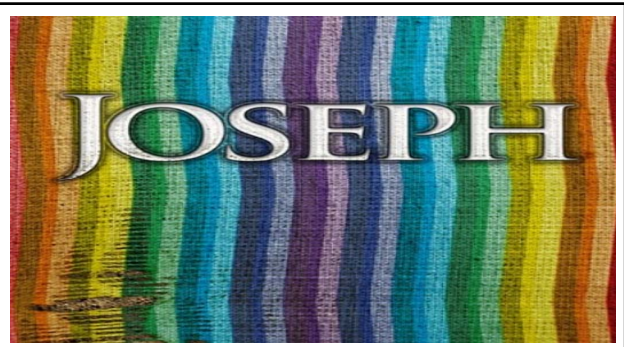
For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in Heaven, not built by human hands.”



- When he was “ABUSED” he did not “RETALIATE”
- When he was “TEMPTED” he did not “YIELD”
- When he “PROSPERED” he did not “FUMBLE”
- When he “AGED” he did not “COAST”

Philippians 2: 8,

“HE WAS FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH,
EVEN DEATH ON A CROSS.”



Revelation 2:10,

“HE WHO REMAINS FAITHFUL UNTIL DEATH; TO HIM, I WILL GIVE THE CROWN OF LIFE!”

