



Outline – Friday Bible Study, July 13, 2018

The Book of Genesis: The Joseph Narrative

(Genesis 45:15–28) “Let a Brother Wonder (God sent me Down Under)”

“The Bible is a book.” A unified covenant document with one message about one person:

ORDO SALUTIS: O _____ OF SALVATION

HISTORIA SALUTIS: H _____ OF SALVATION

PACTUM SALUTIS: C _____ OF SALVATION



I. Face to Face and Finally . . . Forgiven (45:1–15 cp. 50:19*)

[ORDO]

1. “Joseph wept” (Gen 45:2 cf. John 11:35; Matt 23:37)
2. “Please, come closer . . . do not be grieved or angry” (45:4)
3. “. . . because *God* sent me . . . to preserve life” (45:5)

II. The Sacrifice of Joseph and the Problem of Evil (45:8 cp. 50:20*)

[PACTUM]

1. “Therefore... it wasn’t you who sent me... but God” [First Causes] (45:7–8 cp. Gal 2:20*)
 - a. “*You* _____ me . . .” (45:5a) [An Evil Forgiven]
 - b. “*God* _____ me . . .” (45:7–8) [A Good to be Thankful for]
2. Implication: *Not* an evil to be thankful for; *Not* a good to be thankless for!
3. The Problem of Evil: How can Evil remain within the creation of a Good and Holy God?
4. Warning: God is not accountable for providing us with all the answers (Job 13:3; 38:1–4)
 - a. Consider individual responsibility: “*Sins of the Fathers*” (Ezek 18:20)
 - b. Consider the role of causality: “*Sins of the Sons*” (Psa 51:5, Isa 48:8; Prov 22:6)

5. The Evil is _____ and the Good is _____ [The Cross Converter] (Rom 8:28–39)
6. The Paradox of God’s Sovereignty and Human Responsibility (Gen 50:20)
7. The Gospel unflinchingly proclaims God’s Control and our Culpability (Acts 2:23)
 - a. On the one hand, nothing could continue to exist without his permission (Col 1:17)
 - b. On the other, nothing occurs by a “bare permission” (Eph 1:11 cp. 1 John 1:5)
 - c. God commands all to do good—and abstain from evil (Js 1:13; Ps 119:137)
 - d. There is a distinction between his [real] command and our [real] will (James 1:14)
8. The Cross mandates total Human Responsibility [for curses] (Exo 20; Ezek 18:20)
 - a. What sort of universe would this be if there were no curse for sin?
9. The Cross mandates absolute Divine Sovereignty [for blessings] (Acts 2:23; Rom 8:28*)
 - a. If this does not inspire holy fear . . . (2 Tim 2:20)
10. The Absolute Sovereignty of the Creator presents the Creature with a Dilemma
 - b. Can we blame God? (Rom 9:19–24) _____
 - c. Can we shirk our responsibility? (Prov 28:13) _____
11. What *can* we possibly do then? (Isa 64:6–9 cp. Prov 28:13; 1 John 1:8–9; Psa 50:15*)
 - a. If all these things are so, how can *we* possibly be blessed? Answer: _____
12. If we call, doesn’t that simply mean he first called us? (Rom 8:28–29, 10:13*; 1 Jn 4:19)
 - a. Don’t let it blow your mind (Matt 11:28 cp. Eph 1:4; 2:8)
 - b. Do let it fill your heart (Eph 1:3–6)

III. Operation Homecoming: Part I (45:15–28)

[ORDO]

1. Bring the Whole Family! [The Dream] (Gen 45:18–19 cp. 37:9–10)
2. New Life means letting go of the Old (45:20)
3. Walking in Freedom [Same Test—Different Heart] (45:22–24; Gal 4:3–7; 1 Cor 13:11)
4. The Natural Man: Jacob doubting some good news like Thomas (45:26–27a)
5. Faith R_____; Gospel Amnesia: Round Two (45:26–27a cp. Gen 39:11*; Luke 2:19)
6. The New Man: Israel believes that the favored son is Alive (45:27b–28; John 20:24–29)