

B. Some Practical Instruction

1. Consider God's Faithfulness **not** your faithlessness
2. Consider the Biblical Stories this Way
3. Consider Jesus in Particular
4. Consider the Cross Most of All
5. Aim at Worship...that leads to service **not** service that leads to salvation

Philippians 1:27

...let your manner of life be *worthy of the gospel* of Christ...

6. Be obsessed with God/Jesus not yourself

Key Idea

God takes sinners just like us and molds us into the people of faith and joy he intends us to be!

Genesis 47:29-50:26

God Does Whatever it Takes to Bring Us to Faith

July 25, 2010

Sermon Outline

Notes

I. Introduction

"God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him." – **John Piper**

- A. German Carpenter
- C. God has Revealed What Lengths He will Take to Protect & Preserve His People!

Key Idea

God takes sinners just like us and molds them into people of faith. He is doing the same for us and it is worth it!

II. God Molds the Faith of the Household of Israel

- A. Jacob has been Granted Faith
 1. Bury me in Canaan
 2. Suitable Blessings/Prophecies: Jacob Finally Sees!

Genesis 48:17-19a

¹⁷ When **Joseph** saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of *Ephraim*, it displeased him, and he took his father's hand to move it from Ephraim's head to *Manasseh*'s head. ¹⁸ And Joseph said to his father, "Not this way, my father; since this one is the firstborn, put your right hand on his head." ¹⁹ But his father refused and said, "*I know, my son, I know.*"

Genesis 49:8-12

⁸ "**Judah**, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; *your father's sons shall bow down before you.* ⁹ Judah is a lion's cub; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He stooped down; he crouched as a lion and as a lioness; who dares rouse him? ¹⁰ *The scepter shall not depart from Judah*, nor *the ruler's staff* from between his

feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.¹¹ Binding his foal to the vine and his donkey's colt to the choice vine, he has washed his garments in wine and his vesture in the blood of grapes.¹² His eyes are darker than wine, and his teeth whiter than milk.

[-. Egypt Honors Israel (50:11 *mourning of Egypt*)

B. The Brothers? (Recognize their sin but still have their eyes on Joseph)

Genesis 50:15-17a

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for *all the evil that we did to him*."¹⁶ So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "*Your father gave this command* before he died,¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' **And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.**"

C. Joseph has been Granted Faith

1. God's good plan included the wicked actions of his brothers!

Genesis 50:17b, 19-21

Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ...¹⁹ But **Joseph said to them**, "Do not fear, for *am I in the place of God?*"²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.²¹ So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

2. God's promises can be trusted

Genesis 50:24-25

²⁴ And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die, but **God will visit you and bring you up out of this**

land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."²⁵ Then Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying, "**God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here.**"

Matthew 22:32 – God of the Living

"was gathered to his people"

(Gen. 25:8, 17; 35:29; **49:33**; Deut. 32:50)

III. God is Molding Our Faith

"God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him." – John Piper

A. Faith in Jesus is the Primary Lesson

1. God can be trusted to keep His word!

Romans 15:8-9

⁸ For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to *confirm the promises given to the patriarchs*,⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.

2. God will use every means necessary

1 Peter 1:6-7

⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

3. This Faith is worth it!

1 Peter 1:8-9

⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.