

When You Are Wronged

Genesis 45:5 (HCSB) And now don't be worried or angry with yourselves for selling me here, because God sent me ahead of you to preserve life.

Series: Unpacking Forgiveness #3	South Orlando Baptist Church
Topics: Reacting to Evil, God's Sovereignty	October 26, 2014
Text: Genesis 45:1-15	Dr. David Crowe

When you are wronged...

- 1) Find comfort in God's Sovereignty (vs. 1-10)
 - A. God oversees the course of human action to achieve His good and set purpose (Acts 2:23; 4:28).
 1. People sin as an act of their will, and will be held accountable for their sins.
 2. God in his wisdom allows evil to take place in our lives for our good and ultimately for His glory. Those who commit acts of evil are responsible for their actions, but God cannot be held responsible because He is ultimately working to bring about a good result in our lives. (Romans 8:28)
- 2) Forgive others of the evil done against you (vs. 11-13)
 - A. Forgiveness defined:
 1. From God to us – Colossians 2:13-14 (ESV) And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.
 2. From us towards others – When we strive against all thoughts of revenge; when we will not do our enemies mischief, but wish well to them, grieve at their calamities, pray for them, seek reconciliation with them, and show ourselves ready on all occasions to relieve them. (Thomas Watson, Body of Divinity, p. 581)
- 3) Focus on the future (vs. 14-15)
 - A. Count the blessings God has provided (Genesis 41:51-52)
 - B. Consider the lessons learned through the process.
 - C. Continue to Glorify God with your life.

Application Questions

Answers to some of the following questions will be found in Genesis 45.

1. What is difficult about asking for forgiveness? Forgiving someone?
2. When and why did Joseph finally make himself known to his brothers? (45:1-2)
3. What did Joseph tell his brothers when he revealed who he was? (45:3-13)
4. What did Joseph do after he told his brothers who he was? (45:14-15)
5. What did Pharaoh do when he heard about what had happened? (45:16-20)
6. What happened when Joseph's brothers returned to Canaan? (45:25-28)
7. Why did Joseph test his brothers?
8. How does God sometimes help us by allowing us to go through adverse circumstances?
9. How does adversity reveal and shape our character?
10. When has God used the bad intentions or bad actions of others to bring about good in your life?
11. Why is it hard to forgive someone who has wronged you?
12. Why is it important to forgive others?
13. What set of adverse circumstances will you ask God to use to shape your character?
14. How can you extend forgiveness to someone who has wronged you?