Biblical Reconciliation

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1. Biblical Background (Gen. 37-41)

A. As a seventeen year old, Joseph developed animosity with his brothers and eventually was sold into slavery (Gen. 37:5-11; 28).

B. In the providence of God, Joseph prospered in the household of Potipher, was wrongly accused and imprisoned (Gen. 39-40)

C. Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dream and was promoted to second highest in land (Gen. 41:37-45).

D. This promotion set up the background for Joseph to deal with his sinful brothers, taking this destructive and dismal family to become the Lord's chosen nation!

||. Biblical Steps (Gen. 45:1-15)

A. Privacy (v. 1)

B. Broken and humble heart (vv. 1-2)

C. Directness (v. 3)

D. Sin acknowledged (v. 4)

E. Forgiveness (v. 5)

F. Divine perspective (vv. 5-8)

G. Hope (v. 7)

H. Instructions (v. 9)

|. Future grace (vv. 10-11)

J. Pattern of love and compassion (vv. 12-15)

III. Biblical Results (Gen. 45, 50)

A. The brother's guilt coupled with the father's grief and Joseph's grace accomplished God's good (cf. Rom 8:28).

B. Seventeen years later when Jacob died, the brothers finally confessed their sin and Joseph assured them of forgiveness (Gen. 50:15-21).