Genesis 45:1 - NIV "Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, 'Have everyone leave my presence!' So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers."

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The story of Joseph is one of the clearest prophetic foreshadowings of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament. Though betrayed and sold by his own brothers, Joseph did not perish in obscurity. Instead, by the providence of God, he was elevated to a place of power in Egypt and became the instrument of salvation for many during a global famine.

One of the most profound moments in this narrative is when Joseph reveals himself to his brothers (Genesis 45). He does not make this revelation publicly before the Egyptians those who had embraced and honored him but instead commands everyone to leave the room. In that intimate moment, only Joseph and his eleven brothers remain.

This detail is not accidental. It carries deep theological significance that foreshadows God's redemptive plan.

Joseph, in many ways, prefigures Jesus Christ. Jesus was sent first to the Jews, His own people. Yet Scripture tells us:

John 1:11 - ESV "He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him."

Jesus, like Joseph, was rejected by His brethren. They did not recognize Him as their Messiah. Instead of receiving Him, they handed Him over to be crucified (Matthew 27:22-25). But this rejection led to salvation being offered to the Gentiles the nations just as Egypt, a foreign land, became the place where Joseph was exalted and used by God.

Romans 11:11 – ESV "So I ask, did they stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous."

Today, we Gentiles rejoice in this grace, having accepted the Messiah. Jesus Christ has become the chief cornerstone (Ephesians 2:20), not only for Israel but for all who believe. However, just as Joseph's brothers eventually recognized him, the day is coming when Israel will also recognize Jesus as their true Messiah.

The prophet Zechariah foretold this moment of national repentance:

Zechariah 12:10 - NIV "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child..."

This moment mirrors Genesis 45, when Joseph's brothers wept after finally realizing who he truly was. Israel, too, will mourn when their eyes are opened, and they realize that Jesus, whom they pierced, is indeed their long-awaited Messiah.

But notice: before Joseph could reveal himself, he first sent the Egyptians away. Likewise, before Christ reveals Himself to Israel in the last days, He will first remove His Church from the earth in the event known as the **rapture**. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 – ESV "For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command... And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive... will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air..."

Only after this removal will Jesus turn His focus to the Jewish nation during the period known as **Daniel's 70th week** (Daniel 9:27), or the seven-year tribulation. During this time:

- Israel will come to national repentance (Romans 11:25-27).
- The Antichrist will rise to persecute them (Matthew 24:15–22; Revelation 13).
- God will judge the world for its rebellion (Revelation 6-18).
- Jesus will return in glory to rescue Israel and establish His millennial kingdom (Zechariah 14:3-9; Revelation 19:11-16).

Romans 11:26 - ESV "And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written, 'The Deliverer will come from Zion, he will banish ungodliness from Jacob.'" Dear friend, we are living in the final moments before these prophetic events unfold. Since 1948, Israel has been reestablished as a sovereign nation—a clear fulfillment of end-times prophecy (Ezekiel 37). The signs Jesus spoke of in Matthew 24 are being fulfilled before our eyes.

What are we waiting for now? Only the sound of the trumpet. No more prophecies need to be fulfilled before the rapture. It could happen at any moment.

If the rapture were to occur today, the world would only have **seven years** remaining before the return of Christ in judgment and glory. Don't ignore this truth. Don't delay your decision. This is the time to examine your life and align yourself with God's plan.

If you've never been born again, do not wait. To be born again:

- 1. **Repent** of your sins—turn away from them with genuine sorrow and intention to change (Acts 3:19).
- 2. Be **baptized in water**—by full immersion, in the name of **Jesus Christ** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38).
- 3. Receive the **gift of the Holy Spirit**—the promised seal of salvation and power for holy living (Ephesians 1:13; Acts 2:39).

If you need help with repentance, baptism, or understanding more, we are here to help. Contact us using the numbers provided.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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