The Epiphany of Joseph  
Genesis 45:1-15

Main Thought  Just as Joseph revealed himself to his brothers, so too will Christ one day reveal himself to his brothers (Heb. 2:12) and relocate them to heaven.

RECOGNITION (1-4).

• Judah’s pleading for the life of Benjamin revealed a changed heart. This melted the heart of Joseph who is now ready to forgive.
• Egyptians prized a “cool” controlled spirit. Joseph sent his attendants away as he WEPT (3x – 42:24; 43:30) so loudly they could still hear him.
• Jesus loves you more than you can ever know (Luke 15:20; John 3:16).
• Joseph at last reveals himself to his brothers (Acts 7:13). Their response was fear (Rev. 20:11). Jesus will appear (EPHAPNY) a second time (Tit. 2:13).
• Jesus invites you to come close to him (James 4:8).

REASSURANCE (5-8).

• In this long speech (5-13), Joseph wants them to see the providence of God (5, 8; 50:18) at work (Rom. 8:28); so too with Christ (Acts. 2:23; 4:28).
• God’s plans overrule man’s plans (Pro. 19:21).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>James Russell Lowell (1819-1891), THE PRESENT CRISIS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Careless seems the Great Avenger; history’s pages but record</td>
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<tr>
<td>One death-grapple in the darkness `twixt old systems and the Word;</td>
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<td>Truth forever on the scaffold, Wrong forever on the throne, –</td>
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<td>Yet that scaffold sways the future, and, behind the dim unknown,</td>
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<td>Standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above his own.”</td>
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RELOCATION (9-13).

• Joseph wants them to return to Israel and bring Jacob and their families with them QUICKLY to live in the land of plenty during famine.
• Like Noah wanted people to get in the ark quickly, so Jesus wants you to believe in him while there is still time (Matt. 24:36-41; 2 Cor. 6:2)
• Jesus wants to relocate you to heaven (John 14:1-3).

RECONCILIATION (14-15).

• Christ was rejected on his 1st visit (John 1:11).
• Christ will be received on his 2nd (Acts 7:13) visit (Zech. 12:10; 13:1).
• They finally talked to each other (2 Cor. 2:7-11)!