

7-A Day Such as This

10/22/23

INTRO:

I. → **Genesis 50:15-21**

*When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph **hates** us and pays us back all the **evil** we did to him?"*

*→ 16 So they entreated Joseph, saying, "Your father commanded us before he died: 'This is what you shall say to Joseph: I ask you to **forgive** now the **transgression** of your brothers, and their **sin**, for the **evil** they did to you.'*

*→ 17 "So please forgive now the **transgression** of the servants of the God of your father." And Joseph wept at their words to him. His brothers also fell down on their faces and said, "Behold, we are your **servants**."*

*→ 19 But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear. Am I in the place of God? But as for you, the **evil** you **devised** against me, God **devised** it for good, in order to bring about a day such as this, to save many lives."*

*→ 21 "So then, do not fear. I will provide for you and your children." And he **comforted** them and **spoke to their hearts**.*

- II. Heb (*sa na pasha*) forgive now the transgression
Heb (*chatta'ah*) offense, habitual sinfulness
Heb (*ra'ah*) bad, harm
- III. "What do you do when you know you've been wronged?"

BODY:

I. **The Power of Forbearance**

*"What if Joseph hates us and **pays us back all the evil** we did to him?"*

- A. Getting even is never quite as satisfying as we think.
- 1) **Romans 12:17-18**
*Do not **repay** anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.*
 - 2) CURRICULUM OF DIGGING UP THE PAST
- B. God can even use the evil done to bring about our good.
- 1) *"Do not fear. Am I in the place of God? But as for you, the evil you devised against me, God devised it for good"*
 - 2) **Romans 12:19**
Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.
 - 3) STEPPING INTO GOD'S SHOES

II. The Power of Forgiveness

*"So please **forgive now the transgression** of the servants of the God of your father."*

- A. Unforgiveness is a burden that we carry alone.
- 1) **Romans 13:8**
*Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to **love** one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law.*
 - 2) YOU DON'T OWE ME ANYTHING
- B. God can set us free even before we have an apology.
- 1) **Colossians 3:13**
***Bear** with each other and **forgive** one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*
 - 2) COMING HERE—PASTOR APOLOGIZING

III. The Power of Reconciliation

21 *"So then, do not fear. I will **provide** for you and your children." And he **comforted** them and **spoke to their hearts**.*

- A. We have more power to reconcile than we realize.
- 1) **2 Corinthians 2:6-8**
The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him.
 - 2) THIS IS US—"I'LL GET MY COAT"
- B. Relationship will always be more important than religion.
- 1) **Matthew 5:23-24**
*"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be **reconciled** to them; then come and offer your gift."*
 - 2) WORSHIP LEADER WITH A LINE
 - 3) "Don't let the perfect be the enemy of the good"