## GENESIS 50; February 19; Joseph Comforts His Brothers

ANALYSIS:  1. Embalming in Egypt took days, and the full mourning period was days.
2. Who accompanied Joseph from Egypt to bury Jacob in Canaan?
3. When the procession mourned for 7 days in Canaan, what did the Canaanites say?
4. After Jacob's death, when Joseph's brothers reported that Jacob requested Joseph to forgive their sin, what did Joseph do?
5. Joseph comforted his brothers by saying, "Ye thought evil against me,

## THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

There is abundant evidence that Joseph held no animosity toward his brothers, and had rather fully forgiven them. Harboring ill will does not bring the blessings of God that Joseph received. The LORD prospered him in his work (39:2-3, 21, 23). His personal consciousness of God saved him from great temptation to sin (39:7-12). Joseph exalts the LORD for being able to interpret dreams (40:8; 41:16, 25, 28, 32). He found comfort in the LORD as seen in the names he gave his sons (41:51-52). While he remembered his dreams about his brothers, and could easily have retaliated, instead he dealt with them in grace (42:6-9, 14-20). He was deeply touched when he heard his brothers confess their guilt (42:21-24). He sought to comfort them by emphasizing that God over-ruled them and sent him to Egypt to preserve them (45:5-9). His kiss was one of total forgiveness (45:15). He promised to nourish his brothers in the land of Goshen (45:10-11). This is the character of a man walking in the Spirit. Can you imagine his grief of heart when his brothers doubted his love, forgiveness and truthfulness (50:15-17)?

When someone forgives you for an offense, purpose to count them as sincere and truthful and truly reestablish a faithful, trusting and heartwarming relationship.

## HELP:

- 1. Embalming 40 days, total mourning 70 days (v 3).
- 2. All the servants of Pharaoh, elders of his house, elders of Egypt, all Joseph's house, his brothers and his father's house (vs 7-8).
- 3. This is a grievous mourning to the Egyptians (v 11).
- 4. Joseph wept (v 17).
- 5. Meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive (v 20).