

father for the lad, and now offered himself instead of the lad, a bondman to Joseph, if only the lad might return with his brethren. Here was proof that there was no envy toward Benjamin as there had been toward Joseph, and that now they had respect for their father in his old age. Joseph could no longer refrain, and caused all to go out while he made himself known to his brethren. "I am Joseph," were the words that greeted their astonished ears, as he stood before them and wept tears of affection and joy, and fell upon their necks and kissed them. Oh! what a revelation to those poor guilty men. Their sin had found them out indeed, and there was no way to hide it, and they were troubled. But grace was there to forgive, and to bless. "I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt. Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life." No bitterness, no hardness, nor even show of severity now; but grace flowing from a heart that forgave all, and was ready to nourish them and their little ones in a land of plenty, till the famine was over.

What a picture of God's grace revealed in Jesus, not only to guilty Jews who slew Him, but guilty sinners now, who have long despised the beloved Son of the Father. Perhaps like Joseph's brethren, you have been saying "We are true men." But how are you "true men" if you have been enjoying the countless numbers of God's creature mercies, receiving His vast bounty, as a matter of course, while despising His Son, and living for yourselves, and not God?

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