

**“but God intended
it for good”**

Genesis 50

“but God intended it for good”

Genesis 49:29-33

29 Then he gave them these instructions: “I am about to be gathered to my people. Bury me with my fathers in the cave in the field of Ephron the Hittite, **30** the cave in the field of Machpelah, near Mamre in Canaan, which Abraham bought along with the field as a burial place from Ephron the Hittite.

31 There Abraham and his wife Sarah were buried, there Isaac and his wife Rebekah were buried, and there I buried Leah. **32** The field and the cave in it were bought from the Hittites. ” **33** When Jacob had finished giving instructions to his sons, he drew his feet up into the bed, breathed his last and was gathered to his people.

“but God intended it for good”

Genesis 50:1-3

1 Joseph threw himself on his father and wept over him and kissed him. **2** Then Joseph directed the physicians in his service to embalm his father Israel. So the physicians embalmed him, **3** taking a full forty days, for that was the time required for embalming. And the Egyptians mourned for him seventy days.

“but God intended it for good”

Genesis 50:4-6

4 When the days of mourning had passed, Joseph said to Pharaoh’s court, “If I have found favor in your eyes, speak to Pharaoh for me. Tell him, **5** ‘My father made me swear an oath and said, “I am about to die; bury me in the tomb I dug for myself in the land of Canaan.” Now let me go up and bury my father; then I will return.’ ” **6** Pharaoh said, “Go up and bury your father, as he made you swear to do.”

“but God intended it for good”

“Joseph had proven himself trustworthy as Pharaoh’s advisor. Because of his good record, Pharaoh had little doubt that he would return to Egypt as promised after burying his father in Canaan.”

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“but God intended it for good”

Genesis 50:7-10

7 So Joseph went up to bury his father. All Pharaoh’s officials accompanied him — the dignitaries of his court and all the dignitaries of Egypt —

8 besides all the members of Joseph’s household and his brothers and those belonging to his father’s household. Only their children and their flocks and herds were left in Goshen.

9 Chariots and horsemen also went up with him. It was a very large company. **10** When they reached the threshing floor of Atad, near the Jordan, they lamented loudly and bitterly; and there Joseph observed a seven-day period of mourning for his father.

“but God intended it for good”

Genesis 50:11-14

11 When the Canaanites who lived there saw the mourning at the threshing floor of Atad, they said, “The Egyptians are holding a solemn ceremony of mourning.” That is why that place near the Jordan is called Abel Mizraim. **12** So Jacob’s sons did as he had commanded them:

13 They carried him to the land of Canaan and buried him in the cave in the field of Machpelah, near Mamre, which Abraham had bought along with the field as a burial place from Ephron the Hittite. **14** After burying his father, Joseph returned to Egypt, together with his brothers and all the others who had gone with him to bury his father.

“but God intended it for good”

**“Jacob was Abraham’s grandson,
and Jacob’s sons returned to
Canaan to bury him in this cave
along with Abraham and Isaac.
Their desire to be buried in this
cave expressed their faith in God’s
promise to give their descendants
the land of Canaan.”**

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“but God intended it for good”

Genesis 50:15-17

15 When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?” **16** So they sent word to Joseph, saying, “Your father left these instructions before he died:

17 ‘This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.’ Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father.” When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

“but God intended it for good”

“Now that Jacob (or Israel) was dead, the brothers feared revenge from Joseph. Could he really have forgiven them?”

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“but God intended it for good”

Genesis 50:18-21

18 His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. “We are your slaves,” they said. **19** But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God?”

20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. **21** So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

“but God intended it for good”

“God brought good from the brothers’ evil deed, Potiphar’s wife’s false accusation, the cupbearer’s neglect, and seven years of famine. The experiences in Joseph’s life taught him that God brings good from evil for those who trust Him.”

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“but God intended it for good”

Ephesians 4:32

**Be kind and compassionate
to one another, forgiving
each other, just as in Christ
God forgave you.**

“but God intended it for good”

Genesis 50:22-26

22 Joseph stayed in Egypt, along with all his father’s family. He lived a hundred and ten years **23** and saw the third generation of Ephraim’s children. Also the children of Makir son of Manasseh were placed at birth on Joseph’s knees.

24 Then Joseph said to his brothers, “I am about to die. But God will surely come to your aid and take you up out of this land to the land he promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.” **25** And Joseph made the Israelites swear an oath and said, “God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up from this place.” **26** So Joseph died at the age of a hundred and ten. And after they embalmed him, he was placed in a coffin in Egypt.

“but God intended it for good”

“Joseph was ready to die. He had no doubt that God would keep His promise and one day bring the Israelites back to their homeland... [Verse 24] sets the stage for what would begin to happen in Exodus and come to completion in Joshua. God was going to make Jacob’s family into a great nation, lead them out of Egypt, and bring them into the land He had promised them.”

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Life Applications

- **God is sovereign over His creation**
- **God is a promise keeper**
- **We can trust God because of Jesus**

Final Thoughts

“Do you trust God enough to wait patiently for Him to bring good out of a bad situation? You can trust Him because, as Joseph learned, God can overrule people’s evil intentions to bring about His intended results.”

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Final Thoughts

“In Egypt Joseph was a congregation of one.”

RC Sproul

Final Thoughts

Job 42:1-6

1 Then Job replied to the LORD: **2** “I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted. **3** You asked, ‘Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge?’ Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know.

4 “You said, ‘Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.’ **5** My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you. **6** Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.”

Final Thoughts

Romans 8:28

28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.