

## Genesis 50:15-21 **Brothers of Joseph beg for his forgiveness**

<sup>15</sup> When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "Perhaps Joseph will hate us, and may actually repay us for all the evil which we did to him." <sup>16</sup> So they sent messengers to Joseph, saying, "Before your father died he commanded, saying, <sup>17</sup> "Thus you shall say to Joseph: "I beg you, please forgive the trespass of your brothers and their sin; for they did evil to you." ' Now, please, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of your father." And Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup> Then his brothers also went and fell down before his face, and they said, "Behold, we are your servants." <sup>19</sup> Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive. <sup>21</sup> Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones." And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them. NKJV

### Facts Revealed:

- ✧ With Jacob dead and buried, Joseph's brothers were terrified that Joseph would retaliate against them because they had sold him into slavery 39 years earlier so they concocted a story that Jacob had instructed them to beg his forgiveness for the sin they had done so long ago. So they asked him to forgive the trespass of the servants of Eloheey aabiyka (the God of your father).
- ✧ Joseph wept, and his brothers fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants."
- ✧ Joseph said, "Do not be afraid, am I in the place of Elohiym? But as for you, you meant evil against me; but Elohiym meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive." So Joseph knew their intent of evil but the ways of God were controlling the issue and for a greater purpose, and though Joseph had the power, yet he yielded it over into the hands of God.
- ✧ Joseph assured them that he would continue to provide for them and their little ones. And his kindly words comforted them.