

Chapter 45

Ioseph manifesteth himself to his brethren. Who being much terified he comforteth them, and weeping embraceth euerie one. 16. The brute wherof coming to Pharao, he congratulating commandeth Ioseph to cal his father with al his familie into Ægypt. 21. So the eleuen brothers are sent away with giftes and prouision for Iacobs iourney. 26. Al which the father vnderstanding is reuiued in fpirite.

Ioseph could no longer refrayne manie standing by in prefence: wherupon he commanded that al should goe forth, and no stranger should be present at their acknowledging one of another. ² And he lifted vp his voice with weeping, which the Ægyptians heard, and al the house of Pharao. ³ And he said to his Brethren: I am Ioseph: is my father yet liuing? His brethren could not answer him being terribly aftonyed out of measure. ⁴ To whom gently he said: Come hither to me. And when they were come nere him, I am, quoth he, Ioseph, your brother, whom you solde into Ægypt. ⁵ Be not afraid, neither let it seeme to you a hard case that you did fel me into these countries: for ^a)God sent me before you into Ægypt for your preferuation. ⁶ For it is two yeares since the famine began to be vpon the earth, and yet fife yeares remaine, wherin there can be neither earing nor reaping. ⁷ And God sent me before, that you may be preferred vpon the earth, and may haue victuals to liue. ⁸ Not by your counsaile, but by the wil of God was I sent hither: who hath made me as it were a father to Pharao, and lord of his whole house, and prince in al the land of Ægypt. ⁹ Make haft and get ye vp to my father, and you shal say to him: Thy sonne Ioseph willeth thus: God hath made me lord of the whole land of Ægypt: come downe to me, tary not. ¹⁰ And thou shalt dwel in the land of Geffen: and thou shalt be nere me thou and

^a Gods prouidence turned their euil dealing to the good of the whole familie. *chap. 50. v. 20.*

thy fonnes, and thy fonnes children, thy shepe, and thy heardes, and al things that thou doft poffeffe. ¹¹ And there I wil fede thee (for yet there are fiue yeares of famine remaying) left both thou perish, and thy houfe, & al things that thou doft poffeffe. ¹² Behold, your eyes, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin doe fee, that it is my mouth that fpeaketh vnto you. ¹³ Report to my father my whole glorie and al things that you haue feene in Ægypt: make haft, and bring him to me. ¹⁴ And falling vpon the neck of his brother Benjamin, embracing him he wept: he alfo in like maner weeping vpon his neck. ¹⁵ And Iofeph kiffed al his brethren, and wept vpon euerie one: after which things they were bold to fpeake vnto him. ¹⁶ And it was heard of, and very famoufly reported abrode in the kings courte: The brethren of Iofeph are come: and ^a)Pharao was glad, and al his familie. ¹⁷ And he fpake to Iofeph that he fhould command his brethren, faying: Loading your beafts goe into the Land of Chanaan, ¹⁸ and take thence your father and kinne, and come to me: and I wil geue you al the good things of Ægypt, that you may eate the marow of the land. ¹⁹ Geue commandment alfo that they take waynes out of the land of Ægypt, for the carage of their litle ones and wyues: and fay: Take vp your father, and make haft to come with al fpede. ²⁰ Neither doe you leaue any thing of your houshold ftuffe: for al the riches of Ægypt, fhall be yours. ²¹ And the fonnes of Ifrael did as it was commanded them. To whom Iofeph gaue waynes according to Pharaos commandment: and victuals for the way. ²² He had alfo to be brought vp for euery one two robes: but to Benjamin he gaue three hundred peeces of filuer with fiue robes of the beft: ²³ fending to his father as much money and rayment, adding befides them he affes that should carie of al the riches of Ægypt, and as many shee affes, carying wheat for the iourney and bread. ²⁴ Therefore he difmiffed his brethren, and when

^a Iofeph prudēt proceeding before he made him felfe knowne to his brethrē and them to Pharao, procured al this ioy & fauour towards them in Ægypt.

they were departing he said to them: ¶Be not angry in the way. ²⁵ Who going up out of Ægypt, came into the land of Chanaan to their father Iacob. ²⁶ And they told him saying: Ioseph thy sonne is liuing: and he ruleth in al the Land of Ægypt. Which when Iacob heard, awaking as it were out of a heauie sleepe, notwithstanding did not beleue them. ²⁷ They on the contrarie fide reported the whole order of the thing. And when he sawe the waynes and al things that he had sent, his spirit reuiued, ²⁸ and he said: It sufficeth me if Ioseph my sonne be liuing yet: I wil goe, and see him before I dye.

ANNOTATIONS

²⁴ Be not angry in the way.) Trauelers in iourney are easily prouoked to anger and brawling: especially if they auoide not probable occasions. Therefore Ioseph admonisheth his brothers to beware thereof, lest in talking of him, and how they had sold him to strangers, some of them might accuse others, and excuse themselves, and so fall in to new offences. *S. Chris. ho. 64. in Gen.*

Occasion of sinne to be auoided.