

Scott's Thoughts

June 28, 2026



“‘Say to Joseph, ‘Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.’ And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.’ Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, ‘Behold, we are your servants.’ But Joseph said to them, ‘Do not fear, for am I in the place of God?’” (Genesis 50:17–19, ESV)

Joseph’s years in Egypt were anything but easy. His own brothers first plotted to kill him, then sold him into slavery with no thought for what kind of suffering he might endure. His integrity cost him dearly, landing him in prison for a crime he did not commit. Yet in God’s timing, Joseph was lifted out of that prison because he could interpret Pharaoh’s dream. God placed him in a position where he could prepare Egypt for the coming famine — a preparation that saved not only Egypt, but the surrounding nations as well.

As God’s servant, Joseph came to understand something we often struggle to see: the path of suffering he walked was the very road God used to bring safety and preservation to Israel. What looked like injustice and misfortune was, in God’s hands, the means of deliverance.

We rarely see far enough ahead to understand how God is working. Many times I’ve wondered how different my life might have been if I had simply allowed God to finish what He started. I won’t know the answer to that until eternity.

One thing I do know: my inability to forgive has hindered God’s will more times than I care to admit. At the time, I never called it unforgiveness — it was always someone else standing between me and what God wanted. More than once I failed to recognize what God was doing around me. Other times I tried to work through the problem, only to give up when I realized nothing I could do or say would fix it.

Even then, forgiveness was still required. Those involved were God’s children, acting out of weakness or misunderstanding, and the only path forward was for someone to say, “I’m sorry.” Holding on to hurt never helps anyone. Restoring love and rebuilding fellowship matters far more than proving whose opinion is correct. Yes, there are issues where we cannot compromise — but they are few.

So I pray for wisdom: wisdom to know when to stand firm, and wisdom to recognize when an issue is of no lasting importance.

“Please pardon the iniquity of this people, according to the greatness of your steadfast love, just as you have forgiven this people, from Egypt until now.” (Numbers 4:19, ESV)

Thanks for listening and keep on shining

—Scott