

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:** Exodus 20:1-17 and Genesis 37:1-17

**SINGING:** 378:1-3 – 42:1, 2 – 293:1-3 – 399:1-2 – 185:1-4

**GLORY OF GOD’S LOVE PICTURED IN ISRAEL’S SENDING OF JOSEPH**

I. He sent His Son to evil men

II. He found His Son a willing Servant for this task

**I. GOD’S THOUGHTS OF LOVE REVEALED IN *SENDING OF HIS SON***

A. Israel wanted to send his son to Joseph’s brethren

1. He did so despite that they were wicked men, hating Joseph

2. He did so because he was *concerned* about them in Sechem

B. Do you see the picture of God in desire of Israel to send Joseph?

1. Since we bit into Satan’s lies about God, we have *completely wrong view of God’s glory*

2. Israel commanded Joseph to go to his brothers (vs. 13)

a. brothers didn’t ask or welcome Israel’s concern

b. God’s thoughts to send His Son date back to eternity (Prov. 8)

3. Learn from Israel’s story to ponder His glory

a. that God is not *out to punish you*

b. that God is not *harsh or indifferent to your danger or need*

c. that God is not *unfeeling about the lost*

4. All these truths Jesus again emphasizes as He sat by the ‘well of Jacob in Samaria’ (John 4:23)

a. “... for the Father seeketh such to worship Him”

5. Israel sent Joseph ‘to find out whether his brethren were well’

a. that’s not something God needs to find out: Gen. 6:5-6

b. still God sent His Son ‘not to condemn the world’

## **II. God's thoughts of love revealed in Son's readiness**

### **A. Ponder the details of the lovely picture of God's Son**

1. He delighted to do His Father's will even though Jesus knew how He would be received (vs. 14b)

2. Behold the matchless kindness and love of the Son's coming!

a. first in Joseph's readiness to leave Hebron

b. secondly in Joseph's perseverance to find his brothers (vs. 15)

c. thirdly in Joseph's pursuing them into Dothan

B. Yet though He came willingly, delighting in doing Father's will, He didn't find *any willing to leave their misery*

### **CLOSING QUESTIONS**

A. Do you see something (more) of God's glory today?

1. Consider the 'white of the Gospel' against the 'black of sin'

2. Ponder deep and long *how evil the response* of the brothers is

a. worst part of our rejection of God's grace is not *that it ruins us*

b. worst part is that *it dishonors God*

B. Are you afraid to believe that such good tidings are true for you?

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### **Worthwhile Truths to Ponder**

The law threatens; the Gospel promises. (T. Adams)

The Gospel is an anvil that has broken many a hammer, and will break many hammers yet. (John Calvin)

The Gospel begins and ends with what God is and not with what we want or think we need. (T. Houston)

The law is what we must do;  
the Gospel is what God will give and do. (M. Luther)