**CHAPTER** **50**

*The mourning for Jacob, and his interment. Joseph’s kindness towards his brethren. His death.*

**1** And when Joseph saw this, he fell upon his father’s face weeping and kissing him.

**2** And he commanded his servants the physicians to embalm his father.

**3** And while they were fulfilling his commands, there passed forty days: for this was the manner with bodies that were embalmed, and Egypt mourned for him seventy days.

**4** And the time of the mourning being expired, Joseph spoke to the family of Pharao: If I have found favour in your sight, speak in the ears of Pharao:

**5** For my father made me swear to him, saying: Behold I die: thou shalt bury me in my sepulchre which I have digged for myself in the land of Chanaan. So I will go up and bury my father, and return.

**6** And Pharao said to him: Go up and bury thy father according as he made thee swear.

**7** So he went up, and there went with him all the ancients of Pharao’s house, and all the elders of the land of Egypt,

**8** And the house of Joseph with his brethren, except their children, and their flocks and herds, which they left in the land of Gessen.

**9** He had also in his train chariots and horsemen: and it was a great company.

**10** And they came to the threshingfloor of Atad, which is situated beyond the Jordan: where celebrating the exequies with a great and vehement lamentation, they spent full seven days.

**11** And when the inhabitants of Chanaan saw this, they said: This is a great mourning to the Egyptians. And therefore the name of that place was called, The mourning of Egypt.

**12** So the sons of Jacob did as he had commanded them.

**13** And carrying him into the land of Chanaan, they buried him in the double cave which Abraham had bought together with the field for a possession of a buryingplace, of Ehpron the Hethite over against Mambre.

**14** And Joseph returned into Egypt with his brethren, and all that were in his company, after he had buried his father.

**15** Now he being dead, his brethren were afraid, and talked one with another: Lest perhaps he should remember the wrong he suffered, and requite us all the evil that we did to him.

**16** And they sent a message to him, saying: Thy father commanded us before he died,

**17** That we should say thus much to thee from him: I beseech thee to forget the wickedness of thy brethren, and the sin and malice they practised against thee: we also pray thee, to forgive the servants of the God of thy father this wickedness. And when Joseph heard this, he wept.

**18** And his brethren came to him: and worshipping prostrate on the ground they said: We are thy servants.

**19** And he answered them: Fear not: can we resist the will of God?

**20** You thought evil against me: but God turned it into good, that he might exalt me, as at present you see, and might save many people.

**21** Fear not: I will feed you and your children. And he comforted them, and spoke gently and mildly.

**22** And he dwelt in Egypt with all his father’s house: and lived a hundred and ten years. And he saw the children of Ephraim to the third generation. The children also of Machir the son of Maasses were born on Joseph’s knees.

**23** After which he told his brethren: God will visit you after my death, and will make you go up out of this land, to the land which he swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

**24** And he made them swear to him, saying: God will visit you, carry my bones with you out of this place:

**25** And he died being a hundred and ten years old. And being embalmed he was laid in a coffin in Egypt.