



The Joy of Torah - For Life

## **Parshas Vayechi - Proper Perspectives!**

**Shmuz by Rabbi Chaim Juni**

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After the brothers of Yosef saw that Yaakov died, they said that "perhaps Yosef hates us and will pay us back for all the bad we did to him". The בעל התורים explains the פסוק as follows; "if only Yosef hates us in his heart and doesn't do anything to us that would be great; But if he wants to do something to us, he should pay us back for all the "bad" that we caused him, because what bad did we do to him? We caused him to become the king of Egypt!

At first glance, it seems very callous of the brothers to say that they did no "bad" to Yosef. They plotted to kill him and then sold him into slavery!!

The Ba'al Haturim also says that the brothers witnessed Yosef passing by the pit and saying the ברכה that one says after a miracle happens which caused them to get worried and say that Yosef must still remember what he did to him. Well of course! How could Yosef forget?

You see from here that the brothers knew so clearly that one can never affect another that they knew that they didn't actually do anything to יוסף. They had intentions which יוסף can hate them for but as far as results they were just the pawns that were carrying out the master plan which would have happened regardless of their involvement. The selling was in reality the beginning of his kingship. So if יוסף wants to pay them back for what they "did" he should make them kings!