

“Family Spies” (Part 2)  
Genesis 43

v. 1 Q. Describe the famine.

A.

v. 2 Q. What happened with Israel's family?

A.

1. They ran out of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Jacob told the boys to go back to \_\_\_\_\_ and get a little more.

vv. 3-5 Q. What did Judah do?

A. Judah reminds him of the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ of obeying him and going to Egypt.

Note:

\_\_\_\_\_ (#1 son) – passed over because of an unforgiving spirit and probably for an over-the-top declaration when he came back the first time.

\_\_\_\_\_ (#2 son) – the guys been languishing in an Egyptian prison this whole time and they don't seem to be too concerned about it.

\_\_\_\_\_ (#3 son) – passed over because of the Shechem massacre.

\_\_\_\_\_ (#4 son) – Although pictured in a non-flattering light in chapter 38, now rises to take the lead in the family drama with a level-headed assurance.

v. 6 Q. How did Israel respond?

A. Israel (Jacob), once again, \_\_\_\_\_ his “other” sons for the \_\_\_\_\_.

v. 7 Q. How did the brothers respond?

A. This is not our \_\_\_\_\_. How were we to know this would happen? We just went to buy grain...for \_\_\_\_\_...and our families.

vv. 8-10 Q. What did Judah do?

- A.
1. Tried to \_\_\_\_\_ his father to send Benjamin with them.
  2. He would \_\_\_\_\_ his safety by appealing to cultural family shame if he failed.
  3. He pointed out the \_\_\_\_\_ crisis created by the delay.

Q. What is interesting about this regarding Genesis 37:26?

A. Judah was the one who \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ selling Joseph into slavery in the first place.

vv. 11-14 Q. What did Israel finally do?

- A.
1. Take a \_\_\_\_\_ back with you (cultural favor).

2. Take \_\_\_\_\_ the silver (returning the first; paying for the second).
3. Take \_\_\_\_\_ with you.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ that everything would work out well (God's favor).
5. \_\_\_\_\_ to the will of God.

v. 15 Q. Result?

A. They didn't \_\_\_\_\_ anytime. They gathered up and left for Egypt.

v. 16 Q. What did Joseph do?

A.

1. Joseph \_\_\_\_\_ them out.
2. Joseph did so after seeing \_\_\_\_\_ (the prerequisite for coming back).
3. Joseph commanded his head of the household to take them to his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ a meal for them.

vv. 17-18 Q. What did his brothers believe?

A.

1. They believed they were being \_\_\_\_\_ of stealing the first time around.
2. They believed they were being \_\_\_\_\_ to be attacked, enslaved, and their possession stolen. (And you would be too...)

vv. 19-22 Q. What did they do?

A. They desperately tried to \_\_\_\_\_ the “stolen” silver and their \_\_\_\_\_ of bringing it back along with payment for the new.

v. 23 Q. What did the steward acknowledge?

A.

1. The steward \_\_\_\_\_ their fears.
2. The steward \_\_\_\_\_ their favor to their God, the God of their father.

Note: This was probably not \_\_\_\_\_ with the steward, but he was probably told what to say from Joseph.

3. The steward acknowledged the \_\_\_\_\_ payment.
4. Simeon was \_\_\_\_\_. (Probably relieved and angry the same time.)

vv. 24-25 Q. What evidence does the steward give of Joseph's intentions.

A. They were treated like \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.

v. 26 Q. What did the brothers do?

A.

1. They presented Joseph with the \_\_\_\_\_ given to him by his father.
2. They \_\_\_\_\_ down in homage to him.

Note: It is interesting that Joseph had \_\_\_\_\_ dreams about his brothers bowing down to him. Prophecy fulfilled – \_\_\_\_\_.

v. 27 Q. What did Joseph do?

A.

1. He asked about \_\_\_\_\_ well-being.
2. He asked about their \_\_\_\_\_ well-being and if he were still living.

v. 28 Q. Their reply?

A.

1. They \_\_\_\_\_ address their well-being but only their father's.
2. They \_\_\_\_\_...again.

vv. 29-30 Q. How does Joseph handle Benjamin?

A.

1. He \_\_\_\_\_ him.
2. He was \_\_\_\_\_ by him.

vv. 31-34 Describe the meal.

A.

1. Joseph, because of his \_\_\_\_\_, was served by himself.
2. His brothers were served, because of their \_\_\_\_\_, by themselves.
3. The Egyptians, because of their \_\_\_\_\_, were served by themselves.

4. The brothers were seated in their \_\_\_\_\_ order (which surprised them).
5. Their food would come from Joseph's \_\_\_\_\_ – a subtle way of communicating who ultimately provides for them.
6. Benjamin received, literally, \_\_\_\_\_ times as much food as the others - another show of \_\_\_\_\_.
7. They ate and drank without \_\_\_\_\_. Literally, “they drank and became drunk with him.”

**Application questions:**

Q. What is your opinion of Jacob at this point?

A.

Note: ...and yet God has chosen him to be “Israel” – the father of the nation.

Q. What does this tell you about God?

A.

Q. How should this bring you comfort?

A.

Q. What does this teach us about the importance of forgiveness/reconciliation?

A.

