

“Family Spies” (Part 3)
Genesis 44

vv. 1-2 Q. What were Joseph's instructions to his steward?

A.

1. _____ provide for the food supplies they sought to receive.
2. _____ their silver.

Note the _____ theme of silver – given that Joseph was sold for 20 pieces of it.

3. Put my _____ chalice) in the youngest's bag (Benjamin).

vv. 3-5 Q. What were his secondary instructions?

A.

1. Give them a _____ start.
2. Then _____ after them.
3. _____ them of stealing my personal cup used for drinking and _____.

vv. 6-9 Q. How did the brothers respond to the accusation?

A.

1. This is _____! We are men of integrity.
2. We _____ this by bringing back the first round a silver with the second. _____!
3. _____! The one who has it will die; the others will be slaves. (another over-the-top reaction).

v. 10 Q. What did the steward agree to?

A. The steward _____ to their extreme suggestion.

vv. 11-13 Q. What was the result?

A.

1. They each lowered their sacks and opened them up as _____ of their innocence.

2. Beginning from the _____...

The steward knew who had the cup and was _____ building up the tension.

3. Oh no! _____.

4. They tore their clothes in _____.

5. They _____ to the city (one as a _____; the others with a desperate plea).

The _____ is that these two things happened to Joseph: said to be dead and yet a slave.

vv. 14-15 Q. What's up with the divination stuff?

A.

Remember that this is _____. Divinization in Mesopotamia was so important and developed that its texts formed the largest single category of _____ [Eastern Semitic] literature by sheer number. So, even though, Joseph has demonstrated his dependence upon Yahweh (1) he has developed a _____ faith or (2) he "_____ along to _____ along."

Note: The effect was to _____ as if he had special spiritual access to some form of _____. He did..._____...but that was not the point at present.

v. 16 Q. How did the brothers respond? Speaking of what exactly?

A.

Note: _____ is has assumed the role of spokesperson for the group.

1. We _____ don't know why these things keep happening.
2. It is _____ that what we have been accused of is true.
3. Divinely, we must be _____ of something.
4. _____ are now your slaves and the one who had the cup.

Note: The steward had set them _____, but Judah is placing them all in _____ probably realizing that the original plan was such and...the _____ of the one who had the cup, thus saving Benjamin.

v. 17 Q. Joseph, acting with justice, said...

A.

1. The man who has _____ against me shall be my slave.
2. The rest of you can go _____.

Note: This was a _____ to see if they would once again _____ a brother (especially of Rachel).

v. 18 Q. How did Judah begin his plea?

A.

1. He, with great _____, approached Joseph.
2. He _____ his high position (no doubt in a bowing position – again).

vv. 19-26 Q What did Judah proceed to say? Why Judah? (cf. 37:26)

A. Judah, who initially saved Joseph from being killed, (37:26), _____ for his youngest brother. He _____ the conversation/expectations that Joseph had placed upon them.

vv. 27-32 Q. How does Judah play the sympathy card?

Note: This is the first time that Joseph hears the _____ that was given to his father about his disappearance. Instead of hope of somehow getting him back from _____, he was declared _____ – giving his father and Joseph _____ of returning to one another. This must have brought even greater anger and _____.

A.

1. Judah links the _____ future with his father's (_____).
2. Judah links the _____ future with his _____.

vv. 33-34 Q. What is the proposition and the plea?

A.

1. Judah _____ to take Benjamin's place.
2. Judah _____ to Joseph's cultural sense of _____ and dishonor. He would rather spend the rest

of his life as a _____ than to face his father without his brother.

Application questions:

1. Describe the moral and motivational power of fear?
A.
2. What is the value of protracted divine discipline?
A.
3. Describe the ease at which we attribute to God evil or unfairness? The misinterpretation of discipline as punishment...
A.
4. How does self-sacrifice fit into the context of apparent injustice?
A.