

Questions for Genesis 43

1. Which of Joseph's brothers took the lead in speaking for them with their father Jacob?
2. Did Israel suggest they lie about them having a younger brother? T F
3. Judah stands up to his father, and says had you not delayed us we would be back with the grain already. T F
4. Israel tells his sons to bring the man a present. T F
5. Israel's strategy of bringing the governor a present was the first time he thought of such a thing in the bible. T F
6. Israel suggests his sons take triple money for the grain to pay back the money they didn't pay the first trip. T F
7. Joseph invited his brothers to his home for lunch. T F
8. Joseph and his brothers sat together at the table and discussed old times. T F
9. Joseph gave Benjamin less food than his brothers. T F
10. Joseph's brothers thought they were going to be Joseph's slaves. T F
11. Joseph's steward was okay with his brothers not paying for the grain the first time they came. T F
12. All Joseph's brothers bowed to him just as his dream in chapter 36 said they would. T F
13. Joseph cried when he found his brother Benjamin was safe. T F
14. Joseph seated his brothers in order of their birth, and they knew Joseph was their brother. T F
15. Joseph set up the lunch to see if his brothers were unfair to Benjamin. T F

44 And he commanded the steward of his house, saying, Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put every man's money in his sack's mouth.¹

² And put my cup, the silver cup, in the sack's mouth of the youngest, and his corn money². And he did according to the word that Joseph had spoken.

³ As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away, they and their asses.

⁴ And when they were gone out of the city, and not yet far off, Joseph said unto his steward, Up, follow after the men; and when thou dost overtake them, say unto them, Wherefore have ye rewarded evil for good?

⁵ Is not this it in which my lord drinketh, and whereby indeed he divineth? ye have done evil in so doing.

⁶ And he overtook them, and he spake unto them these same words.

⁷ And they said unto him, Wherefore saith my lord these words? God forbid that thy servants should do according to this thing:

⁸ Behold, the money, which we found in our sacks' mouths, we brought again unto thee out of the land of Canaan: how then should we steal out of thy lord's house silver or gold?³

⁹ With whomsoever of thy servants it be found, both let him die, and we also will be my lord's bondmen.⁴

¹⁰ And he said, Now also let it be according unto your words: he with whom it is found shall be my servant; and ye shall be blameless.

¹¹ Then they speedily took down every man his sack to the ground, and opened every man his sack.

¹ Again Joseph gives them their money back, and over stuffs their bags. However this time it is for a different reason.

² Joseph sets Benjamin up to see how his brethren would react to his being accused of stealing.

³ The brothers profess their innocence.

⁴ The deal is for death to the thief, and the rest of the brothers will be slaves. Joseph's steward counters with the deal that the thief will be Joseph's servant.

¹² And he searched, and began at the eldest, and left at the youngest: **and the cup was found in Benjamin's sack.**⁵

¹³ Then they rent their clothes, and laded every man his ass, and returned to the city.

¹⁴ **And Judah and his brethren came to Joseph's house**⁶; for he was yet there: and they fell before him on the ground.

¹⁵ And Joseph said unto them, What deed is this that ye have done? wot ye not that such a man as I can certainly divine?⁷

¹⁶ And Judah said, What shall we say unto my lord? what shall we speak? **or how shall we clear ourselves?** God hath found out the iniquity of thy servants⁸: behold, we are my lord's servants, both we, and he also with whom the cup is found.

¹⁷ And he said, God forbid that I should do so: but the man in whose hand the cup is found, **he shall be my servant; and as for you, get you up in peace unto your father.**⁹

¹⁸ Then Judah came near unto him, and said, Oh my lord, let thy servant, I pray thee, speak a word in my lord's ears, and let not thine anger burn against thy servant: for thou art even as Pharaoh.

¹⁹ My lord asked his servants, saying, Have ye a father, or a brother?

²⁰ And we said unto my lord, We have a father, an old man, and a child of his old age, a little one; and his brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother, and his father loveth him.

²¹ And thou saidst unto thy servants, Bring him down unto me, that I may set mine eyes upon him.

²² And we said unto my lord, **The lad cannot leave his father: for if he should leave his father, his father would die.**¹⁰

⁵ The frame was complete. Joseph wanted to see what the reaction from his brothers would be after finding out Benjamin was the thief.

⁶ Rather than abandon their brother Judah and all of Jacob's sons return to Joseph to plead their case.

⁷ Joseph says, didn't you know I would find out?

⁸ Judah is making reference to their selling Joseph into slavery. They have learned their lesson from the folly of selling Joseph into slavery. They will not make the same mistake again.

⁹ Joseph says just the man who stole will be the servant, the rest of you go home to your father.

²³ And thou saidst unto thy servants, Except your youngest brother come down with you, ye shall see my face no more.

²⁴ And it came to pass when we came up unto thy servant my father, we told him the words of my lord.

²⁵ And our father said, Go again, and buy us a little food.

²⁶ And we said, We cannot go down: if our youngest brother be with us, then will we go down: for we may not see the man's face, except our youngest brother be with us.

²⁷ And thy servant my father said unto us, **Ye know that my wife bare me two sons:**¹¹

²⁸ And the one went out from me, and I said, Surely he is torn in pieces; and I saw him not since:

²⁹ And if ye take this also from me, and mischief befall him, ye shall bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.

³⁰ Now therefore when I come to thy servant my father, and the lad be not with us; seeing that his life is bound up in the lad's life;

³¹ It shall come to pass, when he seeth that the lad is not with us, that he will die: and thy servants shall bring down the gray hairs of thy servant our father with sorrow to the grave.

³² For thy servant became surety for the lad unto my father, saying, If I bring him not unto thee, then I shall bear the blame to my father for ever.

³³ Now therefore, I pray thee, **let thy servant abide instead of the lad a bondman to my lord; and let the lad go up with his brethren.**¹²

³⁴ For how shall I go up to my father, and the lad be not with me? lest peradventure I see the evil that shall come on my father.

¹⁰ Judah claims his father would die of grief if he is forced to leave Benjamin behind.

¹¹ Here is another example of how Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah, and how obvious it was to his sons.

¹² Judah volunteers to stay as Joseph's slave in Benjamin's place.

45 Then Joseph could not refrain himself¹³ before all them that stood by him; and he cried, Cause every man to go out from me. And there stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known unto his brethren.

2 And he wept aloud: and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard.

3 And Joseph said unto his brethren, I am Joseph; doth my father yet live?¹⁴ And his brethren could not answer him; for they were troubled at his presence.

4 And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.¹⁵

5 Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.¹⁶

6 For these two years hath the famine been in the land: and yet there are five years, in the which there shall neither be earing nor harvest.¹⁷

7 And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

9 Haste ye, and go up to my father, and say unto him, Thus saith thy son Joseph, God hath made me lord of all Egypt¹⁸: come down unto me, tarry not:

10 And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast:

¹³ All of the pain and frustration of 20 years that Joseph has been holding inside bursts out and is exposed in front of his brothers and those at the lunch.

¹⁴ Joseph reveals himself, and asks about Israel. Joseph still has a problem believing his brothers were honest with him. The truth coming from liars is hard to believe.

¹⁵ Joseph now has shocked his brothers into silence. None of them are able to respond to his revelation.

¹⁶ Joseph's transformation has come full circle, he recognizes that God orchestrated all of his life for the good of his family.

¹⁷ Earing or harvest means "reaping or sowing".

¹⁸ God is in the forefront of Joseph's mind. He constantly mentions Him as the author of his life.

¹¹ And there will I nourish thee; for yet there are five years of famine; lest thou, and thy household, and all that thou hast, come to poverty.¹⁹

¹² And, behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaketh unto you.

¹³ And ye shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that ye have seen; and ye shall haste and bring down my father hither²⁰.

¹⁴ And he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck, and wept; and Benjamin wept upon his neck.

¹⁵ Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that his brethren talked with him.

¹⁶ And the fame thereof was heard in Pharaoh's house, saying, Joseph's brethren are come: and it pleased Pharaoh well, and his servants.

¹⁷ And Pharaoh said unto Joseph,²¹ Say unto thy brethren, This do ye; lade your beasts, and go, get you unto the land of Canaan;

¹⁸ And take your father and your households, and come unto me: and I will give you the good of the land of Egypt, and ye shall eat the fat of the land.

¹⁹ Now thou art commanded, this do ye; take you wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones, and for your wives, and bring your father, and come.

²⁰ Also regard not your stuff; for the good of all the land of Egypt is your's.

²¹ And the children of Israel did so: and Joseph gave them wagons, according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and gave them provision for the way.

²² To all of them he gave each man changes of raiment; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver, and five changes of raiment.²²

²³ And to his father he sent after this manner; ten asses laden with the good things of Egypt, and ten she asses laden with corn and bread and meat for his father by the way.

¹⁹ Joseph promises to protect and provide for his brothers, his father, and their families.

²⁰ Bring my father back here quickly. Joseph has been reunited with his brothers, and now he wishes to be reunited with his father.

²¹ Pharaoh now blesses Joseph's family with his own promise.

²² Again Benjamin is favored.

²⁴ So he sent his brethren away, and they departed: and he said unto them, See that ye fall not out by the way.

²⁵ And they went up out of Egypt, and came into the land of Canaan unto Jacob their father,

²⁶ And told him, saying, Joseph is yet alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt. **And Jacob's heart fainted, for he believed them not.**²³

²⁷ And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said unto them: and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived:

²⁸ And Israel said, It is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive: I will go and see him before I die.²⁴

²³ Again liars are hard to believe even when they tell the truth, good news is rejected. The deception is so deep in this family that no one believes the other.

²⁴ The reunion is set. After 20 years of mourning, Israel and his favorite son will be reunited.