JUDAH’S REPENTANCE

Genesis 42–45, 50:1–21

Key Verse: 44:33

1. How had Joseph’s brothers eliminated him and covered it up, and what effect did it have? (37:28–38:1) How was God using the famine? (42:1–5) Why did Jacob not send Benjamin? How often did Joseph say his brothers were spies? (42:6–17) What current news did he find out about his family? How and why did he emphasize telling the truth?
2. What did Joseph first propose? (42:15–16) What was his new proposal, and how did he explain? (18–20) How did the brothers interpret what was happening? (21) What did Reuben say, and why? (22) How did Joseph react, and why? (23–24) What was the point of the returned silver? (25–28) In what sense did these people need restoration?
3. How did the brothers explain to Jacob that they had to take Benjamin to Egypt? (42:29–34) How did the rest of the returned silver affect them? (35) Why did Jacob refuse Reuben? (36–38) How did the famine begin to change his mind? (43:1–2) In what ways did Judah behave like a leader? (3–10) How did Jacob respond? (11–14)
4. How did the brothers react to being taken to Joseph’s house for lunch? (43:15–18) How did Joseph’s steward reassure them? (19–24) How did Joseph react when he saw Benjamin, and why? (25–31) What astonishing thing happened at the meal? (32–34) What was the point of putting the silver cup in Benjamin’s sack? (44:1–13)
5. What parts of Judah’s speech prove he had truly repented? (44:14–34) How did Joseph respond, and why? (45:1–2) Why did he wait until now to do this? What shows that he had forgiven them, and how did he comfort them? (3–15) How did Pharaoh respond? (16–20) How did Joseph send them off? (21–24) What did Jacob do? (25–28)
6. Describe Jacob’s burial (50:1–14). Afterwards, what were Joseph’s brothers thinking? (15) Why? What did they officially request, and how did Joseph react? (16–17) What did they do, and how did he reassure them? (18–19) Read 50:20. How had Joseph resolved in his own heart the evil his brothers did to him? How did he help them? (21)
7. What can we learn in these chapters about how people can be restored from past wrongs and guilt? What can we learn from Joseph about how to help others be restored spiritually?