

FORGIVENESS--THE ULTIMATE TEST

(Genesis 42)

I. THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND CONTEXTUAL SETTING FOR THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

II. JOSEPH: CHOSEN AND PROTECTED BY GOD (Genesis 37:1-36)

III. JOSEPH: THE DEPENDABLE EMPLOYEE (Genesis 39:1-6)

IV. MRS. POTIPHAR'S ATTEMPT TO SEDUCE JOSEPH (Genesis 39:7-20)

V. JOSEPH: IN PRISON FOR SOMETHING HE DIDN'T DO (Genesis 39:20-40:23)

VI. JOSEPH: FROM PRISON TO A POSITION OF POWER (Genesis 41:1-57)

VII. THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD IN BRINGING ABOUT REPENTANCE IN JACOB'S TEN SONS (Genesis 42)

- A. By the _____ of God, the _____ was severe in the land; so Jacob's ten sons went to Egypt to buy food, although Benjamin the youngest was not among them. (42:1-5)

* How far and how long was this trip to Egypt?

* What should this teach you about financial security in your life?

- B. On their first meeting in over _____ years, Joseph recognized his brothers, but his brothers _____ recognize him. (42:6-8)

* What is providential in Joseph being the one to actually interact with these Hebrews?

* Why did Joseph deal harshly with his brothers? Was he harboring bitterness? (vv. 9-14)

* Was this a complete fulfillment of his earlier two dreams back in Canaan?

C. The way Joseph dealt with his brothers and brought them to _____ is a masterpiece of spiritual _____, patience and _____. (42:9-44:17)

D. Since his brothers repeatedly claimed to be _____ and _____ men, Joseph was going to give them a chance to prove it by going back to get their brother Benjamin. (42:10-20)

E. Joseph put them in custody for three days to bring about a sense of _____ for what they had done to him and _____ from the Lord. (42:21-22)

* How did Joseph respond when he overheard their conversation concerning their own personal guilt? (vv. 23-24)

* Why did Joseph choose Simeon to be the one left behind in custody?

F. Out of his _____ for his brothers and father Joseph provided many _____ for their long journey. (42:25-28)

* What is rather remarkable about this when we take 43:23 into consideration?

G. On their return home, Jacob's nine sons related their interaction with the Egyptian monarch, and they explained his _____ for Benjamin as _____. (42:29-35)

* How did Jacob react to the news of Simeon and Benjamin? (vv. 36-38)

* What can you learn from this important chapter?