

Good Morning & Welcome!

***Lets Begin By Dismissing Our Kids To Their
Kids Quest Areas Of Ministry!***



***This Morning We Continue Our
Journey In The Life Of Joseph!***

Text:

Genesis 43:15-34!

Title:

Joseph's Tears of Joy!



Things I Think About!

Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called the rush hour?



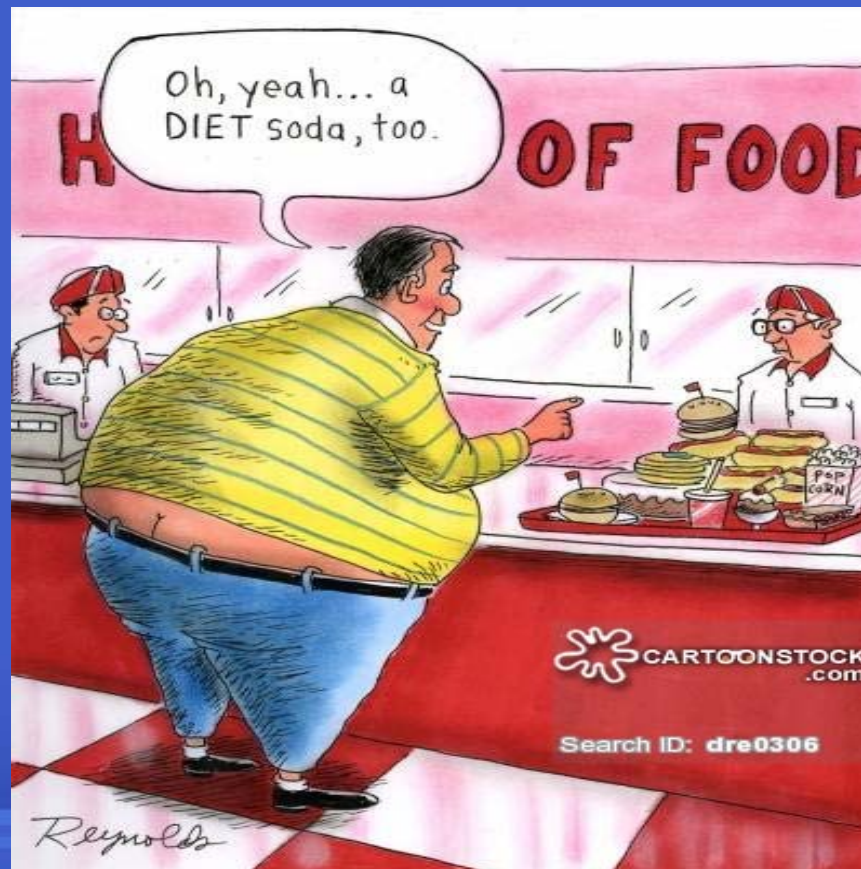
Things I Think About!

Why do supermarkets make sick people walk all the way to the back of the store to get their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front counter?



Things I Think About!

Why do people order a double cheeseburger and a large fry with a diet coke?



Things I Think About!

***Why do banks leave their vault doors
and then chain the pen to the counter***



Things I Think About!

***Why can't women put on mascara
with their mouth closed***



Things I Think About!

***Why is it we never see the headline
“Psychic Wins Lottery?”***



Things I Think About!

Why is the person who invests your life savings called a broker?



Things I Think About!

Why don't sheep shrink when it rains



Lets Continue Our Journey!

This morning we continue our journey through the life and times of a young Hebrew man named Joseph. And as we continue we will find ourselves answering the ultimate question,

“Just who is in control / sovereign in our lives?”

The answer to that question is revealed in the theme of the book of Genesis!

Let's Get Into The Inspired Text!



Lets Get Started!

For over 20 years Joseph and his brothers has been living separate lives. Joesph has been living in Egypt while his brothers live in Canaan. Joseph has been separated from his family, while his brothers have been living together with their father and relatives. This morning we will again see the sovereign hand of God at work as He begins the process of reuniting Joseph and his family. And this reuniting will take place for the purpose of fulfilling God's promise to Abram (in Genesis 12). As we journey through the verses before us this morning, we will find Joseph unable to hold back his tears as he sees his brother Benjamin for the first time.

An Overview of Today's Outline!

I. (43:15-34) The Story of the Brothers Return to Egypt!

A. (v.15) The Brothers RETURN.

B. (vv.16-17) The RESPONSE of Joseph

C. (vv.18-22) The Brothers REACTION to Joseph.

D. (v.23a) The RESPONSE of Joseph's Steward.

E. (v.23b) The RELEASE of Simeon.

F. (vv.24-29) The REUNION at Joseph's Home.

G. (vv.30-31) The REACTION over Benjamin.

H. (vv.32-34) The Meal is RESUMED.

I. (43:15-32) *The Story of the Brothers Return to Egypt!*

A. (v.15) The Brothers RETURN.

Remember, Jacob and his family are being overwhelmed by the reality of the famine and are now feeling the pains of hunger. So Jacob gives in and allows the older brothers to take Benjamin with them on their second trip to Egypt. And with the hope of gaining bargaining power, they will return to Egypt with the best products of the land, double the money, and of course their younger brother Benjamin.

This Morning ... We pick up with the brothers arriving in Egypt and standing in line waiting to meet (for the second time) the mighty Zephenath-paneah.

The Story of the Brothers Return to Egypt!

B. (vv.16-17) The RESPONSE of Joseph

While standing in line they are suddenly approached by the personal steward of Joseph. And they are commanded to meet with Joseph at his home.

1. (v.16a) The Reason ... Joseph sees his brother Benjamin (Rachel's son) for the very first time. Twenty years had passed by. And while meeting with his brothers, during their first visit to Egypt, he discovered that he had a younger brother who remained in Canaan with his aging father. This moment is most special because the two blood brothers had never met before. Now Joseph will see Benjamin for the first time.

The Story of the Brothers Return to Egypt!

A. (v.15) The Brothers **RETURN**.

B. (vv.16-17) The **RESPONSE** .

1. (v.16a) The **Reason** ... Joseph sees his brother.

2. (v.16b) The **Response** ... Show hospitality

3. (vv.16c-17) The **Reason** ... To get a better look at his younger brother Benjamin.

The Story of the Brothers Return to Egypt!

C. (vv.18-22) The Brothers **REACTION** to Joseph.

1. (v.18a) Their **REACTION** ... They feared the unknown.
2. (v.18b) Their **REASONING** ... They thought the worst.

It is here that we begin to discover that when “true” guilt is left unchecked it begins to magnify and grow. This causes anxiety. Later they are found stumbling all over themselves trying to explain what happened to them while in Egypt to Joseph’s steward. Fearing the worst they are afraid that their truthfulness is in question.

Something Important to Remember

Guilt paralyzes us. It causes us to fear the unknown and think the worst. True guilt often is God's way of driving us to repentance by revealing to us what is deep inside our hearts.



The Story of the Brothers Return to Egypt!

C. (vv.18-22) The Brothers **REACTION** to Joseph.

1. (v.18a) Their **REACTION** ... They feared the
unknown.

2. (v.18b) Their **REASONING** ... They thought the
Worst.

3. (vv.19-22) Their **RESPONSE** ... To tell the truth
about what
happened hoping to prove that they are honest
men. Again we see the hand of God actively
working in the lives of Joseph's brothers (cf. 43:7f)

The Story of the Brothers Return to Egypt!

D. (v.23a) The **RESPONSE** of Joseph's Steward.

It is in this verse that Moses uses the word "Shalom." The word "Shalom" is a Hebrew word that means "may peace be given to you." Upon hearing this word, I'm sure Joseph's older brothers sat up and paid attention. In other words, the steward's response (spoken in the Hebrew tongue) was for them to – Relax! The reason? The hand of their God, the very God of their father (Jacob) was at work – I am an eye witness that you gave the money. I actually held your money in my own hands.

The Story of the Brothers Return to Egypt!

E. (v.23b) The **RELEASE** of Simeon.

As the word “Shalom” is spoken by Joseph’s steward, they again are given further reassurance of God’s sovereign hand by the removal of Simeon from prison. Simeon now stands before them freed from his shackles.

The Story of the Brothers Return to Egypt!

F. (vv.24-29) The **REUNION** at Joseph's Home.

1. (v.24) The **PREPARATION** for lunch.
2. (v.25) The **PREPARING** of the gifts.
3. (vv.26-29) The **PRESENTING** of the gifts.

As Joseph enters the house, his brothers immediately show their respect (cf. 37:5&9) for him by bowing to the ground (humbling themselves) and presenting him with their gifts (honoring him).

- a. (v.27) Joseph **asks** about their welfare (father).
- b. (v.28) The brothers **answer** (he is well).
- c. (v.29) Joseph **asks** about Benjamin.

The Story of the Brothers Return to Egypt!

G. (vv.30-31) The **REACTION** over Benjamin.

1. (v.30) Joseph is **OVERCOME** by emotion.
2. (v.31) Joseph **ORDERS** the meal to begin.

H. (vv.32-34) The Meal is **RESUMED**.

1. (v.32) The meal complies to **Egyptian** custom.
2. (v.33) The meal complies to **Hebrew** custom.
3. (v.34) The meal is designed to test the **brothers** to see if there is any resentment or jealousy toward their youngest brother Benjamin.

Next Week
The Brother's Long Journey Home!

Stay Tuned:



Application for Us Today!

1. There are two kinds of guilt.

There is true guilt and there is false guilt.

a. False Guilt comes from the devil and stands in contrast to the Word of God. The

Bible clearly teaches that forgiveness is given as a result of repentance – turning from our sin and trusting in God for forgiveness which leads to salvation. False guilt rises up from within when we dismiss the love and grace of God and cling to our own ability to please God through human efforts.

False guilt is Satan telling us that Christ's work is not sufficient enough to please God and our believing it.

Application for Us Today!

1. There are two kinds of guilt.

There is true guilt and there is false guilt.

b. True Guilt comes from God and stands in accordance with the Scriptures.

True guilt is the result of God's Holy Spirit touching the heart to remind us that unconfused sin separates the child of God from his/her fellowship with the Father. True guilt does not cause the loss of salvation. It breaks the desired fellowship the believer enjoys with God. True guilt drives us to God. False guilt away from God.

Application for Us Today!

Today, such responses as outward compassion and open emotions are not expected in a leader. If you take time to observe the images of our nation's past leaders and heroes, you will find them cast in cold, hard, bronze and void of any expression of emotion. They appear to be looking far past the problems of today. They seem to be unconcerned with the world around them. So we conclude that they are not like ordinary men, and certainly not like us. But if you think this you are wrong. The Bible, again and again, links biblical leaders to the heart of God. (Remember David and Jesus and Joseph)

Application for Us Today!

Telling the truth is always best. Today the Lord waits patiently for us to quit running from Him, trying to defend ourselves, and start trusting him during life's difficult challenges. This week we found Joseph's brothers telling his steward the truth about what happened on the first trip into Egypt. The result was that they received words of comfort and assurance. The week before we watched them tell lies to their father, Jacob. And we witnessed the result – a family feud. The conclusion, telling the truth is always best.

Next Week
The Brother's Long Journey Home!

Stay Tuned:

