

Joseph's Brothers Go to Egypt

Genesis 42:1-38

Main Point:

When God providentially confronts you with your sin and tests you to see if you have changed, respond by repenting and pursuing new obedience.

1. God's providence is always at work in your life.
2. God, in His providence, will sometimes confront you with your sin.
3. He will also providentially test you to see if you have changed.
4. Though this can be difficult, God has a loving purpose behind it.
5. Respond to these providences by repenting of your sin and pursuing new obedience.

Genesis 37:8 ⁸ And his brothers said to him, "Shall you indeed reign over us? Or shall you indeed have dominion over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words. (NKJV)

Psalm 139:16 ¹⁶ Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as *yet there were* none of them. (NKJV)

Ephesians 1:11 ¹¹ In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, (NKJV)

John Currid "Joseph is setting up circumstances in order that the consciences of his brothers might be pricked. This is so that they might have a sense of remorse regarding what they had done to him."

Allen Ross "The brothers, who knew they were guilty, could perceive that it was God's retributive hand, for this was the second time they had come home with money, having abandoned a brother to prison in Egypt."

Romans 8:28-29 ²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. (NKJV)

WSC 87 Q. What is repentance unto life? A. Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavour after, new obedience.

R. Kent Hughes "True guilt is a grace because it brings the guilty to seek forgiveness and to repent."

Allen Ross "Reuben, representing the brothers, was determined to return and see the matter through ... His oath, even though a foolish way to guarantee the safety of Benjamin ... demonstrated his concern for the safety of Benjamin – as if Benjamin were his own son. The brothers, and especially Reuben, were willing to comply with the Egyptian governor's test, for they had changed."