

FAMINE IN THE LAND
(Genesis 42:1-38)

- I. Jacob's Sons Go to EGYPT (Gen. 42:1-5)
 - A. Needed GRAIN in Canaan
 - B. RELUCTANT to go to Egypt
 - C. Left BENJAMIN at home
- II. Jacob's Sons FACE JOSEPH (Gen. 42:6-20)
 - A. Went to ASK for GRAIN
 - 1. FULFILLED his DREAMS by BOWING
 - 2. RECOGNIZED by Joseph, who EXPECTED them
 - B. Were ACCUSED by Joseph of SPYING
 - 1. Desired RECONCILIATION, not REVENGE
 - 2. Needed more INFORMATION about the FAMILY
 - 3. Communicated through an INTERPRETER
 - C. DEFENDED themselves with INFORMATION
 - 1. FATHER still LIVING
 - 2. BENJAMIN at home
 - D. Were COMMANDED by Joseph to FETCH BENJAMIN
 - 1. Said NINE brothers to be IMPRISONED until ONE brought him
 - 2. Agreed to hold ONE while the NINE went HOME

- III. Jacob's Sons CONFESS Their SIN (Gen. 42:21-24)
 - A. Admission was IMMEDIATE and SIMULTANEOUS
 - 1. Had IGNORED Joseph's pleas for MERCY
 - 2. Had SOLD Joseph into EGPTIAN BONDAGE
 - 3. Had ignored REUBEN'S ADVICE
 - B. Admission provoked JOY in Joseph
 - 1. WEPT at hearing their REPENTANCE
 - 2. Bound SIMEON as HOSTAGE
- IV. Jacob's Sons RETURN to CANAAN (Gen. 42:25-38)
 - A. Took GRAIN for family and found MONEY in ONE SACK, so would be accused of THEFT upon returning
 - B. Told JACOB, then found MONEY in EVERY SACK, a further TEST of their CHARACTER and INTEGRITY
 - C. Were REBUKED by Jacob
 - 1. Held them responsible for the loss of TWO SONS
 - 2. Bewailed that ALL events were AGAINST him
 - 3. IGNORED Reuben's FOOLISH offer of his TWO SONS as collateral
 - 4. REFUSED permission to take BENJAMIN to Egypt
 - a. Willing to SACRIFICE Simeon
 - b. FAVORED Benjamin since Joseph was gone
 - c. Provoked GREATER CONVICTION in his sons