

Broken Brothers - Week 16

Gen 44:1-31

Gen 44:1 Now Joseph gave these instructions to the steward of his house: "Fill the men's sacks with as much food as they can carry, and put each man's silver in the mouth of his sack. 2 Then put my cup, the silver one, in the mouth of the youngest one's sack, along with the silver for his grain." And he did as Joseph said. 3 As morning dawned, the men were sent on their way with their donkeys. 4 They had not gone far from the city when Joseph said to his steward, "Go after those men at once, and when you catch up with them, say to them, 'Why have you repaid good with evil? 5 Isn't this the cup my master drinks from and also uses for divination? This is a wicked thing you have done.'" 6 When he caught up with them, he repeated these words to them. 7 But they said to him, "Why does my lord say such things? Far be it from your servants to do anything like that! 8 We even brought back to you from the land of Canaan the silver we found inside the mouths of our sacks. So why would we steal silver or gold from your master's house? 9 If any of your servants is found to have it, he will die; and the rest of us will become my lord's slaves." 10 "Very well, then," he said, "let it be as you say. Whoever is found to have it will become my slave; the rest of you will be free from blame." 11 Each of them quickly lowered his sack to the ground and opened it. 12 Then the steward proceeded to search, beginning with the oldest and ending with the youngest. And the cup was found in Benjamin's sack. 13 At this, they tore their clothes. Then they all loaded their donkeys and returned to the city. 14 Joseph was still in the house when Judah and his brothers came in and they threw themselves to the ground before him. 15 Joseph said to them, "What is this you have done? Don't you know that a man like me can find things out by divination?"

- Divination: "The practice of seeking knowledge of the future or the unknown by _____ means."
- Joseph's practice of seeking knowledge about the future came two ways: Prayer and _____.
- The brothers had once conspired with hate against Joseph. Now he conspires against them with _____.
- Real love is not afraid to be _____.
- Our God many times humbles those He loves and then heaps on them the _____ of His love.
- If Benjamin had stolen the cup, it would have been the lowest piece of dishonesty and _____.
- The first test was with _____ by putting the money back in the sacks.
- The second test was their _____.

What is Joseph trying to accomplish here?

1. On the first trip he confronted them with some dangerous _____.
2. On the second trip it was with _____ responsibility.

Life-Changing Moments

- The brothers have come to life's greatest _____.
- Tearing their clothes is also a picture of coming to the end of their own cleverness and _____.
- When we come to an end of self, then and only then will we acknowledge the _____ of God.

Judah's Confession

Gen 44:16 "What can we say to my lord?" Judah replied. "What can we say? How can we prove our innocence? God has uncovered your servants' guilt. We are now my lord's slaves--we ourselves and the one who was found to have the cup." 17 But Joseph said, "Far be it from me to do such a thing! Only the man who was found to have the cup will become my slave. The rest of you, go back to your father in peace."

- Judah offers to share the _____ and then to shoulder the responsibility completely.
- Joseph _____ Judah's plea to take blame.
- Judah appeals to Joseph's _____.
- He appeals to Joseph's _____.
- He appeals to Joseph's _____.
- He appeals to Joseph's _____.

Several things we should notice about Judah that day:

1. He was _____.
2. He was _____.
3. He was _____.
4. He was a type of _____.
5. He was a man of _____.