

Genesis 43 Bible Devotions

☐ **Monday - God Has a Bigger Plan.** Genesis 43:1-2

Jacob must have prayed for the famine to break, but God had a bigger plan for Jacob and his sons. Our prayers must always be filled with faith that whatever God does in response to our prayers, His will is better than our own. Three times Christ prayed, “Not my will by Thy will be done” (cf. Mt. 26:39, 42, 44). How much more then should His people submit to the sovereign will of God with regard to prayer? Read 1 John 5:14-15

☐ **Tuesday - Judah’s Character Transformation.** Genesis 43:9

Judah said his father Jacob, “I myself will be surety for Benjamin” (Gen. 43:9). Judah was willing to put his own life on the line as a guarantee of Benjamin’s safety, another glimpse into the inner transformation that was taking place within Judah (cf. Gen 38:26, 42:21). Remember, it was Judah who had proposed the sale of Joseph into slavery (Gen. 37:26); and it was Judah who had relations with his daughter-in-law, Tamar, thinking she was a harlot (Gen. 38:15-18). But if God could save and sanctify one like Judah, then there is hope for any who trust in the Lord for eternal life. Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

☐ **Wednesday - Another Picture of Christ.** Genesis 43:16-17

We have already seen numerous pictures of Christ in the life of Joseph. He was: [1] his father’s beloved son (Gen. 37:3; Mt. 3:17); [2] rejected by his brothers (Gen. 37:4; Jn. 1:11); [3] conspired against (Gen. 37:18; Mt. 12:14); [4] sold for silver (Gen. 37:26, 28; Mt. 26:15); [5] became a bond-servant (Gen. 37:28; Phil. 2:7); [6] tempted (Gen. 39:7-12; Mt. 4:1-11); [7] falsely accused (Gen. 39:17; Mt. 26:59-60); [8] with two criminals (Gen. 40:1-3; Lk. 23:22-23), where one received life and the other death (Gen. 40:20–23; Lk. 23:39-43); [9] began his public ministry at age thirty (Gen. 41:46; Lk. 3:23); [10] exalted to power (Gen. 41:40-41; Phil. 2:9). And here we see yet another picture of Jesus, who wanted to share a meal with his brethren (Gen. 43:16-17; Lk. 22:15); that is, he wants a close relationship with them. Read Rev. 3:20

☐ **Thursday - Kindness Leads to Repentance.** Genesis 43:23-24

The brothers were afraid and expected to be imprisoned (Gen. 43:18), yet Joseph treated them with kindness. And it was this kindness from Joseph that God used to bring them to full repentance. Read Romans 2:4

☐ **Friday - Re-Test for the Sons of Jacob.** Genesis 43:33-34

“Benjamin’s serving was five times as much as any of theirs” (Gen. 43:34). This was another test: Joseph wanted to see how his brothers would react when their younger brother was favored. Joseph remembered how they hated him for the favoritism shown to Joseph by their father (Gen. 37:4). In the same way, God tests and tries His own people to reform our character. Sometimes we respond correctly and pass the test. Other times we fail the test, and God arranges for us to take the test again another time. Christian, do not despise God’s tests and trials in your life, but learn from them. Read Philippians 1:6