

## JOSEPH

#14, the cup – Gen 44:1-34

All's well that ends well! Isn't that what they say? As it turned out that boss guy wasn't such a bad egg after all! A good meal, a good night's rest and we're all headen home. Our father will be happy to see Simeon again. We got the food and brought back Benjamin! Mission accomplished! What a beautiful day!

### Genesis chapter 44

1 Then he commanded his house steward, saying, "Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put each man's money in the mouth of his sack. 2 "Put my cup, the silver cup, in the mouth of the sack of the youngest, and his money for the grain." And he did as Joseph had told him. 3 As soon as it was light, the men were sent away, they with their donkeys. 4 They had just gone out of the city, and were not far off, when Joseph said to his house steward, "Up, follow the men; and when you overtake them, say to them, 'Why have you repaid evil for good? 5' Is not this the one from which my lord drinks and which he indeed uses for divination? You have done wrong in doing this.'"

[1.] v:1-3, he commanded his house steward, **In the wee small hours of the morning, what was Joseph's command?**

[2.] v:4-5, When the house steward over took the brothers, what did Joseph instruct him to say?

[3.] v:4-5, again, say to them, What "tone of voice" do you think the steward used, and why did he use it?

[4.] v:4-5 again, You have done wrong, Why does fear, confusion or loud noise cause a negative effect to the hearer?

[5.] v:5, one from which my lord drinks **How would the brothers have known that this was Zaphenath-paneah's cup?**

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6 So he overtook them and spoke these words to them.

7 They said to him, "Why does my lord speak such words as these? Far be it from your servants to do such a thing. 8 "Behold, the money which we found in the mouth of our sacks we have brought back to you from the land of Canaan. How then could we steal silver or gold from your lord's house? 9 " With whomever of your servants it is found, let him die, and we also will be my lord's slaves."

10 So he said, "Now let it also be according to your words; he with whom it is found shall be my slave, and the rest of you shall be innocent."

11 Then they hurried, each man lowered his sack to the ground, and each man opened his sack. 12 He searched, beginning with the oldest and ending with the youngest, and the cup was found in Benjamin's sack. 13 Then they tore their clothes, and when each man loaded his donkey, they returned to the city.

[6.] v:6, he overtook them, **Supposed he was aboard a fast four-horse chariot. Jot down what you feel the brothers thought as he swooped down on them.**

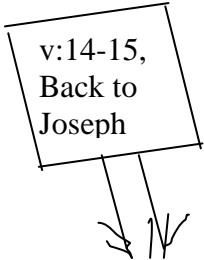
[7.] v:7-8, They said to him, **Up to this point, how had the brother's responded logically?**

[8.] v:9, With whomever, **In their self confidence, what two promises did the brothers make?**

[9.] v:10, So he said, **So the house steward "seemed" to agree, but really says what two things?**

[10.] v:11-13, they tore their clothes, **What is this a sign of?**

v:14-15,  
Back to  
Joseph



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16 So Judah said, "What can we say to my lord? What can we speak? And how can we justify ourselves? God has found out the iniquity of your servants; behold, we are my lord's slaves, both we and the one in whose possession the cup has been found."

17 But he said, "Far be it from me to do this. The man in whose possession the cup has been found, he shall be my slave; but as for you, go up in peace to your father."

[11.] v:16, God has found out, In Egypt, I don't recall the boys doing anything they should be guilty about. What does Judah mean?

[12.] v:16 again. behold, we are my lord's, How is Judah's agreement different from those that have already been mentioned?

[13.] v:17, But he said, Joseph counters back by asserting what?

[14.] question [13.], Judah could see the dire consequences. As twice born Christian's, describe the importance of always considering the "possible" consequences of our actions?

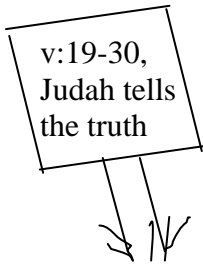
Judah is very pensive! He knows his life is on the line if he comes near to me, but I think he is going to do it. I wonder if time has changed him? I can learn a lot by what he says next.

18 Then Judah approached him, and said, "Oh my lord, may your servant please speak a word in my lord's ears, and do not be angry with your servant; for you are equal to Pharaoh.

[15.] v:18 and Rom 13:1-7. Oh my lord, Describe how Judah is here an example of how a twice born Christian must respect authority.

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31 when he sees that the lad is not with us, he will die. Thus your servants will bring the gray hair of your servant our father down to Sheol in sorrow.

32 "For your servant became surety for the lad to my father, saying, 'If I do not bring him back to you, then let me bear the blame before my father forever.'

33 "Now, therefore, please let your servant remain instead of the lad a slave to my lord, and let the lad go up with his brothers.

34 "For how shall I go up to my father if the lad is not with me – for fear that I see the evil that would overtake my father?"

[16.] question [15.], This would this be a good time for Judah to:

- a) Try and show the authority!
- b) Stage a demonstration!
- c) Demand his rights!
- d) Tell the truth!

[17.] v:31, when he sees, Though Judah is speaking through an interpreter, who do you feel Joseph is studying?

[18.] v:32, became surety, What did Judah mean?

[19.] v:33-34, Now, therefore, please, How was Judah willing to lay down his life?

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[20.] v:18-34, Why or why don't you feel Joseph noticed the change in Judah?

[21.] As twice-born Christian's, why is it very important to be watching each other's lives?

[22.] question [21.], If the above question is important to us, when do we go about doing this?