

Genesis 44:1-34 **The Silver Cup**

Introduction:

When we look at how Joseph is dealing with his brothers we must not think for a moment that he is conducting some kind of a merciless game. Joseph's first born, "Manasseh" means "God has made me forget all my trouble." He has by God's grace already been given the ability to forgive the evil his brothers wrought against him. Joseph's graciousness to forgive did not mean that his brothers were to continue their despicable behavior. God used Joseph through wisdom to bring his brothers to true repentance and faith; otherwise they would be lost for eternal condemnation. We see in Joseph a true type of Christ. Eph. 4:32

I. Joseph's Wise Scheme

A. Joseph's brothers sin found them out – Num. 32:23

1. The content of this verse...

B. Self confidence

1. Joseph's confidence came from the Lord – Phil. 4:13
2. Fleishy confidence is sinful – Phil. 3:3

C. The cup found in Benjamin's sack v.7-9

1. Joseph's brothers claimed innocence
2. None righteous – Rom. 3:10
3. The cup an instrument used for repentance and faith – Turn To: Colossians 2:11-15
4. Why a cup of divination?

D. Joseph's brothers transformed:

1. There is change in the brother's relationship to each other.
2. There is a drastic change in Judah offering himself as a slave in place of Benjamin v.33,34
3. Application: Victory comes through defeat – John 3:3; Mark 8:35,36

II. Judah's Moving Speech v. 16-34

A. The significance of his words:

1. He implored Joseph to grant him a favorable hearing – v. 18; Psalm 34:18; 51:17
2. He indicates his previous submission – v. 19-23; Rom. 13:1-2; I Pet. 2:13
3. He indicates his father's agony with the thought of young Benjamin leaving home – v.24-30; Eph. 2:4-5
4. He offers to take Benjamin's place – v.33

B. The great Exchange – II Cor. 5:21

C. Paul's substitution – Rom. 9:3 (Moses, Exodus 32:30-35)

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