

Joseph's Cup in Benjamin's Sack

050202-1

Hello! This is Dorothy -

I wonder if you have ever been invited to a very special meal, a meal where there were dignitaries. Oh, such a special occasion and you talk about it to everybody forever and ever and ever. Well, just imagine Joseph's brothers were invited to go to the home of the governor! Everybody would have been so excited and they must have been longing for some really good food, because where they had come from there was famine in the land. So we read in

Genesis 43:26 -

26 And when Joseph came home . . . - from his work - . . . they

. . . - Joseph's brothers, who had sold him into slavery, but did not realize this governor was their brother - . . . brought him the present - their father had said to bring a present so all kinds of lovely little things were involved, such as spicery and special nuts and things they had brought from another land - and they came, because you always came with a special present - and they were invited by Joseph to a place they never expected to be - . . . and bowed themselves to him to the earth. - they were treating him as some great, important person as he was.

27 And he asked them of their welfare. . . - how they were -

*and asked about their father, while they did not realize it was his father - and wanted to know how he was - . . . and said, **Is your father well, the old man of whom ye spake? Is he yet alive?***

28 **And they answered, Thy servant our father is in good health, he is yet alive. . . . - And down they go again! - . . . And they bowed down their heads and made obeisance.** This is a key, because Scriptures tell you of Scriptures! That is the wonderful web that is all the way through the Scriptures. It links one section with another. Back in **Genesis 37:9**, we read that Joseph had prophetically dreamed there would be a day the brothers would come and bow down before him.

9 **And he dreamed . . . behold, the sun and the moon, and the eleven stars. . . -there were twelve brothers - . . . made obeisance to me.** And here they were! Think of that, and then go to the very end of the Bible, to the very last book, **Revelation 12**, where the nation of Israel is mentioned in **verse 1 - And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:** This is speaking of the family - actually of the twelve tribes of Israel. These are the brothers, who had become part of these amazing twelve tribes of Israel, which is read of in other parts of the Bible.

In **Genesis 43:29**, we read -

29 **And he. . . - Joseph - lifted up his eyes, and saw his brother Benjamin. . . - you remember, there was a mother, Rachel, who had two sons: Joseph and Benjamin. . . and said, Is this your younger brother, of whom ye spake unto me? And he said, God be gracious unto thee, my son.** *The fact he mentioned God in this pagan setting, you would have thought people would have caught on and thought there was something different about this man. But they missed it!* Joseph was so overwhelmed when he saw Benjamin, he couldn't control himself. He was having such a hard time that he rushed out of the room and went to his own place and wept loud and long. He was in a desperate state, because he was trying to curtail all that was going on inside of him. Then he came back and sat down to eat. You know, this was a very hard test for Joseph himself. It would have been so easy to go rushing in and say - "I am Joseph! It is wonderful to have you here!" But he is patiently carrying out tests for his brothers. He is testing them to see how faithful they really are to his father. They had deceived his father when they sold Joseph into slavery and pretended that some animal had eaten him up and torn at the garment he was wearing.

So, now we are back to the meal. The noon meal commenced and here is Joseph. He sat separate from the Israelites, from the brothers, because they never sat together. The interesting thing was they sat right in those seats according to their ages, as if somebody

knew something about this. This mystified them. So they had a marvelous meal. In fact, during the meal Joseph looked after Benjamin and sent extra mess and had an amazing time. The messes were the portions and he gave Benjamin five times more than his brothers. They sent this across at this happy meal. The next day they are on their way. Everything is loaded.

But one more time there was a test. In each of their bags, there was something they had no idea was happening to prove them. Their money was put back, but in Benjamin's sack, there was the silver cup, the cup which he had no right to have, because it belonged to Joseph. So, in no time, Joseph had them chased after and when they were caught them up, the interesting thing was what they said. "We guilty? Oh, no, we have done no guilt." In Jesus Name, that is how we might be seeing ourselves today. Turn to Him.

In His precious Name. Amen.