

MERCY OVERRULES ~ Genesis 43:1 - 44:17

→ Scripture Reading Genesis 43:1-5, 8, 14

INTRODUCTION

God's MERCY is the foundation of His FORGIVENESS. It is part of His faithfulness and steadfast love. Holman BD

BENJAMIN FINALLY GOES TO EGYPT ~ Genesis 43:1-14

[1] Now the famine was still severe in the land. [2] So when they had eaten ALL THE GRAIN they had brought from Egypt, their father said to them, "Go back and buy us a little more food. ...[6] Israel asked, "Why did you bring this trouble on me by telling the man you had another brother?" [7] They replied, "The man questioned us closely about ourselves and our family. 'Is your father still living?' he asked us. 'Do you have another brother?' We simply answered his questions. How were we to know he would say, 'Bring your brother down here?'" ...[8] Then Judah said to Israel his father, "Send the boy along with me and we will go at once, so that we and you and our children may live and not die. ...[14] And may GOD ALMIGHTY grant you MERCY before the man so that he will let your other brother and Benjamin come back with you. As for me, if I am bereaved, I am bereaved."

APPLICATION

People who sell their brother into slavery are not trustworthy. Constable

Romans 8:28 (NAS) And we know that God CAUSES all things to **work together** FOR GOOD to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

God weaves everything together for good for his children. The **GOOD** in this context does not refer to **earthly comfort** - but to becoming MORE LIKE Jesus, to closer fellowship with God, and to bearing good fruit for the kingdom... ESV Study Bible

FEASTING AT JOSEPH'S HOME ~ Genesis 43:15-34

[15] So the men took the gifts and double the amount of silver, and Benjamin also. They hurried down to Egypt and presented themselves to Joseph. ...[22] We have also brought additional silver with us to buy food. We don't know who put our silver in our sacks." [23] "It's all right," he said. "Don't be afraid. Your God, the God of your father, has given you treasure in your sacks; I received your silver." Then he brought SIMEON out to them.

GOOD SIGNS

- Simeon is RELEASED
- Able to Wash their FEET
- Cared for their ANIMALS

[27] He asked them how they were, and then he said, "How is your aged father you told me about? Is he still living?" [28] They replied, "Your servant our father is still alive and well." And they bowed low to pay him honor. [29] As he looked about and saw his brother Benjamin, his own mother's son, he asked, "Is this your youngest brother, the one you told me about?" And he said, "God be gracious to you, my son." ...[30] DEEPLY MOVED at the sight of his brother, Joseph hurried out and looked for a place to weep. He went into his private room and wept there. ...[33] The men had been seated before him in the order of their ages, from the firstborn to the youngest; and they looked at each other in astonishment. [34] When portions were served to them from Joseph's table, Benjamin's portion was five times as much as anyone else's. So they feasted and drank freely with him.

BENJAMIN IS SET UP ~ Genesis 44:1-13

[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. ...[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."

TRUE BROKENNESS ~ Genesis 44:12-34

[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. ...[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."

APPLICATION

Acts 26:20 (NET) ...I DECLARED to those in Damascus first, and then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles, that they should REPENT and TURN to God, performing deeds CONSISTENT with repentance.

THE ESSENCE OF THE GOSPEL

- Turn AWAY from sin and the world
- Turn TO God
- Show the REALITY in your LIFE

TAKE AWAY ??

RECEIVING AND RESPONDING TO GOD'S MERCY?

- Admit our GUILT
- Acknowledge we DESERVE judgment
- Turn AWAY from sin TO God
- Accept the GIFT that is Offered
- Marvel over God's MERCY and GRACE

Romans 10:13 (HCS) For EVERYONE who CALLS on **the name of the Lord** will be saved.