

Your God Gave You Treasure in Your Sacks (Gen 43)

Grace Chapel May 19, 2010 Dr. John Niemelä

INTRODUCTION

The impact of drought on Israel and on Egypt

(43:1–15) Jacob told his sons to buy grain in Egypt, but only reluctantly sent Benjamin with the brothers, despite what the Egyptian had said

(43:1–2) Upon running out of grain, Jacob told his sons to buy grain in Egypt

(43:3–5) The brothers (led by Judah) reminded Jacob that the Egyptian would not see them, unless they brought Benjamin

(43:6) Jacob whined that they should not have mentioned Benjamin to the Egyptian

(43:7) The brothers said that they had no idea the Egyptian would require bringing Benjamin

(43:8–10) Judah pledged himself as surety for Benjamin's safe return

(43:11–14) Jacob agreed to send Benjamin and said to bring a gift and double payment

(43:15) The brothers brought Benjamin, a gift, and double payment

(43:16–30) The brothers feared their meeting with the Egyptian, but were met with an inexplicable level of grace

(43:16–18) Joseph saw Benjamin with his brothers, so he told his steward to prepare a feast, but the invitation caused the brothers to fear a trap

(43:19–23) The brothers told the steward that, inexplicably, their payment for grain had been returned to them; the steward attributed the returned treasure to their God

(43:24–25) While awaiting Joseph’s arrival at home for the feast, they prepared his gift

(43:26–28) They gave the gift, bowed, and answered Joseph’s questions about Jacob

(43:29–30) Joseph pronounced blessing on Benjamin and excused himself to weep

(43:31–34) At the feast, they were seated in birth order and Benjamin received extravagant blessings from Joseph

(43:31–32) Joseph (acting as an Egyptian) sat separately from them as he ordered the feast to be served

(43:33) The brothers were amazed that they were seated in birth order

(43:34) Joseph gave of his food to the brothers, but served Benjamin with helpings five times as large as for the others

SUMMARY