



The Peculiar Desperation

LESSON FOUR OF FIVE

Sermon by Ray Reynolds (August 22, 2010)

TEXT: **Genesis 42-45**

INTRODUCTION: In our previous lessons we noticed the potential dynasty Joseph already had with the nation of Israel, the providential dreams he was experiencing, and the profound dilemma he experienced in Potiphar's house and as second in command in Egypt. Today, we are going to notice the peculiar desperation of Joseph's family and his struggling with forgiveness. How will Joseph react when his brothers come to him for help? Will he seek revenge? Let's study together. . . .

DISCUSSION:

I. The Terrible Famine

- A. Jacob's Family Is Starving (**Genesis 42:1-7**)
- B. Joseph's Position Is Significant (**Genesis 42:8-17**)
- C. The Brothers Are Sorrowful (**Genesis 42:18-22**)
- D. The Brothers Are Stressed (**Genesis 42:23-28**)
- E. Jacob Is Scared (**Genesis 42:29-38**)

II. The Traumatic Forecast

- A. The Family Is Out of Grain (**Genesis 43:1-2**)
- B. The Family Is Out of Options (**Genesis 43:3-14**)
- C. The Brothers Are Out of Hope (**Genesis 43:15-22**)
- D. The Brothers Are Out of Sync (**Genesis 43:23-34**)

III. The Troubling Feud

- A. The Sacks of Grain (**Genesis 44:1-2**)
- B. The Stolen Silver Cup (**Genesis 44:3-13**)
- C. The Steadfast Brothers (**Genesis 44:14-34**)

IV. The Tearful Family

- A. Joseph Reveals His Identity (**Genesis 45:1-3**)
- B. The Brothers Minds Are Incoherent (**Genesis 45:4-15**)
- C. Joseph's Forgiveness Is Incredible (**Genesis 45:16-24**)
- D. Jacob's Joy Is Influential (**Genesis 45:25-28**)

CONCLUSION: The story of Joseph has taken him from the pit to the palace. Where are you in your spiritual journey? Do you find yourself in desperation? Let the Lord hear your cries for help.

WORD OF THE DAY = "Family"