

Genesis 43 shape and keywords

Now the famine was severe in the land. And when they had eaten up the grain that they had brought from Egypt, their **father** said to them, "Go again, buy us a little more food."

But Judah said to him, "**The man warned, yes, warned us, saying, 'You shall not see my face unless your brother is with you.'**"

If you will send our **brother** with us, we will go down and buy you food;
but if you will not send him, we will not go down,

for **the man said to us, 'You shall not see my face, unless your brother is with you.'**"

Israel said, "Why did you treat me so badly as to tell **the man** that you had another **brother**?" They replied, "**The man** asked, yes, asked us about ourselves and our kindred, saying, 'Is your **father** still alive? Have you another **brother**?' We declared to his mouth by these words. Could we know, yes, know that he would say, 'Bring your **brother** down?'"

Then **Judah said to his father Israel**, "Send the boy with me, and let us be on our way, so that we may live and not die--you and we and also our little ones.

I myself will seek his hand; you can hold me accountable for him. If I do not bring him back to you and set him before your **face**, then let me bear the blame all the days. If we had not delayed, we would now have returned twice."

Then **their father Israel said to them**, "If it must be so, then do this: take some of the choice fruits of the land in your bags and carry them down as a present to **the man**--a little balm and a little honey, gum, resin, pistachio nuts, and almonds.

"And **take double silver in your hand** and return the **silver** in the mouth of your sack, return by hand; perhaps it was an oversight. **Take your brother also** and be on your way again to **the man**; may God Almighty grant you mercy before **the man's face**, so that he may let go of your other **brother** and Benjamin.

As for me, if I am bereaved, I am bereaved."

So **the men** took the present, and **they took double the silver in their hands, as well as Benjamin**.

Then they went on their way down to Egypt and stood before Joseph's **face**.

When Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the one over his **house**, "**Bring the men into the house**, and slaughter an animal and make ready, for **the men are to eat with me at noon**."

The man did as Joseph said and the man brought **the men** to Joseph's **house**. Now **the men were afraid** because they were brought to Joseph's **house**, and they said, "**It is because of the silver**, replaced in our sacks the first time, that we have been brought in, so that he may roll on us and fall upon us, to take us as slaves and our donkeys."

So they went up to the man of Joseph's **house** and spoke with him at the entrance to the **house**. They said, "Oh, my lord, we came down the first time to buy food; and when we came to the lodging place we opened our sacks, and behold, each one's **silver** in the mouth of his sack, our **silver** in full weight. So we have brought it back in our hands. Moreover we have brought down in our hands additional **silver** to buy food. We do not know who put our **silver** in our sacks."

He replied, "Peace be with you, **do not be afraid**; your God and the God of your **father** must have put hidden treasure in your sacks for you; **I received your silver**." Then he brought Simeon out to them.

When **the man had brought the men into Joseph's house**, and given them water, and they had washed their feet, and when he had given their donkeys fodder, they made the present ready for **Joseph's coming at noon**, for they had heard **that they would eat there**.

When Joseph came to the **house**, they brought him the present which [was] in their hands into the **house** and **bowed to the ground before him**.

He asked about their *shalom*, and said, "**Is your father shalom**, the old man of whom you spoke? **Is he still alive?**"

They said, "Your servant **our father is shalom; he is still alive.**"

And **they bowed their heads and did obeisance, yes, obeisance**.

Then he lifted up his eyes and saw his **brother** Benjamin, his mother's son, and said, "Is this your youngest **brother**, of whom you spoke to me? God be gracious to you, my son!" With that, Joseph hurried out, because his affection for his **brother** boiled up, and he was about to weep. So he went into a bed chamber and wept there. Then he washed his **face** and came out; and controlling himself he said, "Serve the meal." They served him alone, and them alone, and the Egyptians who ate with him alone, because the Egyptians could not eat with the Hebrews, for that is an abomination to the Egyptians. When they were seated at his **face**, the firstborn according to his birthright and the youngest according to his youth, **the men** looked at one another, stunned. Portions were taken to their **faces** but Benjamin's portion was five times as much as the portions in their hands. So they drank and were drunk with him.