

## **A Feast at Joseph's House**

Genesis 43

by Don Falkos

copyright 2016 Donald Falkos Storytelling LLC

When their food was nearly gone, Jacob told his sons to go back to Egypt and buy more. Judah said, "Father, we cannot go back unless we take Benjamin with us. Allow him to go. I promise I will keep him safe."

Jacob reluctantly agreed. And so the brothers went again to Egypt, this time taking Benjamin with them.

When Joseph saw his brothers, he told the manager of his household, "These men will eat with me at noon."

Joseph's brothers attempted to repay the money they had found in their sacks on their previous trip, but the manager said, "You paid when you were here. You don't owe anything." He then released Simeon from jail, gave them water to wash their feet, and provided food for their donkeys.

When Joseph came home at noon, his brothers gave him many gifts that their father had insisted on providing. Joseph asked, "How is your father? Is he still alive?"

"Yes," they said, "Alive and well."

Joseph looked at Benjamin and said, "So, this is your youngest brother, the one you told me about." Joseph was overcome with emotion. He hurried from the room, broke down, and wept. After washing his face, he came back into the room and told each of his brothers where to sit. To their amazement, he seated them according to age, from oldest to youngest. Joseph filled their plates with food, giving Benjamin five times as much as he gave the others. Together they feasted and drank freely.