

# GENESIS 42 vs 1

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Now and to the end of his first book, Moses writes about the History of Joseph in Egypt. In the previous chapter, we read of the fulfilling of dreams which Joseph interpreted. In this and following chapters, we have the fulfilling of the dreams which Joseph himself had dreamed, that His father's family should do homage to him. In this chapter we have the humble request of the sons of Jacob to Joseph to buy grain – Matthew Henry.

The first visit to Egypt of the ten brothers

<sup>1</sup> Now when **Jacob** saw that there was grain in Egypt, Jacob said to his sons, Why do you stare at one another?

<sup>2</sup> And he said, Indeed, I have heard that there is grain in Egypt: go down to that place, and buy for us from there; that we may live, and not die.

<sup>3</sup> So went down the ten brothers of Joseph to buy grain in Egypt.

<sup>4</sup> But Benjamin, the brother of Joseph, Jacob did not send with his brothers; for he said, Lest harm befall him.

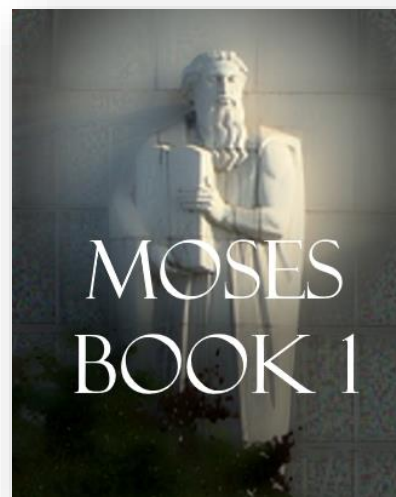
<sup>5</sup> And the sons of **Israel** went to buy grain among those who journeyed: for the famine was in the land of Canaan.

<sup>6</sup> And Joseph was the governor over the land, and it was he who sold to all the people of the land: and the brothers of Joseph came, and bowed down before him with their faces to the ground.

<sup>7</sup> And Joseph saw his brothers, and he recognized them, but he acted like a stranger to them, and spoke to them roughly; and he said to them, From where do you come? And they said, From the land of Canaan to buy food.

<sup>8</sup> So Joseph recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him.

<sup>9</sup> And Joseph remembered the dreams which he dreamed about them, and he said to them, You are spies; to inspect the exposed parts / the undefended parts of the land you are come.



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**<sup>10</sup> And they said to him, No, my lord, your servants come to buy food.**

**<sup>11</sup> We are all sons of one man; we are truthful men; your servants are not spies.**

**<sup>12</sup> But he said to them, No, but to inspect the exposed parts of the land have you come.**

**<sup>13</sup> And they said, Your servants are twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan; and indeed, the youngest is with our father today, and one is no more.**

**<sup>14</sup> And Joseph said to them, It is as I spoke to you, saying, You are spies:**

**<sup>15</sup> hereby you will be proved: By the life of Pharaoh you will not go forth from here, except your youngest brother comes here.**

**<sup>16</sup> Send one of you, and bring your brother, and the rest of you will be kept in prison, that your words may be proved, if there is any truth in you: or else by the life of Pharaoh surely you are spies.**

**<sup>17</sup> So he put them all together toward three days.**

**<sup>18</sup> And Joseph said to them on the third day, Do this, and live; for I fear God:**

**<sup>19</sup> If you are truthful, let one of your brothers be confined in the prison house: but you go, carry grain for the famine of your houses:**

**<sup>20</sup> and your youngest brother bring to me; so will your words be verified, and you will not die. And they did so.**

**<sup>21</sup> And they said one to another, We are truly guilty concerning our brother, for we saw the anguish of his soul, when he pleaded us, and we did not listen; thus has this distress come upon us.**

**<sup>22</sup> And Reuben answered them, saying, Did I not speak to you, saying, Do not sin against the boy; but you would not listen? therefore, behold, his blood is required.**



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**<sup>23</sup> But they did not know that Joseph understood them; for through an interpreter he spoke to them.**

**<sup>24</sup> And he turned away from them, and wept; and again he returned to them, and talked with them, and took from them Simeon, and bound him before their eyes.**

**<sup>25</sup> Then Joseph commanded to fill their sacks with grain, and to restore the silver of every man to his sack, and to give them provision for their journey: thus he did for them.**

**<sup>26</sup> So they loaded the grain upon their asses, and departed from there.**

**<sup>27</sup> But as one of them opened his sack to give feed to his ass at the inn, then he saw his silver; for behold, it was in the opening of the sack.**

**<sup>28</sup> So he said to his brothers, My silver is restored; and there it is in my sack: and their hearts failed them, and they were afraid, saying one to another, What is this that God has done to us?**

**<sup>29</sup> And they went to Jacob their father to the land of Canaan, and told him all that happened to them; saying,**

**<sup>30</sup> The man, who is the lord of the land, spoke roughly to us, and took us for spies of the country.**

**<sup>31</sup> And we said to him, We are truthful men; we are not spies:**

**<sup>32</sup> we are twelve brothers, sons of our father; one is no more, and the youngest this day is with our father in the land of Canaan.**

**<sup>33</sup> And the man, the lord of the country, said to us,**

**By this I will know that you are truthful; one of your brothers leave here with me, and take food for the famine of your households, and be gone:**

**<sup>34</sup> and bring your youngest brother to me: so I will know that you are not spies, but you are truthful: and your brother I will give to you, and you may trade in the land.**





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<sup>35</sup> And it happened as they emptied their sacks, that surprisingly, each man's bundle of silver was in his sack: and when they saw the bundles of silver, both they and their father were afraid.

<sup>36</sup> And Jacob their father said to them, Me have you bereaved of my children: Joseph is no more, and Simeon is no more, and Benjamin you will take: all these things are against me.

<sup>37</sup> And Reuben spoke to his father, saying, My two sons you may kill, if I do not bring him back to you: put him in my hands, and I will bring him again to you.

<sup>38</sup> But he said, My son will not go down with you; for his brother is dead, and he alone is left: if any harm should befall him along the way which you go, then you will bring my gray hair in sorrow to the grave.



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