

## Genesis 44

1,2 He is going to bring this thing to a head, but in the process put the fear of God in these brothers.

3,4 A question he had longed to ask them.

5 He was still hiding the fact that he was their brother by saying he divined things (like their ages) from the cup. Kind of like a tea leaf reader.

6-9 Oh boy. Watch what you say guys. This is very similar to what their father said to Laban when he came searching for his idol.

10-15 If they were scared before they must be terrified now. Is he acting or did he really use the art of divination? Reading of his character I can only imagine he is saying what they would expect to hear to keep up the charade.

16 No one will go home - we'll all be your slaves. God is making us account for our sins.

17 Are they willing again to grieve their father and lose another son of Rachel? Joseph is testing them again.

18 If Joseph is a picture of Jesus is this a picture of God the Father, and God the Son in their equality?

19 –28 Is this the first Joseph has heard of the cover up plot, the bloody cloak?

29 –33 Here it is! Substitutionary sacrifice. Judah offers to give his life for Benjamin's.

34 Finally, Joseph sees what he is looking for. They may not love Benjamin but they do love their father and are willing to give their life that his heart not be broken again. This is genuine repentance. "I deserve death!"