

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

Faithfulness Through All Generations - Genesis 42:1-43:14 - "Divine Fulfillment of a Dream"

1. Is there anything specific from this message that the Lord has impressed upon your heart?

If so, what is it & how do you feel the Lord calling you to respond?

2. Have you ever committed a sin that you refused to confess and chose to keep hidden for a long period of time?

Did you find this continually weighing on your conscience or did you become desensitized overtime?

Did this impact your perception of any events in your life? (negative events as a sign of God's judgment, etc.).

Read Psalm 32 - How does David's experience recorded in this Psalm provide a hope for us after we've sinned?

At this time, are there any sins that you've been hiding and need to confess to move forward in God's grace?

3. How does God orchestrate the events up to this point to bring about His determined purposes?

*Think of what God revealed to Joseph in his dreams and the events in Genesis 42.

How do the brothers unknowingly fulfill the very prophetic visions/dreams that they despised years earlier?

How does Joseph respond to his brothers when he recognizes them well over a decade after they betrayed him?

What can we learn from him in how we should respond to others when opportunities for revenge come to us?

4. How does Jacob's attitude shift over time in this narrative?

How do his circumstances contribute to this changed perspective, and how do we see the Lord at work in all of it?

At this point, Jacob doesn't know that God will actually use these things that appear to be against him for his benefit:

How does Scripture testify to this truth in the lives of believers & how should/does that shape our perspective?

5. Below are the "Today's Takeaways" from the sermon. Do any of these encourage, convict, or challenge you, & if so, how?

The brothers' hidden sins lead to guilt/paranoia!

Unconfessed sin eats away at our consciences!

What Jacob felt was against him was FOR Him!

God uses that which seems against us FOR us!

Jacob entrusts the outcome of all of this to God!

We can trust in our Lord in every circumstance!

Joseph meets his brothers with mercy & grace!

Jesus gives mercy & grace to all who trust Him!