



John Ensor with pastor of world's largest Kazakh language church and a pro-life leader in Almaty, Kazakhstan



John Ensor at Tien Shan International School



Pastor's Conference at Salem Church, Almaty, Kazakhstan



Almagul Pres.



Genesis 44

Broken! Ready for Service!!

Last Sunday PREACHED in 3 churches in Almaty, KZ

Joy See Vibrant KZ Young People, Families, Good Jobs, Engaged Community

10 yrs Trained Kazakh Church Leaders – Challenge Supporting KZ churches

1990's Many KZ's Turned to Jesus then QUIT their JOBS Serve God Full-Time

Expected IMMEDIATE Answers to Prayer, Needs Met, Problems Solved

Many DISAPPOINTED – PROBLEMS Multiplied – Walked Away from JESUS

Message of Joseph: God calls Followers to MARATHON, Many Hills & Valleys

Step into Story > Season of AFFLUENCE followed DECADE+ AFFLICTION

Joseph's SITUATION Changes Drastically > STABLE & SECURE in his GOD

Key to Stability: Jos. holds ON to UNCHANGING God thru Storms & Sunshine

Jo's BROTHERS – Not Yet FIRM FAITH in God > Emotional Roller Coaster

2nd Trip to EGYPT – ONLY Place FOOD Available > Fear & Uncertainty

1st Trip NOT Go WELL – BOSS of Food STORE – Not Friendly >> SPIES!

IMPRISONED All 10 for 3 Days – 1 Bro. SIMEON – STILL Held Captive

Something REALLY Strange - ALL Money PAID 4 Food back IN Food Bags

Bringing back THAT Money – Practicing their Apologies – Money 4 More Food

Also bringing BABY Brother – Father's New Favorite – Now about 30 yrs old

Dad made it Clear Other 10 were CHUMPS – Benjamin ALONE COUNTED!

Security Guard invites 10 Brothers to HOME of Scary BOSS of FOOD Stores

Told invited to EAT LUNCH There > That can't be GOOD!

Breathe Sigh of Relief, See Bro. SIMEON Well, Seated in Order of Age @ Meal

These GUYS had been in FAMINE for More than 2 years > Meal of their Lives!

ALL ate WELL – Baby Brother ate VERY Well got 5 X’s MORE than Other 10 Portions were taken to them from Joseph’s table, but Benjamin’s portion was five times as much as any of theirs. And they drank and were merry with him.

Genesis 43.34

After GOOD WINE your VOICE gets REALLY GOOD, Went to KTV, Karaoke
“can you feel the love tonight?” – “you are the wind beneath my wings...”

Next Morning – BELLIES Still Full – Heads Ached from HANGOVER
HEARTS Full, SACKS Heavy w/ GRAIN - 75 Hungry family Members Canaan

Over 35 yrs ago 1 of Happiest Days of Life, Wedding Day to Wonderful Woman
Church hosted Amazing Wedding Supper – Rejoicing w/ Family and Friends

Now Time Newlywed VIRGINS to DISCOVER One Another

EXCITED and NERVOUS – Speeding Down Highway Hawaiian Love Shack!

Suddenly SIREN Sounds – Flashing RED Lights in Mirror – Caught by Police
Explained our Story – Kindly Just gave STERN Warning – “Slow Down Kid!!”
In our TEXT – POLICEMAN Not so KIND – Price to be PAID for the THIEF

1. Caught in a Trap

a. Operation

vs. 1,2 Then he commanded the steward of his house, “Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put each man's money in the mouth of his sack, and put my cup, the silver cup, in the mouth of the sack of the youngest, with his money for the grain.” And he did as Joseph told him.

Genesis 22 - God ORDAINS a TEST of FAITH of Father ABRAHAM

Just how MUCH did Father of our Faith TRUST in GOD & His PROMISES
Does he Believe the PROMISE enough to Sacrifice SON of PROMISE Isaac?
Now ABE’S Great-Grandson Serves Up another Painful & Perplexing TEST

God holds Highest HIGH STANDARDS – Shows No FAVORITISM
 ENJOY Covenant BLESSINGS – Must be CHANGE in our BEHAVIOR
 Saved by FAITH Alone – But TRUE Faith will One Day BEAR FRUIT
 For SONS to Receive the PROMISE there must FIRST be REPENTANCE

b. Overtaken

vs. 3-6 As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away with their donkeys. They had gone only a short distance from the city. Now Joseph said to his steward, “Up, follow after the men, and when you overtake them, say to them, ‘Why have you repaid evil for good? Is it not from this that my lord drinks, and by this that he practices divination? You have done evil in doing this.’”
 When he overtook them, he spoke to them these words.

This happened to SONS when they were LITTLE BOYS
 FATHER Jacob packed family RAN Away from Grandpa LABAN in SECRET
 Laban CHASED after Caught Jacob, 4 wives, 12 sons, daughters Never Said Bye

Not Enough Brothers to Enjoy Free Food & Wine – Also Stole the CUP
 Important CUP used for DRINKING & DIVINING – Easy to See GONE!
 Joseph man of Egyptian Culture – Does Not say he Follows their gods

c. Offended Hey! Wait a Minute!! There must be a MISTAKE!!

vs. 7,8 They said to him, “Why does my lord speak such words as these? Far be it from your servants to do such a thing! Behold, the money that we found in the mouths of our sacks we brought back to you from the land of Canaan. How then could we steal silver or gold from your lord's house?”

FIRST Trip they Met JOSEPH – hidden behind Egyptian BLING...

They said to him, “... We are honest men” Genesis 42.10

We're GUYS who BROUGHT Back the Money in our Sacks from Last Time!

d. Overconfident – So HONEST they’re willing to BRAG about IT!

vs. 9-10 Whichever of your servants is found with it shall die, and we also will be my lord's servants.” He said, “Let it be as you say: he who is found with it shall be my servant, and the rest of you shall be innocent.”

BOYS had BRAVADO of their Dad JACOB who taunted Grandpa LABAN Foolish Challenge as Favorite Wife RACHEL sitting on Dad’s Household gods

Anyone with whom you find your gods shall not live. In the presence of our kinsmen point out what I have that is yours, and take it.” Now Jacob did not know that Rachel had stolen them. Genesis 31.32

2. Confronted by the Truth

a. Dumbfounded

vs. 11,12 Then each man quickly lowered his sack to the ground, and each man opened his sack. And he searched, beginning with the eldest and ending with the youngest. And the cup was found in Benjamin's sack.

Cop turns on LAPEL CAMERA - All them OPEN their TRICK r TREAT Bags Search begins...

Reuben – he did dumb things... Whew! Doesn’t Have It!...Levi...

Simeon...maybe he wanted REVENGE for being Stuck in Joseph’s Prison? No!

Levi, Judah...LOOKING GOOD!!...Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar...

Zebulun...ALL GOOD NOW...Benjamin would NEVER TAKE.....Whaaaat!!?

EVERY Time these BAD BOYS take ROAD TRIP One Less Bro. Comes Home

b. Defeated Are you CHUMPS Back Here Causing TROUBLE?

v. 15 Joseph said to them, “What deed is this that you have done? Do you not know that a man like me can indeed practice divination?”

Joseph has TESTED this BAD Brothers for 2 years – Have they CHANGED?

He has FORGIVEN Them – Not yet SURE if he can TRUST Them

3 Steps – 1. Forgiveness, 2. Trust, 3. Close Relationship > TAKES TIME

Don't ask Someone JUST MET to BABYSIT your KIDS

Even if they SAY they are CHRISTIANS – TRUST takes TIME

FOOLISH people Trust TOO Quickly – EVIL People take ADVANTAGE

“I have got 10 million to GIVE You! I just need your BANK DETAILS!”

God had to do SAME THING to their DAD, Beat the Stuffing out of JACOB

Jacob lived up to NAME – Liar & Cheater – Dad, Brother, Father in Law, Wives

Nobody could STOP his SELF-CENTERED Advance for PERSONAL Gain

Kingdom PROMISE of God ON him – NOT Received, NOT REPENTED

God attacked Proud Jacob – Wrestled him All Night

Jacob was CLEVER and STRONG – God was STRONGER

Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you bless me.”... Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.”
Genesis 32.26,28

Jacob CLINGS to God the Wrestler LIKE LIMP RAG DOLL

JACOB is still JACOB > He will NOT let God go without a BLESSING

Bible – Change of NAME marks Change of NATURE – Broken & BORN Again

In the womb he took his brother by the heel, and in his manhood he strove with God. He strove with the angel and prevailed; he wept and sought his favor. He met God at Bethel, and there God spoke with us — the LORD, the God of hosts
Hosea 12.3-5

God does not play by our rules, and He never loses. He is the sovereign God. His will is done. So, whether we like the way He plays or not, God always wins the contest. If we are smart, we recognize this early and submit to it. James Boice

Couple DECADES Later FIGHT between JACOB's Sons...

JOSEPH holds KINGLY POWER over his PROUD, STUBBORN Brothers

BATTLE Rages they are SLOWLY BROKEN – This GUY sees INSIDE of US!

c. Double-minded – They're INNOCENT and GUILTY at SAME TIME!

vs. 13.14 Then they tore their clothes, and every man loaded his donkey, and they returned to the city. When Judah and his brothers came to Joseph's house, he was still there. They fell before him to the ground.

DESPERATION seen here in the DRAMA, Tore Clothes and Fell to the Ground

22 yrs Earlier THREW 17 yr old Joseph into WELL, he Wrestling, Screaming

Dropped into BLACK, DEEP, WELL – Fell on his HEAD? Who KNOWS??

Joseph must have THOUGHT Life was Over – Brothers had NICE LUNCH!

v. 16 And Judah said, “What shall we say to my lord? What shall we speak? Or how can we clear ourselves? God has found out the guilt of your servants; behold, we are my lord's servants, both we and he also in whose hand the cup has been found.”

Words are POIGNANTLY ACCURATE – Did NOT STEAL SILVER CUP

But they STOLE Life of Own BROTHER for PIECES of SILVER

A Preacher in Scotland shared GOSPEL w/ Woman Devout CHURCH Member

He pressed hard, telling her she needed to TRUST Christ not CHURCH Going

Tears Filled her Eyes – “I never miss a Sunday in the KIRK, pray, read Bible..”

Preacher – You must CHOOSE between YOUR Works and Work of JESUS

“It was quite a spectacle to see that old woman's face. The cup was found in Benjamin's sack. For some time she sat in silence, her elbows on the table, her face buried in her hands; a great struggle was going on within. Then the tears streamed from her eyes, and, lifting up her clasped hands to heaven, she cried out, ‘*Oh, my God, they shall all gang for naething!*’ In a moment more she cast herself on her knees and received Jesus as her Savior” F.B. Meyer

They said to one another, “In truth we are guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the distress of his soul, when he begged us and we did not listen. That is why this distress has come upon us.” And Reuben answered them, “Did I not tell you not to sin against the boy? But you did not listen. So now there comes a reckoning for his blood.”
Genesis 42.21,22

d. Deja-vu

Moses to Israel: “...behold, you have sinned against the LORD, and be sure your sin will find you out”
Numbers 32.23

IF it Feels like they’ve BEEN HERE BEFORE it Should --- THEY HAVE!

v. 17 But he said, “Far be it from me that I should do so! Only the man in whose hand the cup was found shall be my servant. But as for you, go up in peace to your father.”

REWIND 22 years EARLIER – Same Brothers gathered in DOTHAN

SON of RACHEL easily EXCHANGED for SILVER

HONEST – as they liked to Call Selves – Sons Went home in Peace to Father

Here is your CHANCE to Destroy Life of Another Son of Rachel

RETURN home to the PEACE of your OWN GUILTY LIVES!

3. Confession of Transgressions

Chapter Ends with Moving Words from Unlikely Speaker

JUDAH the BAD BOY is Now a BROKEN Man

Some consider this one of Most MOVING SPEECHES of Bible

November – T.T. focus on Leadership – See Judah emerge as Leader

a. Leaders are Responsible JUDAH’s 1st Act of LEADERSHIP of FAMILY

Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him,

for he is our brother, our own flesh.” And his brothers listened to him. Then Midianite traders passed by. And they drew Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. They took Joseph to Egypt. Genesis 37.26-28

To Judah, Money looked Better than Murder

BROTHERS then DIVIDED - 8 oz of SILVER! Began 20 yrs of LYING

When they had eaten the grain that they had brought from Egypt, their father said to them, “Go again, buy us a little food.” But Judah said to him, “The man solemnly 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... Israel said, “Why did you treat me so badly as to tell the man that you had another brother?”... Judah said to Israel his father, “Send the boy with me, and we will arise and go, that we may live and not die, both we and you and also our little ones. I will be a pledge of his safety. From my hand you shall require him. If I do not bring him back to you and set him before you, then let me bear the blame forever. Genesis 43.2-9

2nd Son of RACHEL Now Judah’s Responsibility – And he LOSES him TOO!

v. 18 Judah went up to him and said, “Oh, my lord, please let your servant speak a word in my lord's ears, and let not your anger burn against your servant, for you are like Pharaoh himself.

12 Sons JACOB – Only 2 show LEADERSHIP - Others Barely Mentioned

Reuben ELDEST Son – Tries to Lead – Mostly says STUPID STUFF

Judah and Joseph – BAD BOY and a BRATTY God Boy

God will BURN OFF Dross and REFINE them to GOLD Standard of Covenant

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For we all stumble in many ways. James 3.1,2

b. Leaders are Refined

Chapter 38 – JUDAH’S DIRTY Little SECRET – SEX SCANDAL makes News!

Was Judah ONLY Son of Jacob to Commit SEXUAL IMMORALITY?

PROBABLY NOT! > GRACE & MERCY of God Magnified in his Darkness

Judah went down from his brothers and turned aside... Genesis 38.1

JUDAH Not just LEAVING Family – He was ABANDONING FAITH in the TRUE GOD – PRESENCE & PROMISES – Tethered to FRACTURED Family Embraces their WIVES, VALUES, and their GODS, and their Wickedness

Coins in Ancient World not MINTED on Large Mechanical Presses like Today GOLD and SILVER were MELTED, Poured into Hard Mold, Pressed with Die Die Stamp IMAGE of RULER or a GOD – One and the Same – Into Metal Coins were IRREGULAR and had SOFT, UNEVEN Edges

People commonly took Knife and Shaved Gold or Silver off Edges of Coins Save up these PRECIOUS Metal Peelings

When they had Enough Metal SHAVINGS – Melt it and Make NEW Coin In one 100 yr period in Ancient ATHENS – 80 laws Against Coin Shaving Tells us that this was Common, Widespread practice of Athenians

I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified. 1 Corinthians 9.27

GREEK Word for DISQUALIFIES adokimos

SAME Word for COIN so Whittled Away - WORTHLESS – Not Acceptable

GOD did not Allow Edges of JUDAH'S Life to be Completely Shaved Away Now God SHOCKS Selfish, Sinful Son JUDAH with his Reckless SINS

FINDS his BUSINESS CARD & iPhone in Hand of Daughter in Law TAMAR Then Judah identified them and said, “*She is more righteous than I*, since I did not give her to my son Shelah.” And he did not know her again. Genesis 38.26

Judah's TRUE CHARACTER emerges with this HONEST CONFESSION Admission was first Step of his TRANSFORMATION

vs. 20-31 ‘We have a father, an old man, and a young brother, the child of his old age. His brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother's children, and his father loves him.’ Then you said to your servants, ‘Bring him down to me, that I may set my eyes on him.’ We said to my lord, ‘The boy cannot leave his father, for if he should leave his father, his father would die.’ Then you said to your servants, ‘Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you shall not see my face again.’ “When we went back to your servant my father, we told him the words of my lord. And when our father said, ‘Go again, buy us a little food,’ we said, ‘We cannot go down. If our youngest brother goes with us, then we will go down. For we cannot see the man's face unless our youngest brother is with us.’ Then your servant my father said to us, ‘You know that my wife bore me two sons. One left me, and I said, Surely he has been torn to pieces, and I have never seen him since. If you take this one also from me, and harm happens to him, you will bring down my gray hairs in evil to Sheol.’ “Now therefore, as soon as I come to your servant my father, and the boy is not with us, then, as his life is bound up in the boy's life, as soon as he sees that the boy is not with us, he will die, and your servants will bring down the gray hairs of your servant our father with sorrow to Sheol.

c. Leaders pay a Ransom Judah 1st Ex. Human Substitutionary Atonement

vs. 32-34 For your servant became a pledge of safety for the boy to my father, saying, ‘If I do not bring him back to you, then I shall bear the blame before my father all my life.’ Now therefore, please let your servant remain instead of the boy as a servant to my lord, and let the boy go back with his brothers. For how can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? I fear to see the evil that would find my father.”

At this POINT Judah is MOST BROKEN he is Most LIKE CHRIST

World says we Must be Great to Serve – Degrees, Honors, Accolades

Jesus brings Upside Down Kingdom – Greatest Servant – Humble Exalted

JUDAH dies to Self like MOSES...

Moses said to the LORD, “See, you say to me, ‘Bring up this people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.”

Exodus 33.12,13

BROKEN for his SIN like DAVID...

David's heart struck him after he had numbered the people. And David said to the LORD, "I have sinned greatly in what I have done. But now, O LORD, please take away the iniquity of your servant, for I have done very foolishly...I am in great distress. Let us fall into the hand of the LORD, for his mercy is great; but let me not fall into the hand of man...Please let your hand be against me and against my father's house." 2 Samuel 24.10-17

WILLING to be SUBSTITUTE like Apostle Paul...

Paul: "I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. They are Israelites..." Romans 9.3,4

Jesus: "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10.45

Jesus LIFE – Pure, Holy, Sinless – Sacrifice ACCEPTABLE for our RANSOM

But if we want to LEAD in Christ's Church we Follow his Bloody Footprints

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. 2 Corinthians 4.8-12

Charles Colson was Decorated Marine Officer, Highly Trained Lawyer

Personal Advisor to the President > Sent to Prison for Gov't Corruption

Broken Man in Prison learned God Loved him and Restored his Life

Released from Prison – Spent Rest of his Life Bringing Gospel to Prisoners

"All my achievements meant nothing in God's economy. No, the real legacy of my life was my biggest failure – that I was an ex-convict. My greatest humiliation – being sent to prison – was the beginning of God's greatest use of my life...The kingdom of God is a paradox, where through the ugly defeat of a cross, a holy God is utterly glorified. Victory comes through defeat; healing through brokenness; finding through losing self." Charles Colson

d. Leaders will Rejoice

Judah's SINCERE CONFESSION Quickly led SURPRISING CELEBRATION
MEAN BOSS over Egypt is BROTHER they had SOLD to EGYPT!!

And he (*Joseph*) kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his
brothers talked with him. Genesis 45.15

ONCE Family REGROUPS – JUDAH entrusted w/ Leadership DUTIES

He (*Jacob*) had sent Judah ahead of him to Joseph to show the way before him in
Goshen, and they came into the land of Goshen. Genesis 46.28

Jacob's Dying Blessing to his Sons: "Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your
hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons shall bow down
before you. Judah is a lion's cub; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He
stooped down; he crouched as a lion and as a lioness; who dares rouse him? The
scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until
tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples..."

Genesis 49.8-12

I've LIVED Long Enough to See Men and Women I have Served Now LEADING
Ministries MORE Effective than Mine – REJOICE in their Kingdom SUCCESS

ZGC Quick Return on LEADERSHIP Investment – See God GROW Servants

REJOICE in their Faithfulness and Accomplishments for the Name of JESUS

SEE them GROWING here and HEAR Good Reports of Ministries at HOME

Stay CONNECTED thru World Wide Web – Knit Together by the SPIRIT of God

Paul had Churches that caused him PAIN, but the Philippians gave him JOY...

Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm
thus in the Lord, my beloved. Philippians 4.1

In JOY we are ALSO like JESUS – Resurrection followed Life-Giving Ransom

looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross

Hebrews 12.2

Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied

Isaiah 53.10,11

Genesis 44.¹Then he commanded the steward of his house, “Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put each man's money in the mouth of his sack,² and put my cup, the silver cup, in the mouth of the sack of the youngest, with his money for the grain.” And he did as Joseph told him.³As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away with their donkeys.⁴They had gone only a short distance from the city. Now Joseph said to his steward, “Up, follow after the men, and when you overtake them, say to them, ‘Why have you repaid evil for good?⁵ Is it not from this that my lord drinks, and by this that he practices divination? You have done evil in doing this.’”⁶When he overtook them, he spoke to them these words.⁷They said to him, “Why does my lord speak such words as these? Far be it from your servants to do such a thing!”⁸Behold, the money that we found in the mouths of our sacks we brought back to you from the land of Canaan. How then could we steal silver or gold from your lord's house?⁹Whichever of your servants is found with it shall die, and we also will be my lord's servants.”¹⁰He said, “Let it be as you say: he who is found with it shall be my servant, and the rest of you shall be innocent.”¹¹Then each man quickly lowered his sack to the ground, and each man opened his sack.¹²And he searched, beginning with the eldest and ending with the youngest. And the cup was found in Benjamin's sack.¹³Then they tore their clothes, and every man loaded his donkey, and they returned to the city.¹⁴When Judah and his brothers came to Joseph's house, he was still there. They fell before him to the ground.¹⁵Joseph said to them, “What deed is this that you have done? Do you not know that a man like me can indeed practice divination?”¹⁶And Judah said, “What shall we say to my lord? What shall we speak? Or how can we clear ourselves? God has found out the guilt of your servants; behold, we are my lord's servants, both we and he also in whose hand the cup has been found.”¹⁷But he said, “Far be it from me that I should do so! Only the man in whose hand the cup was found shall be my servant. But as for you, go up in peace to your father.”¹⁸Then Judah went up to him and said, “Oh, my lord, please let your servant speak a word in my lord's ears, and let not your anger burn against your servant, for you are like Pharaoh himself.¹⁹My lord asked his servants, saying, ‘Have you a father, or a brother?’²⁰And we said to my lord, ‘We have a father, an old man, and a young brother, the child of his old age. His brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother's children, and his father loves him.’²¹Then you said to your servants, ‘Bring him down to me, that I may set my eyes on him.’²²We said to my lord, ‘The boy cannot leave his father, for if he should leave his father, his father would die.’²³Then you said to your servants, ‘Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you shall not see my face again.’²⁴“When we went back to your servant my father, we told him the words of my lord.²⁵And when our father said, ‘Go again, buy us a little food,’²⁶we said, ‘We cannot go down. If our youngest brother goes with us, then we will go down. For we cannot see the man's face unless our

youngest brother is with us.’ ²⁷Then your servant my father said to us, ‘You know that my wife bore me two sons. ²⁸One left me, and I said, Surely he has been torn to pieces, and I have never seen him since. ²⁹If you take this one also from me, and harm happens to him, you will bring down my gray hairs in evil to Sheol.’ ³⁰“Now therefore, as soon as I come to your servant my father, and the boy is not with us, then, as his life is bound up in the boy's life, ³¹as soon as he sees that the boy is not with us, he will die, and your servants will bring down the gray hairs of your servant our father with sorrow to Sheol. ³²For your servant became a pledge of safety for the boy to my father, saying, ‘If I do not bring him back to you, then I shall bear the blame before my father all my life.’ ³³Now therefore, please let your servant remain instead of the boy as a servant to my lord, and let the boy go back with his brothers. ³⁴For how can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? I fear to see the evil that would find my father.”