

## **(I) THE FAMINE**

1. The famine continues (Genesis 43:1)
2. This famine would last seven years (Genesis 41:27, 36)

## **(II) JACOB'S DILEMMA**

1. The grain from Egypt had finally been consumed
2. Jacob asked his sons to go to Egypt to buy grain once again (Genesis 43:2)
3. Judah's response
  - a) They could not go back to Egypt without bringing Benjamin with them
  - b) They would not dare to go down to Egypt without Benjamin (Genesis 43:3-5)
4. Jacob's frustration

Why did they divulge that they had a younger brother at home? (Genesis 43:6)

5. Reply of the other sons
  - a) They were asked questions pointedly
  - b) They could not help but answer the questions
  - c) They could not anticipate that Benjamin would be asked to go down with them to Egypt (Genesis 43:7)
6. Judah's offer
  - a) He will look after Benjamin personally
  - b) He will be surety for Benjamin
  - c) He will accept the blame if Benjamin is harmed in any way
  - d) Much time had been lost already; they could not afford to delay any longer (Genesis 43:8-10)

## **(III) JACOB'S ACCEPTANCE**

1. There was no alternative but to accept the inevitable

2. Bringing a present for the Governor of Egypt

a) The best fruits in the land

b) A little balm

c) A little honey

d) Spices and myrrh

e) Pistachio nuts

f) Almonds (Genesis 43:11)

3. Money

a) Double the money

b) Return of the money found in their sacks

c) Benjamin may go along with them (Genesis 43:12)

4. Invocation of God's name

a) God Almighty

b) May he grant mercy

c) May he release Simeon and Benjamin (Genesis 43:13)

5. Acceptance of possible bereavement

"If I am bereaved, I am bereaved!" Genesis 43:14