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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A2207 ~ Joseph Sends for Benjamin.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

Have you ever thought about some incident that happened 20, 30 or even up to 50 years ago and wished that you'd never done something. Praise God that we can ask for His forgiveness through Jesus Christ His precious Son and have that bad memory wiped out.

As time went by, the brothers went on with their lives without Joseph; they certainly didn't try to find him. But they realised that things weren't going too well for them when they visited Egypt to buy food during a terrible famine. First the ruler in Egypt accused them of being spies. Now he wanted to see their youngest brother Benjamin as proof of their honesty.

DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound.](#)

Joseph could easily recognise his brothers but they didn't recognise him. It had been 22 years since they had last seen each other. Joseph now wore fine Egyptian clothes and he spoke to them through an interpreter. They could never have imagined that this ruler of Egypt was their little hated brother Joseph! But they were in trouble with this ruler, because Joseph had accused them of being spies.

Joseph knew that God had brought his brothers to buy grain but he also remembered his dream as a child that 11 stars would bow down to him. As the brothers bowed before Joseph, he could only count 10 and not 11. Joseph must have concluded that God intended Benjamin to come down to Egypt too. So he planned to have his brothers present Benjamin to him as well.

Joseph's first plan was to keep them all in prison while one went back to get Benjamin. But 3 days later, Joseph decided on an easier plan. He would keep only one in prison and send the rest home with the grain that they had purchased. But they were to return with Benjamin or their brother would remain in prison. Joseph wanted to see what his brothers would do. While they stood in front of him, they spoke in Hebrew to each other about their sin against Joseph and that now, they felt that they were being justly punished for their wrongdoing.

In Zechariah, Chapter 8, the Lord Almighty says: "Speak the truth to one another ... Do not plan ways of harming one another."

However, Satan, the father of lies, wants you to believe the same LIE that he told Eve, "Oh, God doesn't really mean what He says." We must always be watching out for Satan's deceptions. In the last days before the return of the Lord Jesus, there'll be many people who'll accept the lies that they are told but they won't open the Bible and learn God's truth for themselves.

In 2 Thessalonians, Chapter 2, it says: “The Wicked One will come with the power of Satan and perform all kinds of false miracles and wonders, and use every kind of wicked deceit on those who will perish. They will perish because they did not welcome and love the truth so as to be saved. And so God sends the power of error to work in them so that they believe what is false. The result is that all who have not believed the truth, but have taken pleasure in sin, will be condemned.” People who don’t bother to care for their soul in this life will find that in the next life that they’ll have no opportunity to do anything about it.

Well, while Joseph’s 10 brothers were talking among themselves, Joseph pretended not to understand what they were saying. As their hearts began to soften, so did Joseph’s and he went away and he wept loudly. But he hid his feelings from them and he selected Simeon to stay behind in prison. Joseph kept their money for payment of the grain and he had his steward return it in their sacks. But one brother discovered this on the journey home. Of course he couldn’t understand how it got there. All the brothers quickly realised that God was dealing with them in some way.

How does conviction of sin come to us? The Holy Spirit is depicted in the Bible as gentle and loving. If He is working in your mind and conscience to convict you of some sin, He does so with the aim of getting you to confess and forsake that type of sin in your life.

When Jacob’s sons arrived home and saw their father, they truthfully told Jacob everything that happened to them in Egypt. Once again, they had to explain how they had ‘lost’ one of Jacob’s sons. When they opened their sacks of grain each brother found his money in the top of the sack. Again they were frightened, thinking that if they went back to Egypt, they’d be accused of stealing. Jacob refused to allow Benjamin to be taken to Egypt. The eldest brother Reuben spoke up and offered to be the one responsible for Benjamin’s safe return. Again, Jacob refused.

The famine was severe and in time, all the grain the brothers had brought from Egypt was eaten. Jacob told his sons to go again to Egypt to buy food. Judah spoke up and explained again that Benjamin had to go with them or there was no point in the rest of them going. Judah offered to take responsibility for Benjamin and finally Jacob agreed. He advised them to take gifts for the ruler and double the money they gave him.

Jacob grieved that he was losing his sons. He cried: "Everything is against me!" If Benjamin was lost too, he would grieve in sorrow until he died. However, he was wrong in thinking that everything was working against him. He didn't yet understand God's plan for the future of his descendants.

As we grow older, we'd all like life to go smoothly and predictably. But it's in the very troubles of life that we learn to trust the Lord in a variety of different circumstances. The story was told of a hunter in the legal or open season for catching ducks. When a flock of ducks flew overhead, the hunter shot wildly into the flock. Some fell to the ground dead but others struggled to take off again and fly away. The hunter called to his assistants to go for the wounded ones first. They could pick up the dead ones later.

The point of the story was that Satan doesn't care about the spiritually dead people who are already his. He's interested in the people who are loyal to Jesus Christ and they're the ones he wants to bring down. If your heart desires to see the Kingdom of Christ expanded in your home, community or city, then you're in Satan's sights for trouble.

If your faith in God through Jesus Christ is genuine, Satan is your enemy whether you like it or not. The day you said “Yes” to Jesus to be your personal Saviour, you became Satan’s enemy and he will go after you persistently. Thankfully, Satan isn’t like God. God can be everywhere at the same time while Satan can’t. However, Satan has many demonic assistants to help him and some will be assigned to keep working on you in the hope of your being won back to Satan.

This means that all day, every day, the demonic assistants are watching and trying to get you to slip into some sin or to stop you from living a life of obedience to God and His Word. Satan wants to separate you from the provision of God, the mercy of God and the grace of God. We have to remember that in this world for a period of time, Satan is the ruler and the Prince of the air. But just because Satan rules, it’s most important that we never risk getting into a situation of negotiating with him. There is to be no compromise between what God says and what Satan wants.

Satan has never given up on his ambition to remove God from His throne in heaven so he can rule the universe himself. Every success that he has in this invisible war to undermine your faith and witness, gives him more confidence that he will one day achieve his ultimate goal. The Apostle Peter gave us this essential advice in 1 Peter, Chapter 5: “Be alert, be on watch! Your enemy, the Devil, roams around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Be firm in your faith and resist him, because you know that other believers in all the world are going through the same kind of sufferings.”

Satan has always been particularly interested in bringing Christian leaders down and he's succeeded many times. We can read about Peter's own fall from being Jesus' chief apostle at the time of Jesus' trial. Even with the Lord Jesus warning him and praying for him, Peter fell into Satan's trap. And as a result, Peter was devastated by the weakness of his own character. But Jesus told him in advance that when Peter repented, he would strengthen the other disciples.

Because Joseph's brothers had deliberately told lies to their father about Joseph, implying that he had been killed when they knew very well that he hadn't been, we should look at the seriousness of telling of lies demonstrated by a couple in the early church, as reported in Acts, Chapter 5. At the time, there was great opposition in the community to the followers of the Lord Jesus. As a result, Christians were losing their jobs, their homes and being made outcasts. Those suffering for their faith had to rely on the generosity of other believers for food and shelter.

The apostles started up a welfare system whereby those who had plenty and were willing to contribute to the needs of the poor were able to give to the system's distribution centre. Many sold land that they owned and they gave the money to the apostles to distribute. One husband and wife named Ananias and Sapphira sold their land too. But they were unwilling to give all of the proceeds of the sale to the apostles, even though they weren't required to give any of it to the apostles. They decided to keep some of the money for themselves. But to look good in the Christian community, they also decided to tell the apostles that the amount they gave was the full sale price of the land that they sold.

While some people sin without planning to do so, some others will sin deliberately in their hearts first and in advance of when they actually do the deed. In the case of Ananias and Sapphira, they told the Apostle Peter that they were giving the whole amount of the land sale to the church. Peter was given discernment through the Holy Spirit of God and he rebuked them for the lie that they had told. The price for their lying was more than just a 'slap on the wrist.' They both paid with their lives and as a result, great fear came upon the new church when they saw and heard about God's punishment on Ananias and Sapphira. We indeed need to be careful to be honest in all things.

In 1 John, Chapter 1, Verse 9, it says: "But if we confess our sins to God, he will keep his promise and do what is right: he will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrongdoing."

Have you some unconfessed sin in your life? Get right with God and make peace with anyone that you know is offended with you. The joy of being right with God is a Christian's strength. Be strong in the Lord and resist the devil.

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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