

Scripture Reading: Genesis 44:1 – 45:3

God hath found out the iniquity of thy servants (44:16)

The brothers of Joseph spoke to their father Jacob and came to the land of Egypt for the second time along with Benjamin their youngest brother. Joseph wanted his brothers to truly repent and therefore accused Benjamin of a crime and pretended to take him as a slave. Then all the brothers fell to the feet of Joseph and cried out saying that God found out the iniquity they have done, and they pleaded him to take one among them to be a slave and deliver Benjamin. Joseph couldn't hold it longer, he cried aloud and revealed himself to them.

Question:

Did not the brothers of Joseph repent when they grieved in their hearts for suffering because of their sins in the 42nd chapter?

Answer:

Dear brother/sister, we have to understand that repentance and feeling sorry for our mistakes are two different things. When the brothers of Joseph said, "What is this that God has done unto us?" in the 42nd chapter, they were grieving for their doings but did not repent. In the 44th chapter when they said, "God hath found out the iniquity of thy servants", they truly repented. When they previously grieved for their sins, they could easily leave Simeon in Egypt and stay in Canaan until the corn was completely over. But later when they truly repented, they were not willing to leave Benjamin even for a moment and go. They were willing to become a slave for his sake. That is true repentance.

"Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God". Matthew 3:8

Prayer

Dear father, many a times I have just been sorry for my sins, hereafter I want to repent of it Lord. Amen