



Introduction

More testing for Joseph's brothers.



Questions

1. What is the different name that Jacob is called in this chapter?
2. What does Israel now say about the idea of Benjamin going to Egypt with his brothers?
3. What two things surprised the brothers about the meal?



Summary Points

- **v 1 and 2** Eventually, Jacob's family again run out of grain and need to go to Egypt and buy more food
- **v 3 to 14** Jacob (here called Israel, see information) is persuaded to let Benjamin go to Egypt with his brothers, to buy more food
- **v 15 to 25** When they arrive, Joseph invites them all to his house for a meal. They try to return the money that was given back to them last time, but they are assured that their money had been received
- **v 26 to 34** Joseph joins his brothers at his house. He again asks after his father and sees his brother Benjamin. The brothers are surprised that they are arranged for their meal in order of their birth

Timeline to 2000 BC (see below)



Information

Jacob's change of name to Israel

The meanings of Jacob's old and new names may give us a clue as to why his name was changed. Jacob means heel catcher or supplanter. It implies getting the better of someone else by devious means.

In Jacob's early life we can see this trait in him. His brother Esau complained about him:

Genesis 27 verse 36

Jacob's name was initially changed when he wrestled with a man who, we later learn, was an angel. Jacob became lame teaching him to trust in God, not in his own cunning:

Genesis 32 verses 24 to 28 and 31

Commentators vary on what Israel means, but they all have the idea of overcoming with God.

This contrasts with the meaning of the name Jacob. God later reminds Jacob of his change of name and of promised blessings:

Genesis 35 verses 9 to 12



? Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 6, Q 2: v 13 and 14, Q 3: v 33 and 34

Bible timeline

