

Intro:

Main Point of Text: The second trip to Egypt *shows* that Jacob and his sons are really repenting.

Sermon Point: *Bear fruit.*

Move 1: Don't let doubts and fears keep you from returning to God.

Vss. 3-7: Jacob continued to fear and fight the inevitable (vs. 1): vs. 10. Vs. 14: he bows to providence, like Esther (Esther. 4:16). Vs. 18: brothers afraid, thus move quickly with Vss. 19-22. Fears didn't happen.

Move 2: Jesus is ready to forgive you.

Joseph's merciful response. Through servant: vs. 23. Concerned for father: Vs. 27. Answers Vs. 14 with Vs. 29. "El Shaddai" has family history: Gen. 17:1; 28:3-4; 35:11. God's gracious faithfulness.

Vss. 26, 28: 2nd dream fulfilled. Joseph not bitter: Vs. 30 Heb: "warmed tender mercies".

Move 3: The produce of true repentance taste great.

True repentance is 42:21. It bears fruit: Jacob/brothers now honest (were liars). Jacob changes from 42:38 to 43:2, 11a, 14 (notice "Israel", vss. 6, 8, 11). Judah led sale of Joseph (37:26-17); now vows to keep Benjamin safe: Vss. 8-9. Vs. 34: pass test of not envying Benjamin (versus Chapter 37).

Jesus: know tree by fruits (Mt. 7:16-20). J. Baptist/Paul: *Bring forth/do ... fruits/works meet for repentance*: (Mt. 3:8/Acts 26:20). Also, YOU enjoy the fruits of repentance: Vss. 33, 34c.

Conclusion:

Bear fruit.