

Where's Your Chair?

Genesis 42 29-38



The Lord looks down from heaven and beholds all the children of earth.
From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze on all who dwell on the earth.
Psalm 33:13-14

Praising:

Father, hear the prayer we offer: not for ease that prayer shall be, but for strength that we may ever live our lives courageously.

Reading:

Genesis 42:29-38

Jacob hears the brothers' report

When the brothers discover their money sacks intact, they are wracked with foreboding. It wasn't so much that they had fallen into the hands of a godless, evil, Egyptian land manager. Something far more unsettling and mysterious is at work. With Simeon left behind and Benjamin summoned to appear, what the brothers had done to Joseph now comes back to haunt them. Jacob is getting closer and closer to discovering the truth about what had happened to Joseph and

who was responsible for it. Of course it's always easier to see the fault in others than face up to our own guilt. Benjamin has replaced Joseph as Jacob's favourite but Jacob should never have had a favourite son in the first place or the second. There is also the hint that Jacob's primary concern is his own grief and self-pity.

Listening:

Praying:

Lord when we sense that self-concern is taking us over

- we pray for charity to see the needs of other people all around us
- we pray for strength to face up to our duties and responsibilities
- we pray for hearts open to your loving correction

Father: I know how it feels to be cornered, hemmed in by my own mistakes and bad decisions. Thank you for getting me through in the past and for doing the same again in the future. Amen

Doing: