

Where's Your Chair?

Genesis 43 16-25



Turn again, O Lord; how long will you delay? Have compassion on us your servants.
Satisfy us with your loving kindness in the morning,
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
Psalm 90:13-14

Praising:

Through each perplexing path of
life
our wandering footsteps guide;
give us each day our daily bread,
and raiment fit provide.

Reading:

Genesis 43:16-25
The brothers return to Egypt

Little do the brothers realise that on seeing them arrive with Benjamin, Joseph has already given the order for a feast to be prepared. Guilt and fear leave them in a desperate state of watching their backs and trying to guarantee their own safety. They think it's best to be honest and upfront about the money they had discovered when they got back to Canaan before. The steward's suggestion that somehow their God had something to do with the

money must have taken them by surprise. When Simeon is brought out and the hospitality begins, they can only have been completely mystified. It seems like the brothers are labouring under the assumption that God wants to get even with them for what they did to their brother. In fact what God wants to do, is forgive them.

Listening:

Praying:

We come to God conscious of our weakness and sin

- caught up in our excuses for what we know we have done wrong
- full of the amends we say we would make given the opportunity
- humbled by the forgiveness of Christ we can neither beg nor earn

Father: free me from the thought that you are out to punish me for my sin, when all the time, because of Christ, you are only ever out to free me from it for ever. Amen

Doing: