

Read Genesis 43:18-25

18 The brothers were terrified when they saw that they were being taken into Joseph's house. "It's because of the money someone put in our sacks last time we were here," they said. "He plans to pretend that we stole it. Then he will seize us, make us slaves, and take our donkeys."

19 The brothers approached the manager of Joseph's household and spoke to him at the entrance to the palace.

20 "Sir," they said, "we came to Egypt once before to buy food.

21 But as we were returning home, we stopped for the night and opened our sacks. Then we discovered that each man's money—the exact amount paid—was in the top of his sack! Here it is; we have brought it back with us.

22 We also have additional money to buy more food. We have no idea who put our money in our sacks."

23 "Relax. Don't be afraid," the household manager told them. "Your God, the God of your father, must have put this treasure into your sacks. I know I received your payment." Then he released Simeon and brought him out to them.

24 The manager then led the men into Joseph's palace. He gave them water to wash their feet and provided food for their donkeys.

25 They were told they would be eating there, so they prepared their gifts for Joseph's arrival at noon.

How were the brothers feeling when they were taken into Joseph's house (v. 18)? They were scared to death.

Why were they scared? They thought they were going to be framed, i.e. accused of something they didn't do like stealing the money they found in their sacks. They were afraid that Joseph might make them his slaves.

Who did they approach to explain what they were doing (v. 19)? The manager of Joseph's household.

What did they explain to him (vv. 20-22)? (Read) Their story. Especially the part about the money they found.

What did the household manager say to them (v. 23)? Don't worry. God must have put the money in your sacks.

What else did the manager do (v. 23)? He released Simeon and brought him out to join the other brothers.

What happened next (v. 24)? (Read)

What did the brothers do when they found out they would be eating in Joseph's house (v. 25)? They got their gifts ready to give to Joseph.