

Joseph and his Brothers



**Lectio
Divina**

Gn 44-45



Structure

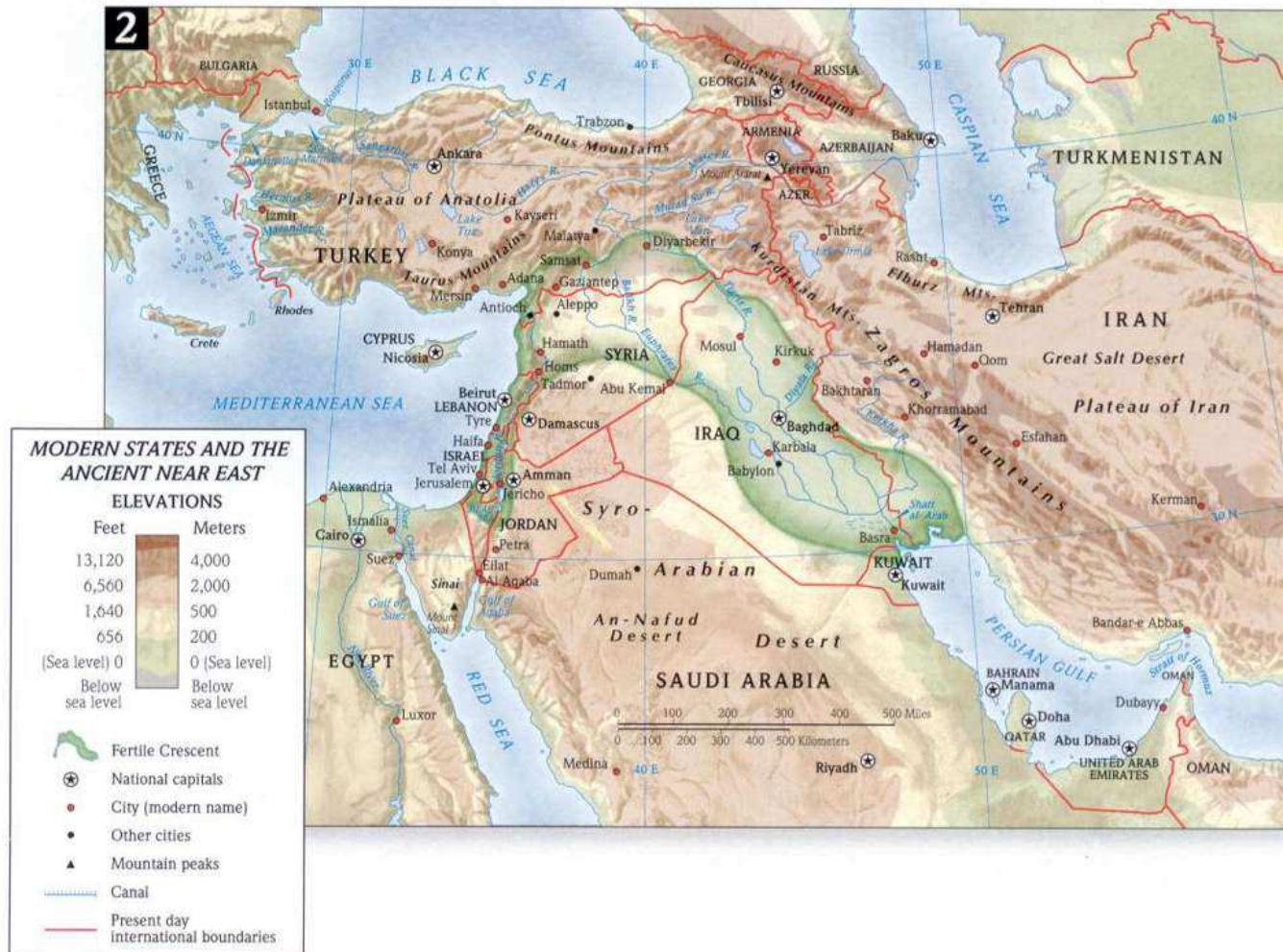
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|---|-----------|
| 1 Jacob sends sons to Egypt (43:1–14) | A |
| 2 Arrival in Egypt (43:15–25) | B |
| 3 Lunch with Joseph (43:26–34) | C |
| 4 Brothers arrested (44:1–13) | D |
| 5 Joseph discloses himself (44:14–45:15) | C1 |
| 6 Departure from Egypt: (45:16–24) | B1 |
| 7 Sons report to Jacob (45:25–28) | A1 |

- 'Why did you repay good with evil? → Why did you steal the silver cup from me?
- ...he uses for divination”
- “Let there not be found among you anyone who immolates his son or daughter in the fire, nor a fortune-teller, soothsayer, charmer, diviner” (Dt 18,10)

Silver cup



Capital punishment



Laban searching idols



Uncovering

- God has uncovered your servants' guilt
- "we are being punished because of our brother. We saw the anguish of his heart when he pleaded with us, yet we paid no heed; that is why this anguish has now come upon us." ... Now comes the reckoning for his blood." (42,21–22)

Favoritism for Joseph

- **'We have an aged father, and a young brother, the child of his old age. This one's full brother is dead, and since he is the only one by that mother who is left, his father dotes on him.'** Then you told your servants, **'Bring him down to me that my eyes may look on him'** (20-22)

God's saving purpose

- “It was really for the sake of saving lives that God sent me here ahead of you” (5)
- “God, therefore, sent me on ahead of you to ensure for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives in an extraordinary deliverance” (7)
- “was not really you but God who had me come here” (8a)
- “he has made of me a father to Pharaoh, lord of all his household, and ruler over the whole land of Egypt” (8b)

Of all other living creatures you shall bring two into the ark, one male and one female, that you may keep them alive with you. Of all kinds of birds, of all kinds of beasts, and of all kinds of creeping things, two of each shall come into the ark with you, to stay alive (6,19-20)

Agent of salvation



Joseph's titles

- father to Pharaoh
- lord of all his household
- ruler over the whole land of Egypt

- “When Elisha was suffering from the sickness, King Joash went down to visit him. “My father, my father!”” (2Ki 13,14)

Nile and Goshen



Patriarch Jacob

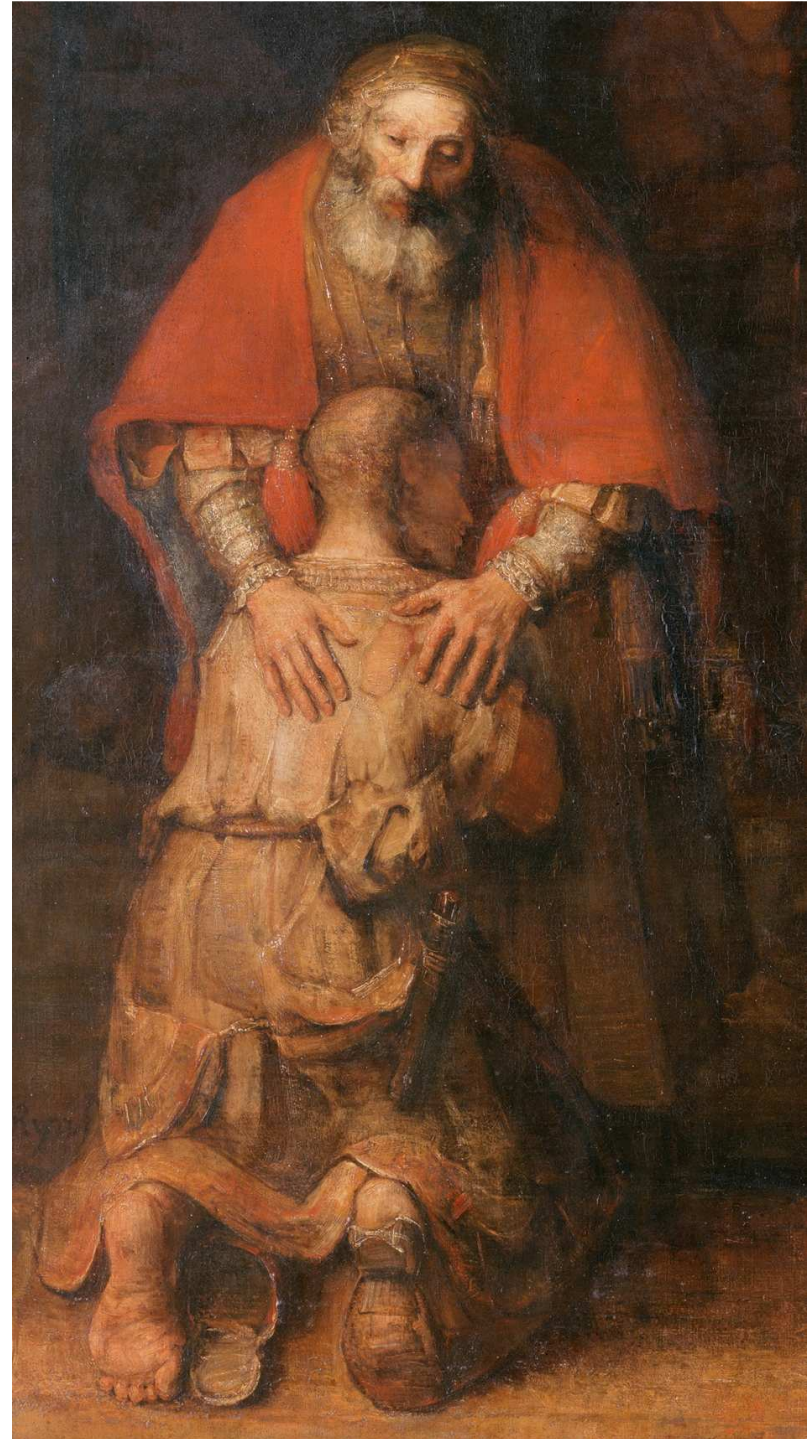


Past and present

- “we are being punished because of our brother... that is why this anguish has now come upon us” (42,21)



Repentance



God's knowledge and our involvement



- **“If evil befalls a city, has not the LORD caused it?” (Am 3,6)**



2009-2010

- X Introduction to Genesis*
- XI Abraham's call and migration (Gn 12)*
- XII The Covenant with Abraham (Gn 15)*
 - I The testing of Abraham (Gn 22)*
 - II Jacob's fight with Laban (Gn 30,25-32,1)*
 - III Jacob's struggle with the Angel (Gn 32,23-33)*
 - IV Joseph sold into Egypt (Gn 37)*
 - V Joseph – the Dreams Interpreter (Gn 40-41)*
 - VI Joseph and his brothers (Gn 44-45)*