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# DAILY READING

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Genesis 42:18-26

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### JOSEPH'S BROTHERS IN EGYPT

**42** <sup>18</sup> On the third day Joseph said to them, “I fear God —do this and you will live. <sup>19</sup> If you are honest, let one of you be confined to the guardhouse, while the rest of you go and take grain to relieve the hunger of your households. <sup>20</sup> Bring your youngest brother to me so that your words can be confirmed; then you won’t die.” And they consented to this.

<sup>21</sup> Then they said to each other, “Obviously, we are being punished for what we did to our brother. We saw his deep distress when he pleaded with us, but we would not listen. That is why this trouble has come to us.”

<sup>22</sup> But Reuben replied: “Didn’t I tell you not to harm the boy? But you wouldn’t listen. Now we must account for his blood!”

<sup>23</sup> They did not realize that Joseph understood them, since there was an interpreter between them. <sup>24</sup> He turned away from them and wept. When he turned

back and spoke to them, he took Simeon from them and had him bound before their eyes. <sup>25</sup> Joseph then gave orders to fill their containers with grain, return each man's silver to his sack, and give them provisions for their journey. This order was carried out. <sup>26</sup> They loaded the grain on their donkeys and left there.