

Elder Vernon Johnson

Numbers

Five

Five Changes of Raiment

Gen. 45:21 "And the children of Israel did so: and Joseph gave them wagons, according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and gave them provision for the way. 22 To all of them he gave each man changes of raiment; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver, and five changes of raiment."

Israel had twelve sons. Eleven of those sons sold Joseph, the next to youngest of the sons, into bondage in Egypt. They also told Jacob that Joseph had been slain. In Egypt, Joseph had risen to be second only to Pharaoh in authority. When a great famine had come upon the land, Jacob sent his eleven sons to Egypt to buy food. Joseph recognizing them as his brothers disguised himself and took them captive, but later revealed himself to his brethren. Afterwards, he sent to bring his father, Jacob, and the families of the brethren to Egypt.

Joseph was a very strong type of Christ. As Christ brought deliverance to the elect family of God, so Joseph brought deliverance to his family. Joseph gave gifts to his brethren, even as Christ gave gifts to his children. Joseph gave a change of raiment to each of his brethren, but he gave five changes of raiment to Benjamin. Benjamin received something that his brethren did not receive. Joseph chose to give Benjamin something more than he gave to his other brethren. Joseph's choice was according to his sovereign will. Similarly, Christ has given deliverance to all the elect family of God. All of the elect family will someday live in heaven's glory world, without the loss of a single one.

Most members of the elect family do not have full understanding of how Christ delivered them from their sins. To a small remnant of His people, Christ has given understanding of the covenant of redemption. They have far greater understanding of how Christ redeemed from their sins. This covenant of redemption, like Benjamin's five changes of raiment, has five parts: Rom. 8:29, 30 "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified." The understanding of this five part covenant and how that through the death of Jesus Christ we have been redeemed has been given to the Lord's church

known as Primitive Baptist. Jesus Christ through his sovereignty has chosen to reveal these precious truths to a small portion of His people.