

June 28, 2026

Pastor Andy McClellan

Title: “That We May Live and Not Die”

Series: Genesis: Beginnings

Text: Genesis 42

God rescues His people from death:

1. ...by **APPOINTING** a ruler with the power to **SAVE**, vv. 1-9a (*see also 37:8; 45:5-8; 50:20; Psalm 105:16-23; Isaiah 9:6-7; Daniel 4:17; Acts 3:19-20; 17:31; Matthew 28:18-20; Philippians 2:9-11; Colossians 1:13-14*).
2. ...by mercifully **EXPOSING** the consequences of **SIN**, vv. 9b-28 (*see also Numbers 32:23; Ps. 51:3-4; Ecclesiastes 12:14; Romans 2:4-5; 6:23; Hebrews 4:12-13; 12:5-11; 1 John 1:9*).
3. ...by **TESTING** for repentance that leads to **LIFE**, vv. 2, 18-38 (*see also Deuteronomy 8:2-3; Matt. 3:8; Acts 11:18; 2 Cor. 7:9-10; 13:5; James 1:2-3, 12; 1 Peter 1:6-7*).

FOR FURTHER STUDY & DISCUSSION

1. Discuss a time when God brought just the right person into your life at just the right time to help you. How did you know that it was a God-appointed meeting? Read Gen. 37:5-11 and 42:1-9. How does Moses show us that God appointed Joseph to be just the right person for his brothers to meet, at just the right time? What does this show us about God’s love and care for His people’s needs, even before they know they have them? Why is that encouraging for you? How is the gift of Jesus an example of that (see also Rom. 5:8-9)?
2. In vv. 9-28, Joseph accuses his brothers of being spies and then gives them an opportunity to prove that they are honest men. Given his tears in v. 24, why do you think Joseph is doing all of this? Why not take revenge on them for what they did to him? How are Joseph’s brothers’ sins being exposed in all of this, and what role do they think God is playing in it (see vv. 21-22, 28)? How is God exposing the brothers’ sin an act of mercy and the first step toward reconciliation with Him? In our lives, why is exposing sin still an act of God’s mercy, and why is it so important for reconciliation with God and with each other? Is there a sin in your life that needs to be exposed for the sake of your relationship with Jesus or with another person? Confess your sin to find forgiveness and healing (James 5:16; 1 John 1:9).
3. In vv. 21-22, the brothers recognize that they are guilty of sinning against their brother. What evidence would demonstrate that they were not just sorry, but truly repentant? How is Joseph’s plan for their survival in vv. 18-20, not an act of revenge, but a test of whether true heart change has taken place in them? How does he test them further in v. 25? While God never tempts anyone to sin, how does He test our hearts today? Why are those tests helpful for us? Use the cross-references in point 3 above to help you. Is there an area in your life where you are struggling to show the fruit of repentance? What help do you need from Jesus today?

NEXT WEEK: Genesis 43, Pastor Andy McClellan

© 2026 Damascus Community Church, www.damascuscc.org