

**Tell a story**  
**Parsha Miketz**  
**by Julie Zhuk on 2024-12-28**

This Parsha term translates to “At the End.” It is referring to Joseph no longer being in prison that Potiphar has put him in for twelve years. When Joseph meets Pharaoh, he is thirty. Pharaoh has come to Joseph to ask for an interpretation of another dream. A dream about seven fat cows that get swallowed up by seven lean cows. Then there are seven fat ears of grain that are swallowed by seven lean ears. What can this possibly mean? Pharaoh doesn't understand, he comes to Joseph thinking for sure he will know how to interpret it.

Joseph explains that there will be seven years when they will have plenty to eat, but then everyone will be hungry. He advises Pharaoh to store grain during the plentiful years. This way there will be something left over when people are hungry in the future. Since Joseph knows so much, Pharaoh decides to appoint him to become governor of Egypt. Joseph marries the daughter of Potiphar her name is Asenath. They have two sons, Manesseh and Ephraim. Soon the plentiful seven years have gone so fast and the hunger years have started. People have run out of food and they are all famished. Famine has spread throughout the region. People were not able to buy food anywhere, but Egypt. People were coming to Egypt to buy food. Joseph's brothers came, ten of them. Benjamin stayed home, the reason for this was Jacob worried for his safety. So many years had passed, but still Joseph recognized his brothers. The brothers on the other hand didn't recognize Joseph. Joseph accused the brothers of being spies and insisted that they go back to their homeland and get their brother Benjamin and prove they are who they truly are.

Joseph also said he wanted them to go get the other remaining brother, Simeon. When Simeon comes back Joseph decides to imprison him as a hostage. It wasn't until later that the brothers understand what has happened, the money they used for their provisions to put Joseph in the pit a long time ago was given back to them. The brothers not knowing who Joseph is and that he is in actuality their brother, agree to go back home and get Benjamin. They explain the situation to their father Jacob and he agrees. Jacob says to his son Judah, “You must look after your brother Benjamin.” When they come back to Egypt, Joseph looks after the brothers in a very kind way. He releases Simeon no longer keeping him being a hostage. Joseph invites all the brothers to a family dinner that he hosts in his home.

The night before Joseph put his silver goblet with magical powers in it in one of the brother's bags. It wasn't until the next morning when the brothers started packing up and were heading out the door, Joseph had them pursued. When the goblet was found in Benjamin's bag, the brothers were arrested. Joseph wanted to set the brothers free, but keep Benjamin in his custody as his slave. This was clearly making Judah feel nervous as he was not going to be keeping his word to his father Jacob. He had promised to keep Benjamin safe and sound, but here the complete opposite was happening. We won't know what really happens in the end until the following week's Parsha.