

Last week we began our story with Joseph.

For review here is what we know...

- A) Joseph was one of the youngest children of Jacob.
- B) Joseph was not liked by his brothers for 2 reasons:
 - 1. He had integrity and was not afraid to tell when something was wrong.
 - 2. He was favored by his dad above all.
- C) We also know that God was going to use Joseph. He ends up having 2 similar dreams.

1.



2.



This is where we left off in the story....

Genesis 37:12-22 Then his brothers went to feed their father's flock in Shechem. (13)

And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers feeding the flock in Shechem?

Come, I will send you to them." So he said to him, "Here I am." (14) Then he said to him,

"Please go and see if it is well with your brothers and well with the flocks, and bring back word to me." So he sent him out of the Valley of Hebron, and he went to Shechem.

(15) Now a certain man found him, and there he was, wandering in the field. **And the man**

asked him, saying, "What are you

seeking?" (16) So he said, "I am seeking my brothers. Please tell me where they are

feeding their flocks." (17) And the man said,

"They have departed from here, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.' " So Joseph

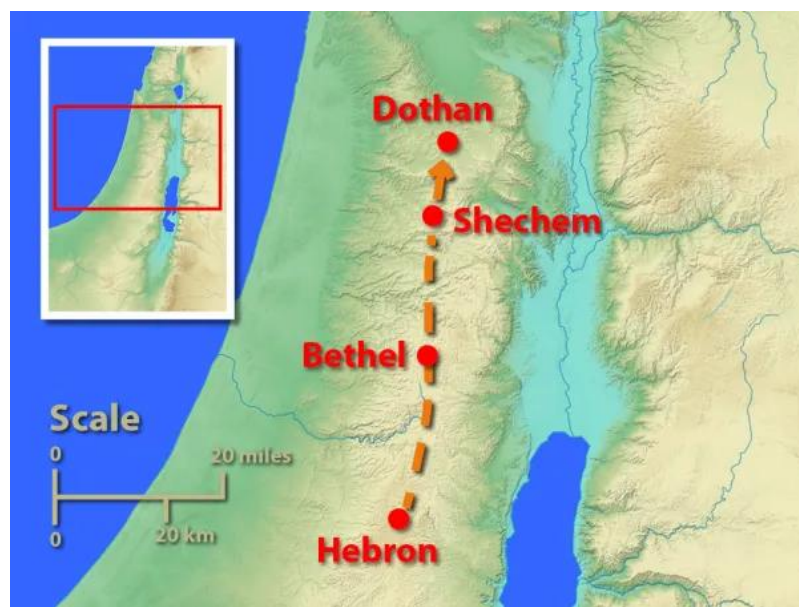
went after his brothers and found them in

Dothan. (18) Now when they saw him afar

off, even before he came near them, they

conspired against him to kill him. (19) Then they said to one another, "Look, this dreamer is coming! (20) Come therefore, let us now kill him and cast him into some pit; and we shall say, '**Some wild beast has devoured him.**' We shall see what will become of his dreams!" (21) **But Reuben heard it, and he delivered him out of their hands, and said, "Let us not kill him."** (22) And Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood, but cast him into this pit which is in the wilderness, and do not lay a hand on him"—**that he might deliver him out of their hands, and bring him back to his father.**

A) How much hatred does a person have to have that they are willing to kill their own brother? These brothers are not teenagers but grown men who have children.



B)

About 50 Miles

What I would like everyone to notice also is the peace that God had given Israel by now. That the children of Israel can travel from Hebron to Dothan without fear of war or death. Unfortunately, it was not the outside people they had to worry about but the inside, his own family.

C) I want to mention briefly about the man who Joseph saw and who he asked about his brothers. Some rabbinical writers indicate that the man Joseph ran into was the Angel Gabriel. This of course is not proven but assumptive among some writers. Whether this is the case or not we must conclude,

- 1) It was God leading Joseph to find his brothers,
- 2) God then allowing the brothers to act on their plotting,
- 3) God rescuing Joseph by plan B just throwing him into the pit,
- 4) God send the Ishmaelites to pass by, then God moving in the hearts of the brothers to sell Joseph,
- 5) God moving the Ishmaelites to sell Joseph to Egypt.

Perhaps there is some truth. This would then bring up a philosophical question,

Why didn't God rescue Joseph from the Plot of his brothers?

The Answer is he did. By throwing him in the pit and selling him to the Ishmaelites God removed Joseph from a hostile environment

so that he would ultimately save those who plotted against him and hated him. He will be second in command by the Pharoah to rule and rein in Egypt.

Folks this is Christ. Jesus died and saved many of the hands that were crucifying him. He was thrown into a pit, given over to a foreign nation, who would crucify Him, but rising from the grave he will be given authority of the Father over all things. Second in command to the Father.

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Genesis 37:23-28 So it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the tunic of many colors that was on him. (24) Then they took him and cast him into a pit. And the pit was empty; there was no water in it. (25) And they sat down to eat a meal. Then they

lifted their eyes and looked, and there was a company of Ishmaelites, coming from Gilead with their camels, bearing spices, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry them down to Egypt. So Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is there if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? (27) Come and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother and our flesh." And his brothers listened. (28) Then Midianite traders passed by; so the brothers pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

- A) They stripped the Tunic off him.
- B) They threw him in a pit.
- C) They sat down and ate a meal.
- D) Sold him to foreign people for 20 pieces of silver.

Same with Christ...

- A) Jesus sent by the Father.

- B) Betrayed by his own people
- C) Sold for 30 pieces of silver (inflation)
- D) Stripped and thrown into a pit.
- E) Still pleading with them and for them.

I want to bring you back to Joseph for a second...In all this time Joseph is pleading with them. Words unheard....The brothers recalling....we know this for in Genesis 42:21-22 Then they said to one another, "We are truly guilty concerning our brother, for we saw the anguish of his soul when he pleaded with us, and we would not hear; therefore this distress has come upon us." And Reuben answered them, saying, "Did I not speak to you, saying, 'Do not sin against the boy'; and you would not listen? Therefore behold, his blood is now required of us."

CONCERNING JESUS...

Zechariah 12:10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and

supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

John 19:34-37 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. ... (36) For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "NOT ONE OF HIS BONES SHALL BE BROKEN." (37) And again another Scripture says, "THEY SHALL LOOK ON HIM WHOM THEY PIERCED."

Revelation 1:7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

2 reactions:

- 1- To Rejoice
- 2- To Mourn

WHICH WILL YOU HAVE???