

From the Beginning: “The Promise Tested”
Genesis 39:16-23; Genesis 50:15-21
July 2, 2023

I. A hard lesson taught (39:16-20)

1. The hurt of lies and false accusations (vs 16-18)
2. The devastation of losing everything (vs 19-20)

Psalm 105:17-18; I Peter 4:12-13

II. A hard lesson learned (vs 21-23)

1. A positive attitude learned despite harsh life circumstances (vs 21-22a)
2. Leadership qualities learned through difficult times (vs 22-23a)
3. Trusting God was learned in life’s challenges (vs 23)

Psalm 57:1; I Peter 5:7

III. A hard lesson rewarded (Genesis 50:15-21)

1. Doubt questions trust (vs 15)
2. Doubt brings deception (vs 16-17)
3. Doubt removed reveals the heart (vs 17b-18)
4. Doubt does not prevent forgiveness (vs 19-21)

Romans 12:21; Ephesians 4:32

LET’S GO DEEPER:

1. Joseph is thought to be the prefiguring of the Messiah. In what ways does Joseph prefigure the trials, triumphs, and characteristics of Jesus?
2. How have you seen God use your position, talent, finances, etc., to promote His glory as He used Joseph’s life?
3. Lessons were taught about Joseph’s integrity and wisdom. Which quality speaks loudest to you in your life?
4. Have there been instances in your life when someone clearly meant evil against you? Have you been able to forgive the offender as Joseph forgave his brothers?