

**J O S E P H**

*Family Affairs?*

# Looking Ahead

---

- ❖ Mentioned 4x in NT:
  - ❖ John 4:5 – a parcel of land from Jacob
  - ❖ Acts 7:9-14 – Stephen’s sermon
  - ❖ Hebrews 11:21, 22 – of his death faith
  - ❖ Revelation 7:8 – of the sealed
  - ❖ Double Blessing of his tribe Gen 48:14ff

# Joseph's beginning

---

- ❖ Ch 37 - 17 years of silence... [14 chapters]
  - ❖ Daddy's favorite; Son of the loved wife
  - ❖ Son of his old age...
- ❖ 10-20 years between Joseph and Reuben
  - ❖ The favoritism has continued...

# Out in the field

---

- ❖ Shepherd life
  - ❖ Sons of Bilah and Zilpah [Maids sons]
  - ❖ Brings a “bad report”
  - ❖ And Israel? His love was evident
  - ❖ The “coat” – full length robe of an overseer
  - ❖ Many colors... and he wore it!

# Was Joseph perfect?

---

- ❖ Joseph is an incredible example of
  - ❖ The sovereignty of God
  - ❖ Strong moral character and consistency
  - ❖ Faith even when God is not speaking
  - ❖ Faithfulness in devastating betrayal

# Was Joseph perfect?

---

- ❖ Joseph is also guilty of a very common sin
  - ❖ PRIDE [Arrogance, Haughtiness...]
- ❖ God has a way of working that out of us!
  - ❖ Circumstances, situations, bosses
  - ❖ God will use what is needed/available
  - ❖ And will prepare us for His purposes!

# Out of Favor

---

- ❖ Father's love – brother's hate
  - ❖ Can't even speak to him... (4,5)
  - ❖ No friendship, much less family
  - ❖ Hatred, strife, jealousy, envy, bitterness
  - ❖ The “stuff of broken families and lives”

# Out of Sleep

---

- ❖ Dreams... God uses them often
  - ❖ Just having them causes him more grief (5)
- ❖ Certainly prophetic:
  - ❖ Sheaf of wheat the rises above the others (7)
  - ❖ Homage to 'his sheaf'
  - ❖ Sun, Moon, 11 stars – bow down to 'him' (9)



# Out of Interpretations...

---

- ❖ He does not interpret them... others do!
  - ❖ Note vs. 10 – “mother”, Rachel had died
  - ❖ Rebuke from Israel who loved him...
  - ❖ Hatred and jealousy grow! (8,11)
- ❖ Be careful who you share your dreams with!

# A Walk in the Desert (12)

---

- ❖ Hebron to Shechem (50 miles north)
  - ❖ Father sends him to check on the rest (14)
- ❖ Flock had moved another 20 miles north
  - ❖ Joseph shows persistence and initiative
  - ❖ If he was what the brother's thought...

# From a distance...

---

- ❖ “Here comes this dreamer” - bitterness
  - ❖ Kill him; kill his dreams –
  - ❖ Wild beast story begins... pits
  - ❖ Which was more urgent/desired?
- ❖ Brothers resented accountability, authority

# Reuben steps up (21,22)

---

- ❖ Rescue! Repentance? Renewal? Guilt?
  - ❖ Or, is the Hand of God working in spite of him?
  - ❖ Shed no blood!
  - ❖ Plan to rescue and restore (22)
  - ❖ He will remind them of this... (42:22)
  - ❖ As the eldest, he would be held responsible

# A Brothers Plan

---

- ❖ Dry pit, no pity for his cries for help...
- ❖ Judah makes a profit...
  - ❖ Ishmaelites!!! Another family matter...
  - ❖ Brothers listen to his sales pitch
- ❖ Not the last one to be sold for silver...
- ❖ Sold into Egypt...

# Reuben's Despair (29)

---

- ❖ Knew Israel best...Tears his clothing
- ❖ The “cover up” convinces Jacob (33)
- ❖ Could you have watched this?
- ❖ Refused comfort... I will go to the grave...