

THE STORY
Joseph: From Slavery to Deputy Pharaoh
Genesis 37-50
Chapter 3 September 17, 2024
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The Story is excerpts of the bible placed in chronological order to help us weave together the big picture.

The 11th son of Jacob is Joseph. He was Jacob's favorite.

I. JOSEPH BECOMES A SLAVE

When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

Genesis 37:4 NIV

Jacob sent Joseph to check on his brothers who were tending the sheep.

So Joseph went after his brothers and found them near Dothan. 18 But they saw him in the distance, and before he reached them, they plotted to kill him.

19 "Here comes that dreamer!" they said to each other. 20 "Come now, let's kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him. Then we'll see what comes of his dreams."

Genesis 37:18-20 NIV

At 17 Joseph finds his dreams a distant memory and now he is a slave in Egypt.

I. JOSEPH IN PRISON

At first it is going pretty well.

Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an Egyptian officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the bodyguard, bought him from the Ishmaelites, who had taken him down there. 2 The Lord was with Joseph, so he became a successful man. And he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian.

Genesis 39:1-2 NAS

But he refused. "With me in charge," he told her, "my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. 9 No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?"

Genesis 39:8-9 NIV

Even as a slave Joseph is walking with God.

Genesis 39:2 *The Lord was with Joseph so that he prospered...*

But while Joseph was there in the prison, 21 the Lord was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden. 22 So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there. 23 The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph's care, because the Lord was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.

Genesis 39:23

Do you want to know what the secret of the story is? God can work in the midst of any circumstance.

I. JOSEPH IS PROMOTED

So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was quickly brought from the dungeon. When he had shaved and changed his clothes, he came before Pharaoh.

15 Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I had a dream, and no one can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it."

16 "I cannot do it," Joseph replied to Pharaoh, "but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires."

Genesis 41:14-16 NIV

So pharaoh tells his dream to Joseph and Joseph tells the king there will be 7 years of bumper crops followed by 7 years of famine and not just in Egypt but throughout much of the known world. They must prepare.

The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials. 38 So Pharaoh asked them, "Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?"

39 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. 40 You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you."

Genesis 41:38:-40 NIV

Joseph brings all of his family, in essence the small nation of Israel, to Egypt to prosper and grow for the next 400 years.

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

Genesis 50:20 NIV

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

Romans 8:28 NAS