

The Lord Was With Joseph

Genesis Chapter 39

This account resumes from Chapter 37 yet we will see the contrast of the integrity between Joseph and Judah from Chapter 38..

Gen 39:1 **1) Joseph Prospers** vs 1-6

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.

- *Joseph being 17 years old, raised in an rural agricultural community, is taken to the opulent Egypt. Scholars tell us the Great Pyramids have been around for 1000 years. Imagine this young man seeing this greatness for the first time and yet he is not free to visit these wonders. He is a slave. He is brought to the market and sold as one would sell an unwanted garment.*

Gen 39:2 **The LORD was with Joseph**, so he became a successful man. And he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian.

- *THE LORD WAS WITH JOSEPH it is interesting how Joseph remained with the Lord. These hardships have come and Joseph keeps the Lord near. Many people will suffer hardships and step away from the Lord either to get back at the Lord for allowing hardships or because a feeling of some right owed to sin because of experiencing hardship.*
- *Phil 1:29 "For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;"*
- *2 Timothy 3:12 "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."*
- *Romans 5:3-5 "And not only [so], but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."*
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- *HE BECAME A SUCCESSFUL MAN as a slave? Maybe meaning his future? The answer he was successful as a slave because the Lord was with him. What is your definition of successfulness?*

Gen 39:3 Now his master saw that **the LORD was with him** and {how} the LORD caused all that he did to prosper in his hand.

- *The authority in Joseph's life saw that the LORD was with Joseph. And that it was the LORD who caused all Joseph to do prosper.*
- *This begs the question What do people see when you are around them?*
 - *Do the authorities in your life see the LORD is with you? (Boss, Teacher, Police Officers)*
 - *Do the authorities know what ever good thing you do is because of the LORD or do you let people think it is somehow your greatness?*
- *What ever Joseph put his hand to will prosper. Does your employer prosper because of you or he pay you and keep you because the cost of running an ad and doing interviews are just too much? Are you an asset or a expense? We should live and work that our employer knows we are working at all times, will always be on time and will always volunteer if there is extra work that needs to be done. Now there is an employee that will cause the boss to take notice.*

Gen 39:4 So Joseph found favor in his sight and became his personal servant; and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he owned he put in his charge.

Gen 39:5 It came about that from the time he made him overseer in his house and over all that he owned, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house on account of Joseph; thus the LORD'S blessing was upon all that he owned, in the house and in the field.

Gen 39:6 So he left everything he owned in Joseph's charge; and with him {there} he did not concern himself with anything except the food which he ate. Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance.

- *The Egyptian's house and the Egyptian's possessions prospered because the LORD was with Joseph.*
- *The Egyptian could actually leave knowing that all would be well.*
- *Joseph being 17 or so when entering Egypt has worked for some time and has climbed as high as a slave could and was now 21 - 22 years old.*
- *Joseph is handsome build very well.*

Gen 39:7 **2) Joseph Played** vs 7-19

It came about after these events that his master's wife looked with desire at Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me."

- The master's wife LOOKED WITH DESIRE, sought to fulfill that desire.
- Proverbs 6:20 -7:27
 - The commandment (Word) will keep you
 - There is an enemy who wants to entice you
 - Fulfilling the enticement to sin will reduce you to a loaf of bread
 - Let the Word lead you. Let it become the apple of your eye. Let the Word entice you.
 - Her way is the way to Hell & Death.

Gen 39:8 But he **refused** and said to his master's wife, "Behold, with me {here,} my master does not concern himself with anything in the house, and he has put all that he owns in my charge.

Gen 39:9 "There is no one greater in this house than I, and he has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do this **great evil** and sin against God?"

- Joseph doesn't have the Bible, He doesn't have the Holy Spirit as we do yet Joseph understands right from wrong when it comes to his master's things.
- Joseph even realizes a higher law he is violating. The Law of God. Even though the law has not yet been given through Moses, Joseph knows the heart of God. This is a SIN AGAINST GOD!
- Where does he get this. 1) from his fathers instruction and/or 2) being with the LORD
 - Do we have a high regard for either of these two things?

30% of evangelicals divorce

50-60% in Culture

43% of 18 year olds that grew up in church have had intercourse

65% of high school kids in our culture have had some sexual activity

23% of church kids 12-13 year old consider sex between unmarried is acceptable

1 marriage ends every 27 seconds 120 an hour

46 girls under 19 will have an abortion in the next hour

600 children will become victim of a broken home

40% of the children in this country will go to bed without a father in the home

1407 babies born to teenage mothers every 24 hours

3398 born to unwed mother every 24 hours

3700 abortions every 24 hours.

Is This a Great Evil? Will Someone Stand and Call it What It Is?

Gen 39:10 As she spoke to Joseph day after day, he did not listen to her to lie beside her {or} be with her.

- This temptation is persistent and yet Joseph does not yield day after day.
- Do you think Joseph doesn't feel this temptation?
- The Egyptian women were fashionable for their day. Their fashion, much like today, was designed to seduce. We look at the drawings or illustrations and we think, too much eyeliner. They would look at us and think, aren't those too tight? Potipher's wife was made up to catch the attention of men and especially one in particular ...Joseph.
- Joseph has a commitment to purity, holiness and his integrity before God. Joseph made a choice.

This decision will change the course of the whole world. Joseph's commitment to integrity sets him up to be the man in Pharaoh's court to administer grain to starving people during a famine and successfully guides the world's most powerful nation through this very difficult time.

Gen 39:11 Now it happened one day that he went into the house to do his work, and none of the men of the household was there inside.

- Nobody in the house BEING SET UP

Gen 39:12 She caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me!" And he left his garment in her hand and fled, and went outside.

- A strong insistence BEING TRAPPED RUN!!!
- 2 Timothy 2:22 makes it clear: Flee also youthful lusts.
- God provides a way of escape (1 Corinthians 10:13), but you have to take the way out.

- Gen 39:13 When she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled outside,
- Gen 39:14 she called to the men of her household and said to them, "See, he (Potipher) has brought in a Hebrew to us to make sport of us; he came in to me to lie with me, and I screamed.
- Gen 39:15 "When he heard that I raised my voice and screamed, he left his garment beside me and fled and went outside."
- *The scorned woman BEING FALSLY ACCUSED 2x in life and 2x used his garment*
 - *Hell hath no fury than a woman scorned*
 - *While she was not treated with contempt he did refuse/reject her.*
- Gen 39:16 So she left his garment beside her until his master came home.
- Gen 39:17 Then she spoke to him with these words, "The Hebrew slave, whom you brought to us, came in to me to make sport of me;
- Gen 39:18 and as I raised my voice and screamed, he left his garment beside me and fled outside."
- Gen 39:19 Now when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spoke to him, saying, "This is what your slave did to me," his anger burned.
- *The text doest say who Potipher's anger was against.*
 - *Potipher was the head executioner Ch 38:1 He had the opportunity, authority, & justification*
 - *Potipher was the captain of the guard Ch 39:1*
 - *Potipher was the captain of the guard that gave Joseph a place of honor in the jail ch 40:3*
 - *Potipher was a smart man. He knew whom he could trust. That was Joseph. But something had to be done. A Hebrew slave offended an Egyptian Official's wife. Death was obvious but Potipher choose jail.*
- Gen 39:20 **1) Joseph is ImPrisoned** vs 1-6
- So Joseph's master took him and put him into the jail, the place where the king's prisoners were confined; and he was there in the jail.
- Gen 39:21 But the LORD was with Joseph and extended kindness to him, and gave him favor in the sight of the chief jailer.
- *THE LORD WAS WITH JOSEPH*
- Gen 39:22 The chief jailer committed to Joseph's charge all the prisoners who were in the jail; so that whatever was done there, he was responsible {for it.}
- Gen 39:23 The chief jailer did not supervise anything under Joseph's charge because the LORD was with him; and whatever he did, the LORD made to prosper.
- *We have seen this before.*
 - *This is the place where Joseph will realized it is the LORD fault not his brother's fault for the things that happen in his life.*

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