

"I Had a Dream"
Genesis 37

v. 1 Transition verse –

v.2a Toledoth = "This is the _____ of Jacob.

Note: This will not be a _____, but rather a following of the _____ of his sons, in particular, _____.

v.2b Answer the following questions:

Q Who is the subject going forward?

A.

Q. How old was he?

A.

Q. Who was he tending flocks with. Cf. 35:23-26

A. Sons of Jacob's _____ Not the _____ wives of Leah and Rachel.

Q. What did Joseph do?

A. He gave Jacob a _____ report regarding their work or _____

v. 3 Q. How is Israel's relationship described?

A.

1. He _____ Joseph more than the other sons.
2. Because he had been born to him in his _____ age [and through his _____ wife].

Q. How was it demonstrated?

A. Jacob (Israel) made him a special _____ that was _____.

v. 4 Q. How was this received by the other brothers?

A.

1. They _____ him even more because of the favoritism.
2. They could not say a _____ word to him.

Note: I find it interesting that his brothers hated Joseph, when their _____ was the one to blame. How often do we pour out our anger on the _____ person ~ the recipient of extra attention?

Q. How does this fit in with Jacob's overall life and his own parents?

A. It was _____ in the favoritism of Isaac and Rebekah toward Esau and Jacob.

v. 5 Q. Joseph received what from the Lord?

A.

Q. How was this received by his family?

A. They _____ Joseph even more.

vv. 6-7 Q. What was the essence of the dream?

A. An agricultural picture of one sheaf representing Joseph _____ amid the other sheaves, representing his brothers, who gathered to _____ down to it.

v. 8 Q. Did his brothers understand the dream? How did they react?

A. _____. They understood that he was suggesting that the younger would _____ over the older and they _____ him...even more.

v. 9 Q. Another dream? What was it and how was it different in scope?

A. This time the dream was set in the _____ and included his _____ and father bowing down to him with his brothers.

v. 10 Q. What was the reaction?

A.

1. Jacob _____ his son (probably to the amazement of his other sons).

2. Attitude of _____/unbelief.

Note: Scholars are torn by the inclusion of _____ in this text since she has already died. However, the problem is easily solved if one assumes that either Bilhah or Zilpah took over that _____ in his life. The assumption is that _____ has passes

as well, even though the bible does not record her actual death.
Cp. 49:31

v. 11 Q. What further reaction is recorded?

A.

1. His brothers were _____.
2. His father _____.

Note: Joseph is a “_____” of Jesus, just as Isaac was. In fact, the Old Testament rabbis spoke of Joseph as a type of _____ Messiah and David as the _____ Messiah. Outside of the “_____” aspect that connects us with Jesus, we also have a subtle comparison with _____. In Luke’s gospel it records her response to the prophetic announcement by the angels: ¹⁹ “But Mary treasured up all these things and _____ them in her heart.” (Lk. 2:19 NIV)

v. 12 Q. What information are we given and why is it historically important?

A. This is the place where _____ was raped, and her brothers killed and pillaged.

vv. 13-14a Q. What assignment does Joseph receive?

A. Israel sent Joseph to _____ on his brothers and his flocks.

vv. 14b-17 What is the purpose of this information?

A. It tells us:

1. Joseph was _____ to his father's wishes even though the journey was much longer than expected.
2. Joseph was beyond getting _____ from home if he were to encounter trouble – at least a four to five day walk.

v. 18 Q. What did his brothers do?

A. A _____ for murder set in at his presence.

vv. 19-20 Q. What were their plans and motivation?

A. Out of _____ they planned on killing him and throwing him down a well (cistern) - leaving him to die.

vv. 21-22 Q. Who is Reuben and what was his solution/motivation?

A. Reuben, the _____ born of Israel, son of _____, interceded on Joseph's behalf and spared his life. He _____ on coming back and lifting the young man out of the well so he could return him to his father. Perhaps this was to _____ some favor with him since the whole "sleeping with my wife" thing. Cp. 35:22

vv. 23-24 Q. What is of special interest in the account?

A. They focused on that which _____ their jealousy and hatred – the robe.

v. 25 Q. As luck would have it...what happened?

A. A caravan of Ishmaelite _____ were on their way down to _____.

Q. Who were the Ishmaelites?

A. As their name suggests, they were distant _____ – descendants of _____, brother of Isaac, uncle to Jacob, great uncle to the boys.

vv. 26-27 Q. What took place?

A. _____, full of compassion, suggested they _____ Joseph instead of killing him.

v. 28 Q. What further details do we get?

A. They sold him for _____ pieces of silver.

Note: This is another “_____” of Christ. Matthew 26:15 tells us that Judas _____ Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. The amount _____ is not important. They both were sold for the going price of a _____.

Note: Some confusion is caused by “Ishmaelites” and “Midianites,” but it is cleared up in understanding there were _____ ethnic groups traveling together.

vv. 29-31 Q. Reuben evidently wasn't there...what was his reaction and what did they decide to do?

- A.
1. Reuben tore his clothes in _____.
 2. His words are words of _____.

Note: We are _____ his brothers told him what had happened.

3. They created a _____ to explain his disappearance, once again, using – the _____.

vv. 32-35 Q. How did Israel react?

A.

1. The _____ is center stage again.
2. Israel comes to a _____ that they do not confirm or deny.
3. Israel tore his clothes in _____.
4. Israel became _____.

v. 36 Q. What was the conclusion of the event?

A. Joseph is sold to one of the _____ - _____ officials in Egypt – the head of Pharaoh's elite _____.

Note: It would be _____ - _____ years before he would see his son again.

Application Questions:

Q. What is at the heart of jealousy?

A.

Q. What keeps us from being truly thankful for what God is doing in another person's life?

A.

Q. How does James 1:15 address the issues found in this chapter?

A.

Q. Again...what lessons do we learn about parental favoritism?

A.