

“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 passed

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: <sup>19</sup> “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 Jaseph to \_\_\_\_\_ on his brothers and his flocks.

vv. 14b-17 Q. 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.