

## HEAVEN, HELP THE HOME! (Genesis 37:1-4)

- A. The Key **PATRIARCH** of this Section: \_\_\_\_\_. (37:1a)
- B. The Key **LOCATION** to Begin With: *dwelt in the land where his father {Isaac} was a stranger, in the land of \_\_\_\_\_*. (37:1b; 15:13; 17:8; 28:4)
- C. The Key **HEADING** of this Section: *This is the \_\_\_\_\_* {toledot/ tablet / family record} *of Jacob*. (37:2a) - How old was Jacob when Joseph was born?
- D. The Key **OUTLINE** of this Section: {taken from Kenneth A. Matthews - New American Commentary series - Genesis 11:27-50:26}

- A 37:2-11 Joseph the Dreamer
- B 37:12-36 Jacob Mourns the "Death" of Joseph
- C 38:1-30 Judah and Tamar
- D 39:1-23 Joseph's Enslavement in Egypt
- E 40:1-41:57 Joseph, Savior of Egypt
  - F 42:1-43:34 Journeys of Brothers to Egypt
  - G 44:1-34 Joseph Tests the Brothers
  - G' 45:1-28 Joseph Reveals His identity
  - F' 46:1-27 Journey of Family to Egypt
  - E' 46:28-47:12 Joseph, Savior of Family
  - D' 47:13-31 Joseph's Enslavement of the Egyptians
  - C' 48:1-49:28 Jacob Favors Joseph and Judah
  - B' 49:29-50:14 Joseph Mourns the Death of Jacob
  - A' 50:15-26 Joseph the Provider

- E. The **KEY POINT** of this **SECTION**: The key truth about \_\_\_\_\_ involves learning about His amazing sovereign and gracious \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_. His \_\_\_\_\_ in keeping with His \_\_\_\_\_ and therefore why we can \_\_\_\_\_ Him day by day regardless of our trials & circumstances.
- F. The Key **PERSON** and **PLOT** of this **Chapter**: \_\_\_\_\_ (37:2a) {This section completes the story of Jacob and also teaches us about his brothers who would amazingly become the heads of the tribes of Israel by God's sovereign grace, along with Judah being in the birth line of the Messiah!}

### The 3 Stages of Joseph's life:

**Birth to Seventeen {Genesis 30:24-37:2}** - His birth; his growing up in a blended and dysfunctional home; experiencing the death of his mother {Rachel} and grandfather {Isaac}; learning to respect authority & faithfully carry out responsibility; antagonism with brothers growing.

**Seventeen to Thirty Years {Genesis 37:2-41:46}** - sibling rivalry and hatred explodes with Joseph experience one serious undeserved trial after another.

**Thirty Years till Death {Genesis 41:46-50:26}** - years of promotion, prosperity, procreation, personal reconciliation w brothers, provision, and protection, even after Jacob's death.

1. His age - *being* \_\_\_\_\_ *years old*. (37:2b) - What does "17" mean biblically?
2. His occupation: *was* \_\_\_\_\_ {tending} *the flock*. (37:2c) What does this indicate?
3. His brothers: *with his brothers*. (37:2d)

4. **His blended family:** *And the \_\_\_\_ {young man / teenager} was with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives. (37:2d)* What does this prompt us to remember?

5. **His responsibility & report:** *and Joseph brought a \_\_\_\_ {defamatory; damaging; morally evil - it must have been quite grievous; signs of things to come} report of them {his brothers} to his father. (37:2e)* Why should this bad report not surprise us? Was Joseph being a tattletale and snitch or a responsible son in this matter? At 17 years old, what would you do under these circumstances if you were Joseph?

- **Some principles / proverbs to remember and apply:**

1) **Proverbs 22:6:** {what? \_\_\_\_\_ {who?} a \_\_\_\_\_ {for who? - Eph. 6:4} *in the way he \_\_\_\_\_, And {what is the proverb?} when he is \_\_\_\_\_ from it.*

2) **Proverbs 29:15:** *The rod and rebuke give wisdom, But a child \_\_\_\_\_ brings \_\_\_\_\_ to his mother.*

3) **Ephesians 6:1-3:** \_\_\_\_\_ {the recipients of this instruction}, \_\_\_\_\_ {this is their primary responsibility - it means to listen attentively to some authority in order to do what is commanded - who are they to obey?} *your \_\_\_\_\_ {why?} in the \_\_\_\_\_, for this is \_\_\_\_\_.* {It's the right thing to do. It is what God wants? What else?} 2 " \_\_\_\_\_ *your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise:* {which is?} 3 "*that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.*"

- **How does this parental respect and honor show itself? By one's ...**

1) \_\_\_\_\_ – showing respect to those in authority and not a scoffer or one who rejects correction.

2) \_\_\_\_\_ – by how you address authorities & speak to them without arguing, cursing, etc.

3) \_\_\_\_\_ – not w sarcasm, pouting, whining, outbursts.

4) \_\_\_\_\_ – not rolling the eyes, frowns, sticking out one's tongue, etc.

5) \_\_\_\_\_ – with immediate not delayed obedience.

- **How is this parental respect developed in the child? By ...**

1) \_\_\_\_\_.

2) \_\_\_\_\_ for God, His Word, God's chain of command, etc.

3) \_\_\_\_\_ to others & earning respect from others.

4) \_\_\_\_\_ when they show disrespect.

5) \_\_\_\_\_ for wisdom & consistency by the parents.

6) \_\_\_\_\_.

6. **His father's favoritism:** *Now Israel {Jacob's new name} \_\_\_\_\_ than all his children, because he was the son of his old age. (37:3a)* How old was Jacob / Israel when Joseph was born? What else may have factored into this equation of playing family favorites?

7. **His elevation by Jacob:** *Also, he made him a \_\_\_\_\_ of many colors. (37:3b)* What was this tunic and what did it indicate? And why was Reuben bypassed, the biological 'first born'? {35:22, 49:3-4}

8. **His brother's observation and reactions:** *But when his brothers \_\_\_\_\_ that their father loved him more than all his brothers {as proven by his favoritism & heirship}, {1} they \_\_\_\_\_ him and {2} could not \_\_\_\_\_ {kindly; on friendly terms} to him. (37:4)*

- Some closing thoughts on the destructive effects of favoritism in the home, along with the poison of personal bitterness & forgiveness: