

Joseph's Perilous Mission
Living in a Powder Keg of Pressure, Part 2
Genesis 37:5-36

- Joseph is one man who had every right to be bitter, but to become the man God wanted him to be, he had to avoid it all costs.
- This story underscores WHY the world needs a Savior and HOW the Savior will come into the world.
- The dreams do not reveal Joseph will be the promised son of the coming Messiah, but will test the sons of Jacob as to who that son will be.
- This narrative tells of a perilous mission of Joseph.

1. Before His Mission: Dynamic Dreams Foretell his Future, v.5-11,

- A. The first dream of the FIELD, predicts that Joseph will have power over the RESOURCES of the world.
- B. The second dream of the SKY, predicts that Joseph will have power over the RULERS of the world.

• **And is it not AMAZING? That this all reminds us of Jesus!**

Jesus, like Joseph, was God's Special Son as prophecies were pre-written of his life before he began His journey to earth.

2. Beginning His Mission: A Definite Commission from his Father, v.12-17

Genesis 37:13: "Come, and I will send thee unto them... and he said to Him, Here am I."

• **And is it not AMAZING? That this all reminds us of Jesus!**

Does not all of this point us to Jesus! Jesus left HEAVENLY HEBRON, the place of joy-filled fellowship with His Father, and was sent to earth, to seek and to save that which was lost.

John 1:11: He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

3. Culminating His Mission: A Diabolical Conspiracy of his Brothers, v.18-27

- A. They were consumed by envy, v.11
- B. They cry out to slay him, v.20
- C. They sit down to heartlessly watch him suffer, v.25

D. They sell him for 20 pieces of silver, v.28

- **And is it not AMAZING? That this all reminds us of Jesus!**

The enemies of Jesus were filled with envy, cried out to crucify Him, sat down to watch Him suffer, and Jesus was betrayed for thirty pieces of silver (Mark 15: 10; Matt.27:22; Matt.27:36; Matt.27:3)

Matthew 27:36: And sitting down they watched him there.

4. After His Mission: The Deceitful Perpetuation of their Scheme, v.29-35

- The brothers all agree to deceive their father and lie to him, telling him that Joseph is dead, but Joseph was alive.

- **And is it not AMAZING? That this all reminds us of Jesus!**

The lie that Jesus was not risen from the dead has been perpetuated by the Jewish people from the day of His death and resurrection until now. Matthew 28:12,13.

From a doting dad to a whistling whip of a slave caravan, Joseph went from one abusive culture to another.

Yet the LORD was with Joseph (Genesis 39:2,21)

God is mightily at work through the normal events of life to bring deliverance.

The story of Joseph can be told by the coats that he wore:

1. Special Son, 37:3
2. Servant, 39:2
3. Shame, 41:14
4. Salvation
5. Sovereign, 41:42,43

This story of Joseph is introduced to us with a special coat and two dreams.

Dreams have been an important part in the Book of Genesis. Abraham had a dream while in a deep sleep that Israel would sojourn in Egypt. It was a dream by Jacob that he saw the ladder from heaven to earth and received the promise of God's protection.

v.8: You don't mean to tell us that you will rule over us, do you? You really think you will have dominion over us?

v.10: Do you really think that I, your mother and brothers will all bow down to you? What is going on here, even Jacob wondered.

His brothers remained silent to this second dream but they reacted to it emotionally with deeper envy.

The two themes of this opening section are that his brothers hate Joseph, but he will reign over them.

God chooses faithful people and they are often the focus of jealous hatred of others.

Genesis 37:12-35: The fruit of unchecked hatred and jealousy. How will Joseph respond to this abuse and hate? Will he despair and lose hope or will he remain faithful to God?

The brothers continue their evil behavior by not only betraying Joseph but by deceiving Jacob into thinking Joseph was dead.

Jacob sent Joseph on a mission to check on the welfare of his brothers, v. 12-17

With murder in their hearts, sarcasm on their lips, they conspire to slay him, saying, "Behold this dreamer cometh. Let us slay him!"

The LORD was with Joseph: in his LONELINESS: alone in the pit, empty and barren, waterless and wasted. How unloved, rejected and lonely Joseph must have felt for his own brothers to treat him in an abusive manner.