

Genesis 37:12-36

¹² Now his brothers had gone to graze their father's flocks near Shechem, ¹³ and Israel said to Joseph, "As you know, your brothers are grazing the flocks near Shechem. Come, I am going to send you to them." "Very well," he replied. ¹⁴ So he said to him, "Go and see if all is well with your brothers and with the flocks, and bring word back to me." Then he sent him off from the Valley of Hebron. When Joseph arrived at Shechem,

Genesis 37:12-36

¹⁵ a man found him wandering around in the fields and asked him, "What are you looking for?" ¹⁶ He replied, "I'm looking for my brothers. Can you tell me where they are grazing their flocks?" ¹⁷ "They have moved on from here," the man answered. "I heard them say, 'Let's go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers and found them near Dothan. ¹⁸ But they saw him in the distance, and before he reached them, they plotted to kill him.

Genesis 37:12-36

¹⁹ "Here comes that dreamer!" they said to each other. ²⁰ "Come now, let's kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him. Then we'll see what comes of his dreams." ²¹ When Reuben heard this, he tried to rescue him from their hands. "Let's not take his life," he said. ²² "Don't shed any blood. Throw him into this cistern here in the desert, but don't lay a hand on him." Reuben said this to rescue him from them and take him back to his father.

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²³ So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe-the richly ornamented robe he was wearing- ²⁴ and they took him and threw him into the cistern. Now the cistern was empty; there was no water in it. ²⁵ As they sat down to eat their meal, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead. Their camels were loaded with spices, balm and myrrh, and they were on their way to take them down to Egypt.

Genesis 37:12-36

²⁶ Judah said to his brothers, "What will we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? ²⁷ Come, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood." His brothers agreed. ²⁸ So when the Midianite merchants came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.

Genesis 37:12-36

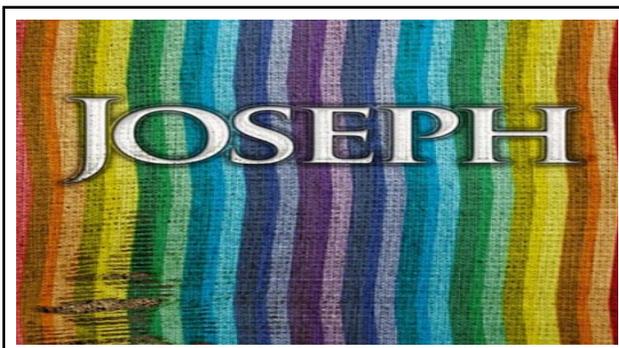
²⁹ When Reuben returned to the cistern and saw that Joseph was not there, he tore his clothes. ³⁰ He went back to his brothers and said, "The boy isn't there! Where can I turn now?" ³¹ Then they got Joseph's robe, slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood. ³² They took the ornamented robe back to their father and said, "We found this. Examine it to see whether it is your son's robe."

Genesis 37:12-36

³³ He recognized it and said, "It is my son's robe! Some ferocious animal has devoured him. Joseph has surely been torn to pieces." ³⁴ Then Jacob tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and mourned for his son many days. ³⁵ All his sons and daughters came to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. "No," he said, "in mourning will I go down to the grave to my son." So his father wept for him. ³⁶ Meanwhile, the Midianites sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard.

Realistically, we KNOW that "BAD THINGS" happen to "GOOD PEOPLE"!

Biblically, we KNOW that God "USES" those "DIFFICULT TIMES" for us to "GROW"!



1.) His "FATHER FAILED HIM!"

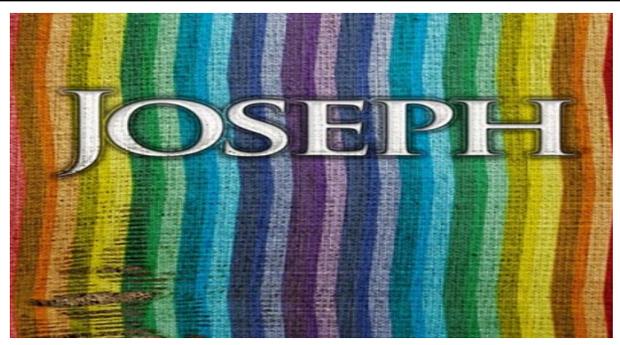
Genesis 37:13,

Jacob says, "..... as you know, your brothers are grazing the flocks near Shechem. Come, I am going to send you to them."

Genesis 37:4,

"They could not speak a kind word to him."

"SOME CHILDREN HAD RATHER BE WANTED FOR MURDER THAN NOT WANTED AT ALL."



Genesis 34:25,

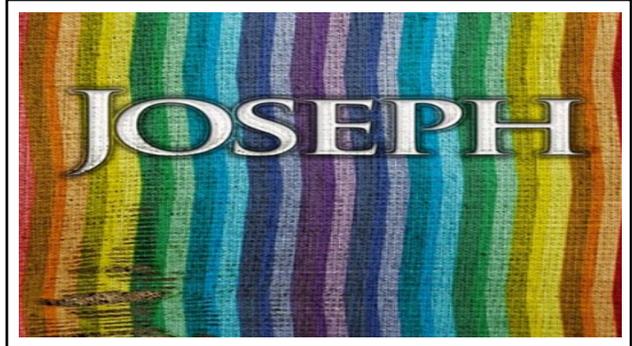
"..... Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, took their swords and attacked the unsuspecting city, killing every male."

Genesis 34:27,

"The sons of Jacob came upon the dead bodies and looted the city where their sister had been defiled. They seized their flocks and herds and donkeys and everything else of theirs in the city and out in the fields. They carried off all their wealth and all their women and children, taking as plunder everything in the houses."

Genesis 34:30,

"Then Jacob said to Simeon and Levi 'You have brought trouble on me by making me a stench to the Canaanites and Perizzites, the people living in this land. We are few in number, and if they join forces against me and attack me, I and my household will be destroyed."



**Most parents are
"NOT REALISTIC" in
"EVALUATING" their children!**

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- 69% - Do not believe "Premarital Sex" is wrong
 - 56% - Approve of "Living Together" in trial marriages
 - 57% - Approve of "Legalized Abortions"
 - 75% - said they had "Engaged In Sex"
 - 50% - said they had "More than one partner"
 - 25% - said they have had "More than 5 partners"
 - 25% - said they were "Virgins"

1 Peter 5:8,

"Satan stalks about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour!"

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- 1.) His "FATHER FAILED HIM!"
 - 2.) His "BROTHERS BETRAYED HIM!"

Genesis 37:13,

I'm going to send you on a mission to your brothers, who are tending flocks at Shechem. "Very well', he replied."

Genesis 37:15,

"When he arrived at Shechem he couldn't find his brothers. He asked a local resident if he had seen them?"

Genesis 37:17a,

"'They have moved on from here', the man answered. 'I heard them say they were going to Dothan.'"

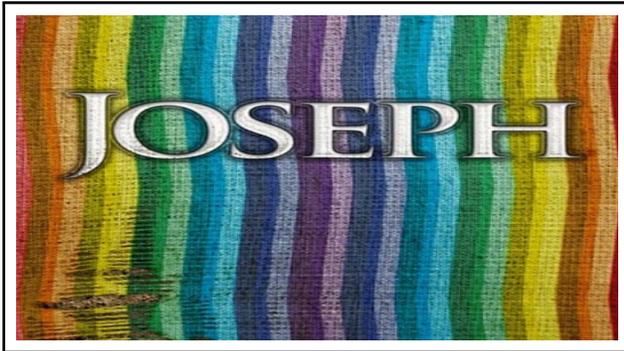
Genesis 37:17b,

"So Joseph went after his brothers and found them near Dothan."

Genesis 37:18-20,

"They saw him in the distance, and before he reached them, they plotted to kill him. 'Here comes that dreamer!' They said to each other. 'Come now, let's kill him and throw him into one of the cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him. Then we'll see what comes of his dreams!'"

"A MOB SINKS TO THE LEVEL OF IT'S LOWEST PARTICIPANT!"



Genesis 37:21-22,

"When Reuben heard this, he tried to rescue him from their hands. 'Let's not take his life', he said. 'Don't shed any blood. Throw him into this cistern here in the desert, but don't lay a hand on him.' Reuben said this to rescue him from them and take him back to his father."

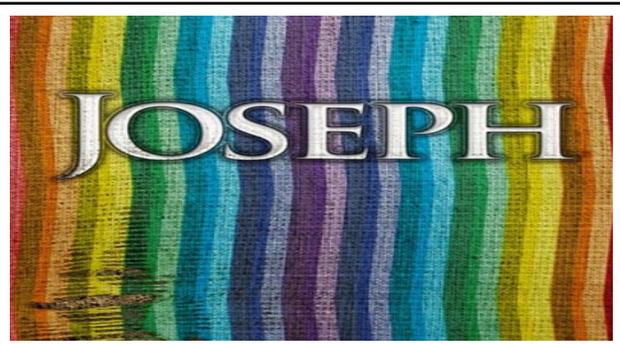
First, he was "COWARDLY".

First, he was "COWARDLY".

Secondly, he "LACKED CREDIBILITY".

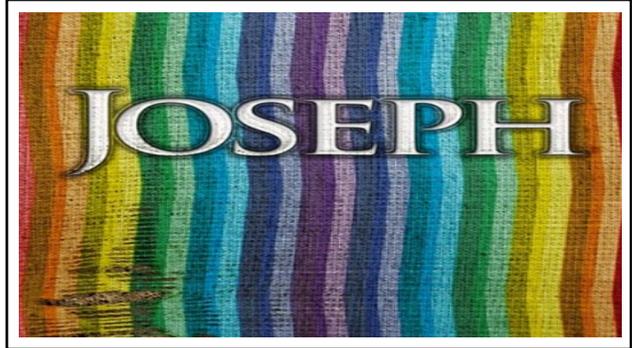
Genesis 35:22,

"While Israel (Jacob) dwelt in the land, Reuben went and lay with Bilhah, his father's concubine, and Israel heard of it."



Genesis 37:23-24,

“So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe — the richly ornamented robe he was wearing — and they took him and threw him into the cistern. Now the cistern was empty; there was no water in it.”

**Genesis 37:25-28,**

“As they sat down to eat their meal, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead. Their camels were loaded with spices, balm and myrrh, and they were on their way to take them down to Egypt. Judah said to his brothers, ‘What will we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? Come, let’s sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood.’ His brothers agreed. They pulled him out of the cistern and sold him for 20 sheckels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.”

Genesis 37:29-30,

“When Reuben returned to the cistern and saw that Joseph was not there, he tore his clothes. He went back to his brothers and said, ‘The boy isn’t there! Where can I turn now?’”

Genesis 37:31-32,

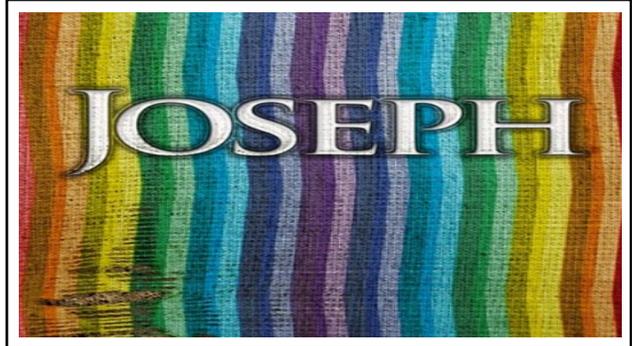
“Then they got Joseph’s robe, slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood. They took the ornamented robe back to their father and said, ‘We found this. Examine it to see whether it is your son’s robe.’”

Genesis 37:33-35,

“He recognized it and said, ‘It is my son’s robe! Some ferocious animal has devoured him. Joseph has surely been torn to pieces!’ Then Jacob tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and mourned for his son many days. All his sons and daughters came to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. ‘No’, he said, ‘in mourning will I go down to the grave of my son.’ So his father wept for him.”

Genesis 37:36,

"Meanwhile, the Midianites sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard."

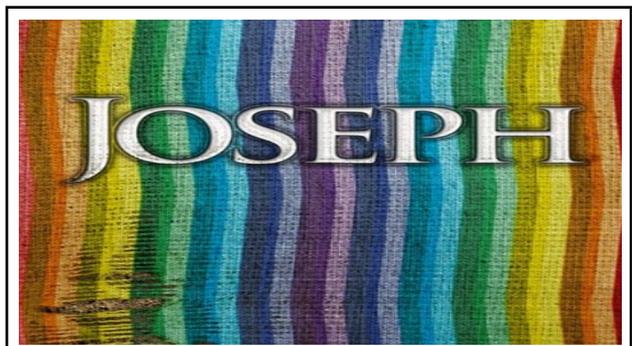


"THINK HOW HAPPY YOU WOULD BE, RIGHT NOW, IF EVERYTHING YOU HAD IN LIFE WAS TAKEN AWAY YESTERDAY, AND, SUDDENLY, GIVEN BACK TODAY!"

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- 1.) His "FATHER FAILED HIM!"**
 - 2.) His "BROTHERS BETRAYED HIM"!**
 - 3.) He is "ENSLAVED IN EGYPT"!**

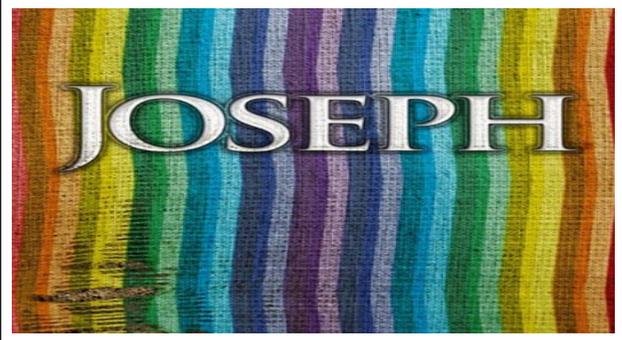
Genesis 39:1,

"Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there."



"LONELINESS"
the feelings of being "UNCARED FOR"
and "UNWANTED" are the
"GREATEST POVERTY!!"

Mother Teresa

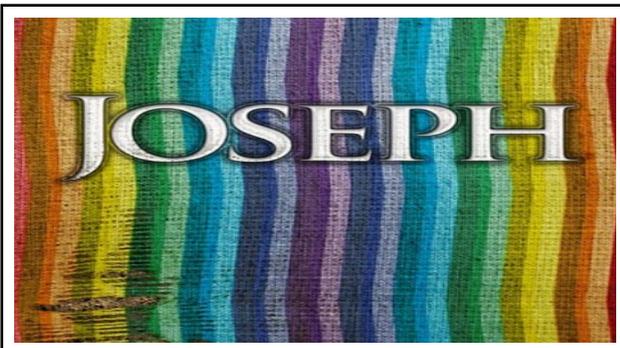


"BLOOM WHERE YOU'RE PLANTED!"

Saint Francis de Sales,
The Bishop Of Geneva (1567-1622)

Genesis 39:2,

"The Lord was with Joseph and he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master."



Genesis 39:3-4,

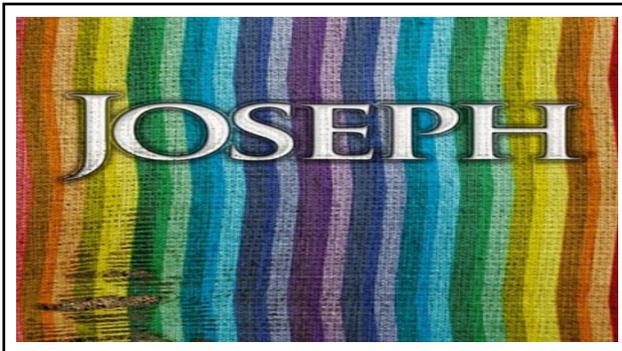
"When his master saw that The Lord was with him and that The Lord gave him success in everything he did, Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant."

"If UNCONTROLLED, work will FLOW to the COMPETENT MAN until he SUBMERGES!"

Boyle's Law

Genesis 39:4b-6a,

"Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, The Lord blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of The Lord was on everything Potiphar had both in his house and in the field. So he left in Joseph's care everything he had; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate."



**"GOD WORKS
IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS
HIS WONDERS TO PERFORM!"**

**4 SIMPLE LESSONS WE SHOULD LEARN FROM BEING
"FAITHFUL IN ADVERSITY":**

- 1.) Prosperity is "TEMPORARY", be THANKFUL!**
- 2.) Adversity is "INEVITABLE", be PREPARED!**
- 3.) Effort is "ESSENTIAL", be DILIGENT!**

Galatians 6:9,

"Don't grow weary in doing good, for in due season we will reap a harvest, if we don't give up."

1 Corinthians 15:58,

"Be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of The Lord, forasmuch as you know that your labor is not in vain in The Lord!"

4 SIMPLE LESSONS WE SHOULD LEARN FROM BEING "FAITHFUL IN ADVERSITY":

- 1.) **Prosperity** is "TEMPORARY", be THANKFUL!
- 2.) **Adversity** is "INEVITABLE", be PREPARED!
- 3.) **Effort** is "ESSENTIAL", be DILIGENT!
- 4.) **God** is "FAITHFUL", be TRUSTING!

Isaiah 43:2,

"When you pass through the waters I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you! When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned!"

Psalm 119:71,

"It was good for me to be afflicted, so that I might learn your decrees!"

**"I WALKED A MILE WITH PLEASURE,
SHE CHATTED ALL THE WAY,
BUT, LEFT ME NONE THE WISER,
FOR ALL SHE HAD TO SAY.
I WALKED A MILE WITH SORROW,
AND, NE'ER A WORD SAID SHE,
BUT, OH, THE THINGS I LEARNED FROM HER,
WHEN SORROW WALKED WITH ME!"**

Robert Browning Hamilton, Poet

**No "VICTORY" without a "BATTLE"
No "CROWN" without a "CROSS"
No "RESURRECTION" without a "DEATH"
No "RAINBOW" without a "STORM"
No "EMPTY TOMB" without a "CALVARY"
No "SUNRISE" without "NIGHT"
No "SOLUTION" without a "PROBLEM"
No "PERSEVERANCE" without "HARDSHIP"
No "UPPER ROOM" without "GETHSEMANE"**