

Timeline of Truth – Joseph Dreams Dreams and Shares Them (Gen 37:1-11)

<p>¹ Now Jacob dwelt in the land where his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan.</p> <p>² This is the history of Jacob.</p>	<p>1. Background Summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Place is Canaan</i> • <i>Focus shifts from <u>Jacob</u> to <u>Joseph</u></i>
<p>Joseph, <i>being</i> seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers. And the lad was with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to his father.</p>	<p>2. Joseph Honors His Father</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Age</u> of Joseph = 17 (Benjamin is 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Jacob/Esau = 107</i> – <i>Isaac = 167</i> • <u>Animosity</u> Towards Joseph <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Different mothers than 10 of his brothers</i> – <i>Here, children of the handmaidens (2nd class...?)</i> – <i>[Favoritism of father]</i> • <u>Loyalty</u> to His Father
<p>³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age.</p> <p>Also he made him a tunic of <i>many</i> colors.</p> <p>⁴ But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.</p>	<p>3. Israel <u>Favors</u> Joseph</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His sentiment – he loved Joseph <u>more</u>... • His <u>reason</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The son of his old age (other than Benjamin?) – The son of his [favorite] wife Rachel? • His <u>action</u> – a tunic of many colors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ongoing visible reminder... • The brothers' response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Saw the favoritism – Hated Joseph – Could not speak peaceably to Joseph
<p>⁵ Now Joseph had a dream, and he told <i>it</i> to his brothers; and they hated him even more.</p>	<p>4. Joseph's <u>First</u> Dream</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He told it to his brothers • His brothers hated him even more
<p>⁶ So he said to them, "Please hear this dream which I have dreamed:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">⁷ "There we were, binding sheaves in the field.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Then behold, my sheaf arose and also stood upright; and indeed your sheaves stood all around and bowed down to my sheaf."</p> <p>⁸ And his brothers said to him, "Shall you indeed reign over us? Or shall you indeed have dominion over us?"</p>	<p>5. Joseph's <u>Second</u> Dream – Bowing Sheaves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joseph's Appeal • Joseph's Dream <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Brothers binding sheaves in the field – Joseph's sheaf stands upright – Brother's sheaves bowed down to Joseph's sheaf • Brothers' Response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Shall you reign over us? – Shall you indeed have dominion over us?

<p>So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.</p>	<p>6. The Brothers <u>Hate</u> More</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Joseph’s dreams • For Joseph’s words
<p>⁹ Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, "Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me." ¹⁰ So he told <i>it</i> to his father and his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, "What <i>is</i> this dream that you have dreamed? Shall your mother and I and your brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?"</p>	<p>7. Joseph’s <u>Third</u> Dream – Bowing Sun, Moon, Stars</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joseph Tells His Brothers • Joseph’s Dream – Sun, Moon, Stars Bow to Him • Joseph Tells His Father & Brothers • Joseph’s Father Rebukes Him <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What is this dream? – Shall your mother, I and your brothers bow to you?
<p>¹¹ And his brothers envied him, but his father kept the matter <i>in mind</i>.</p>	<p>8. Further Trouble</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joseph’s brothers envy him • Joseph’s father keeps it in mind

Lesson Summary Thoughts:

1. Polygamy (in all its forms) creates ongoing problems.
2. Parental favoritism creates division, hatred, and envy (even in adult children!).
3. God was working in Joseph’s life to reveal the future (in a general way).
4. Joseph’s father and brothers resisted the possibility that God was working in Joseph’s life.
5. Controversy: Was Joseph right in sharing the dreams to his family?