

## **First Southern Baptist Church - February 3, 2021**

### **Joseph's Dreams - Genesis 37**

#### **Introduction**

1. Note the brothers - Judah and Reuben (eldest)
2. The story tells how Israel came to migrate into Egypt
3. Introduced to Joseph
  - was he the "perfect" character/ brother?
    - 1) cannot help but see Christ here
    - 2) sold out by brothers, received of father, in the dungeon (death) and out
  - was he a spoiled younger brother?
    - 1) bad report to dad
    - 2) reports dreams - in your face?
    - 3) tests brothers by putting cup in their food bag - ?
4. Everybody transforms
  - Joseph to an Egyptian official who "saves" his brothers
  - brothers to maturity and watch care status

#### **I. Jacob and Joseph (1-4)**

1. Seventeen (2)
2. Loved more (3)
  - Coat of many colors (3)
    - follow the coat... when removed... the brothers are removing his "love"
    - RSV - "he made him a long robe with sleeves" - did not have to work
  - Son of Rachel
  - Comfort in Jacob's old age
3. Jealousy of brothers (4)
  - "hated" him -4
  - "hated" him all the more -8
  - brothers "envied" him -11
  - the "dreamer" comes - 19 (sarcasm)

#### **II. Joseph's First Dream (5-8)**

- \*dreams in this story vs interviews with God - God's will is revealed
- 1. Concerns brothers
- 2. Tells brothers
  - Really? - youthful ambition... arrogance
- 3. Sheaves bow to him

#### **III. Joseph's Second Dream (9-11)**

1. Concerns Dad and Mom
2. Tells Dad
  - Really?
3. Sun - Dad
  - Moon - Mom

- Stars - Brothers
- They bow down
- 4. Rebuked by Dad

#### **IV. Sent to “Check On” Brothers (12-14)**

- 1. In Shechem
- 2. Bring me word

#### **V. Conspiracy Against Joseph (15-22)**

- 1. Certain “Man” (15)
  - Same word used for the “man” that Jacob wrestles
  - is this the Lord?
  - is this an angel of the Lord?
- 2. Slay him
  - Say a beast took him
- 3. Cast him in a pit (20)
  - Reuben... shed no blood
  - is Reuben a leader? Is this guilt? (the eldest, the responsible one)
  - Reuben has his own plot (to avoid the killing of his brother)
- 4. \*Then we’ll see what will become of his dreams (20)

#### **VI. Cast into a Pit (23-28)**

- 1. Striped of coat
- 2. Cast into a pit
  - empty cistern
- 3. Eating bread - Ishmaelite caravan comes
  - spices, balm and myrrh (25)
- 4. Judah said... let’s sell him (26)
  - don’t kill him, he is our brother
  - Judah is the eldest
- 5. Sold (28)

#### **VII. Reuben Returns (29-35)**

- 1. Reuben’s grief
  - sincerely sorry - at 29 he rent his clothes
  - “whither shall I go?” (30)
- 2. Dip the coat in blood
  - Follow the trail of sin:
    - Envy
    - Anger
    - Malice
    - Hatred
    - Selling him
    - Lie to dad
- 3. Is this your son’s coat?
  - what a clever lie

- Jacob jumps to a conclusion
- 4. Jacob grieves
  - refused to be comforted
  - they did away with the despised brother, but not the love Jacob had for him

#### **VIII. What about Joseph? (36)**

1. Sold to Potiphar, an “officer” of the Pharaoh
  - and “captain” of the guard
2. Put his chosen one into a place of protection (from his own brothers)