

Genesis 30 - 50 • Joseph, the Person and the Picture

We each have our own individual story. What many do not grasp is that our story is part of a much larger story.

The Bible is a book about a singular hero, his name is Jesus.

It is not WWJD, what would Joseph do, it is not even what would Jesus do, it is about what Jesus has done.

Psalms 105:16 When **he summoned a famine** on the land and **broke all supply of bread,**

Psalms 105:17 **he had sent a man ahead of them,** Joseph, who was sold as a slave.

Genesis 37:2 These are the generations of Jacob. **Joseph, being seventeen years old,** was **pasturing the flock with his brothers.** He was a boy with the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives. And **Joseph brought a bad report** of them to their father.

Genesis 37:3 **Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons,** because he was the son of his old age. **And he made him a robe of many colors.**

Genesis 37:4 But when his brothers **saw that their father loved him more** than all his brothers, **they hated him** and **could not speak peacefully to him.**

Genesis 37:5 Now **Joseph had a dream,** and when **he told it to his brothers they hated him even more.**

Genesis 37:6 He said to them, "Hear this dream that I have dreamed:

Genesis 37:7 Behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf arose and stood upright. And **behold, your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf."**

Genesis 37:8 His brothers said to him, "**Are you indeed to reign over us?** Or are you indeed to **rule** over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.

Genesis 37:9 Then **he dreamed another dream** and told it to his **brothers** and said, "**Behold, I have dreamed another dream. Behold, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me."**

Genesis 37:10 But when he told it to his **father** and to his brothers, his father rebuked him and said to him, “What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall I and your mother and your brothers indeed come to bow ourselves to the ground before you?”

Genesis 37:11 And his brothers were **jealous of him**, but **his father kept the saying in mind**.

Genesis 37:12 Now his brothers went to pasture their father’s flock near Shechem.

Genesis 37:13 And Israel said to Joseph, “Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, **I will send you to them**.” And he said to him, “**Here I am**.”

Genesis 37:18 They **saw him from afar**, and before he came near to them they **conspired against him to kill him**.

Genesis 37:19 They said to one another, “Here comes this dreamer.

Genesis 37:20 **Come now, let us kill him** and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see what will become of his dreams.”

Genesis 37:23 So when Joseph came to his brothers, **they stripped him of his robe**, the robe of many colors that he wore.

Genesis 37:24 And they took him and **threw him into a pit**. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Genesis 37:25 Then they sat down to eat. And looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels bearing gum, balm, and myrrh, **on their way to carry it down to Egypt**.

Genesis 37:28 Then Midianite traders passed by. And they drew Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and **sold him** to the Ishmaelites **for twenty shekels of silver**. **They took Joseph to Egypt**.

Genesis 39:1 Now **Joseph had been brought down to Egypt**, and **Potiphar**, an **officer of Pharaoh**, the **captain of the guard**, an **Egyptian**, had bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there.

Genesis 39:2 **The Lord was with Joseph**, and he became a successful man, and he was **in the house of his Egyptian master.**

Genesis 39:3 His master saw that the **Lord was with him** and that the **Lord caused all that he did to succeed** in his hands.

Genesis 39:4 So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him **overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had.**

Genesis 39:5 From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, **the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the Lord was on all that he had, in house and field.**

Genesis 39:6 So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge, and **because of him he had no concern about anything** but the food he ate. Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance.

Genesis 39:7 And after a time his **master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph** and said, "**Lie with me.**"

Genesis 39:8 But **he refused** and said to his master's wife, "Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and **he has put everything that he has in my charge.**

Genesis 39:9 He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except you, **because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"**

Genesis 39:10 And as she spoke to Joseph **day after day**, he would not listen to her, to lie beside her or to be with her.

Genesis 39:11 **But one day**, when he went into the house to do his work and none of the men of the house was there in the house,

Genesis 39:12 **she caught him** by his garment, saying, "**Lie with me.**" **But he left** his garment in her hand and **fled and got out of the house.**

Stop! The Bible is a book about a singular hero, his name is Jesus.

Psalms 89:6 For who in the skies can be **compared** to the Lord? Who among the heavenly beings is like the Lord,

Matthew 13:44 “The kingdom of heaven is like **treasure** hidden in a **field**, which a man found and covered up. **Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.**

Philippians 3:8 Indeed, **I count everything as loss** because of the **surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord**. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as **rubbish**, in order that I may gain Christ

Genesis 39:16 Then she laid up his garment by **her until his master came home**,

Genesis 39:19 As soon as **his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him**, “This is the way your servant treated me,” **his anger was kindled.**

Genesis 39:20 And **Joseph’s master took him and put him into the prison**, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined, and **he was there in prison.**

Genesis 39:21 **But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.**

Genesis 40:1 Some time after this, the cupbearer of the king of Egypt and his baker committed an offense against their lord the king of Egypt.

Genesis 40:3 and he **put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard**, in the **prison where Joseph was confined.**

Genesis 40:4 The **captain of the guard** appointed Joseph to be with them, and he attended them. They continued for some time in custody.

Genesis 40:5 And **one night they both dreamed**—the cupbearer and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were confined in the prison—each his own dream, and each dream with its own interpretation.

Genesis 40:6 When Joseph came to them in the morning, he saw that they were troubled.

Genesis 40:7 So he asked Pharaoh’s officers who were with him in custody **in his master’s house**, “Why are your faces downcast today?”

Genesis 40:8 They said to him, “We have had dreams, and there is no one to interpret them.” And Joseph said to them, “**Do not interpretations belong to God? Please tell them to me.**”

Genesis 40:9 So the chief cupbearer told his dream to Joseph and said to him, “In my dream there was a vine before me,

Genesis 40:10 and on the vine there were three branches. As soon as it budded, its blossoms shot forth, and the clusters ripened into grapes.

Genesis 40:11 Pharaoh’s cup was in my hand, and I took the grapes and pressed them into Pharaoh’s cup and placed the cup in Pharaoh’s hand.”

Genesis 40:12 Then Joseph said to him, “This is its interpretation: **the three branches are three days.**

Genesis 40:13 In three days **Pharaoh will lift up your head** and **restore you** to your office, and you shall place Pharaoh’s cup in his hand as formerly, when you were his cupbearer.

Genesis 40:14 **Only remember me**, when it is well with you, and please do me the kindness to mention me to Pharaoh, and **so get me out of this house.**

Genesis 40:15 For I was indeed stolen out of the land of the Hebrews, and here also **I have done nothing that they should put me into the pit.**”

Genesis 40:16 When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was favorable, he said to Joseph, “**I also had a dream: there were three cake baskets on my head,**

Genesis 40:17 and in the uppermost basket there were all sorts of baked food for Pharaoh, but **the birds were eating it out of the basket on my head.**”

Genesis 40:18 And Joseph answered and said, “**This is its interpretation: the three baskets are three days.**

Genesis 40:19 **In three days Pharaoh will lift up your head**—from you!—and hang you on a tree. And the birds will eat the flesh from you.”

Genesis 40:20 **On the third day**, which was Pharaoh's birthday, he made a feast for all his servants and lifted up the head of the chief cupbearer and the head of the chief baker among his servants.

Genesis 40:21 He restored the chief cupbearer to his position, and he placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand.

Genesis 40:22 But he hanged the chief baker, **as Joseph had interpreted to them.**

Genesis 40:23 Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, **but forgot him.**

Genesis 41:1 **After two whole years, Pharaoh dreamed...**

Genesis 41:8 So in the morning his spirit was troubled, and he sent and called for **all the magicians of Egypt and all its wise men.** Pharaoh told them his dreams, but **there was none who could interpret them to Pharaoh.**

Genesis 41:9 Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, **"I remember my offenses today.**

Genesis 41:10 When Pharaoh was angry with his servants and put me and the chief baker in custody **in the house of the captain of the guard,**

Genesis 41:11 we dreamed on the same night, he and I, each having a dream with its own interpretation.

Genesis 41:12 A **young Hebrew** was there with us, **a servant of the captain of the guard.** When we told him, **he interpreted our dreams** to us, giving an interpretation to each man according to his dream.

Genesis 41:13 And **as he interpreted to us, so it came about.** I was restored to my office, and the baker was hanged."

Genesis 41:14 Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they quickly brought him out of the pit. And when he had shaved himself and changed his clothes, he came in before Pharaoh.

Genesis 41:15 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it."

Genesis 41:16 Joseph answered Pharaoh, **“It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer.”**

Genesis 41:17a Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Behold, in my dream...

Genesis 41:25 Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, “The dreams of Pharaoh are one; **God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do.**

Genesis 41:38 And Pharaoh said to his servants, **“Can we find a man like this, in whom is the Spirit of God?”**

Genesis 41:39 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Since **God has shown you all this**, there is none so discerning and wise as you are.

Genesis 41:40 **You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command.** Only as regards the throne will I be greater than you.”

Genesis 41:41 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “See, **I have set you over all the land of Egypt.**”

Genesis 41:42 Then Pharaoh took his **signet ring from his hand and put it on Joseph’s hand**, and **clothed him in garments of fine linen** and put a gold chain about his neck.

Genesis 41:43 And he made him ride in his second chariot. And they called out before him, **“Bow the knee!” Thus he set him over all the land of Egypt.**

Genesis 41:46 **Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt.** And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh and went through all the land of Egypt.

Genesis 41:53 The seven years of plenty that occurred in the land of Egypt came to an end,

Genesis 41:54 and the seven years of famine began to come, as Joseph had said. There was famine in all lands, **but in all the land of Egypt there was bread.**

Genesis 41:55 When all the land of Egypt was famished, **the people cried to Pharaoh for bread.** Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, **“Go to Joseph. What he says to you, do.”**

Genesis 41:57 Moreover, **all the earth came to Egypt to Joseph** to buy grain, because the famine was severe over all the earth.

Genesis 42:1 When **Jacob learned that there was grain for sale in Egypt**, he said to his sons, “Why do you look at one another?”

Genesis 42:6 Now Joseph was governor over the land. He was the one who sold to all the people of the land. And **Joseph’s brothers came and bowed themselves before him with their faces to the ground.**

Genesis 42:7 Joseph saw his brothers and **recognized them**, but he treated them like strangers and spoke roughly to them. “Where do you come from?” he said. They said, “From the land of Canaan, to buy food.”

Genesis 42:8 And **Joseph recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him.**

Genesis 45:1 Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him. He cried, “Make everyone go out from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers.

Genesis 45:2 And he wept aloud, so that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it.

Genesis 45:3 And Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

Genesis 45:4 So Joseph said to his brothers, “Come near to me, please.” And they came near. And he said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.

Genesis 45:5 And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.

Jesus is the greater Joseph

Both are shepherds. Jesus is the shepherd who lays down his life.

John 10:11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

Both are the most loved of their fathers

Matthew 3:17 and behold, a voice from heaven said, “**This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.**”

Both were prophesied to be rulers

Daniel 7:13-14 “I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came **one like a son of man**, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And **to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom**, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, **which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.**

Both went to Egypt

Matthew 2:14 And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt

Both Joseph’s and Jesus’ brothers were jealous of them, and did not believe them

John 7:5 For not even his brothers believed in him.

Joseph was sent by his father to his brothers. Jesus was sent by His Father to Israel

Matthew 21:37-38 Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’

Both were thirty years old when they began their calling.

Luke 3:23 Jesus, when he began his ministry, was about **thirty** years of age...

Joseph was sold as a slave to Egypt. Jesus was betrayed for the price of a slave

Matthew 26:15 and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver.

Joseph’s brothers did not recognize him. Jesus’ own people didn’t either.

John 1:10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, **yet the world did not know him.**

God worked through intended evil to bring salvation and forgiveness.

Genesis 45:4 So Joseph said to his brothers, “**Come near to me**, please.” And they came near. And he said, “I am your brother, Joseph, **whom you sold into Egypt.**

Genesis 45:5 And **now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.**

Genesis 50:20 As for you, **you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good**, to bring it about that **many people should be kept alive**, as they are today.

Acts 2:23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, **you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.**

Luke 23:34a And Jesus said, “**Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.**”

Joseph was the source of bread, Jesus is the bread.

Genesis 41:55 When all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for **bread**. Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, “**Go to Joseph. What he says to you, do.**”

John 6:35 Jesus said to them, “**I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.**”

Joseph’s brothers shared Pharaoh’s favor because of Joseph, not themselves. We share God’s favor because of Jesus, not because we are worthy.

Ephesians 2:4-8 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — **by grace you have been saved**—and **raised us up** with him and **seated us with him** in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the **immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus**. For by **grace you have been saved** through faith. And this is not your own doing; **it is the gift of God**,

Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply **every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus**.

All knees bowed to Joseph. All knees will bow to Jesus.

Philippians 2:10 so that at the name of Jesus **every knee should bow**, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

John 5:46 For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; **for he wrote of me.**

The Bible is a book about a singular hero, his name is Jesus.