

THE BACKGROUND TO THE STORY OF JOSEPH (And You Thought Your Family Was Dysfunctional)

- Why does the story of Joseph take so much space in the book of Genesis?
 - 1) The life of Joseph is a _____ & _____ life! (Phil. 4:8)
 - 2) There is no one in scripture whose life _____ that of the _____ like that of Joseph.

I. The Context to Our Story ... begins by ...

A. Understanding the Book of _____ – the book of _____!

1. Genesis starts the *beginning* of God's _____, with _____ key **Events** mentioned in (Gen. 1-11) - _____, the _____, the _____, the _____
2. Genesis continues with the beginning of the nation of _____ and _____ key individuals in (Gen. 12-50) - _____, _____, _____, & _____

B. Understanding Joseph's Family & Background

1. He is first mentioned in Gen. 30:24, where he was born _____, the _____ son of Jacob his father!
 2. His name Joseph means “_____” indicating that his previously barren mother Rachel, expected _____! (And that would be _____ his full brother!)
 3. Jacob had ___ wives and ___ concubines that produced ___ sons & ___ daughter.
 4. If Jacob's household was anything, it was full of _____ & _____!
 5. A **key truth** we want to understand from this story is that ... God will demonstrate His _____ & _____ throughout the story of Joseph!
- A **principle** to learn is ... Regardless of one's _____ or _____ in life, you can _____ the providential care & _____ of God come what may.
6. From the **key verse of this story** you are to **remember ... Genesis 50:20** – Here Joseph was able to say to his brothers after it was all over... “*but as for you, you meant _____ against me, but God meant it for _____ in order to bring about as it is this day to _____ many people alive.*”

C. Understanding Joseph's Present Situation (Gen 37:1-10)

Principle to note: Nothing from our _____ birth will ever be acceptable to God, we must be _____, and then its only _____ life lived _____ us by _____ that will ever count for anything!

1. We pick up the story with Joseph tending _____ with his brothers when he is ____ years of age!
2. Joseph brought a _____ to his father of his brother's shenanigans!
3. Jacob had _____ Joseph because he was the _____ of Rachel, the love of his life.
4. Jacob showed his _____ of Joseph, by giving him a "_____ of many _____".

Other translations:

5. What the tunic represented to the brothers showed Joseph getting _____, perhaps meaning that Jacob had bestowed "_____ " status on Joseph, even though he was the 11th son in the family.

- Now why would that be?

Principle: Parents never show _____ or _____ to one child over another, as this will only cause _____ & lead to _____/ _____ in your family & home. (cf 37:4)

Principle: You destined to repeat the _____ you learned in the home you grew up in, unless the _____ intervenes and _____ those mistakes.

6. Joseph unwisely told his brothers the _____ he had, that had his brothers _____ before him. (37:5-7)
7. In Joseph's first dream we see Joseph _____ over his _____. In his second dream we see Joseph reigning over _____!

- How will a sovereign God bring all this to pass?

II. From Favorite Son to Hated Brother