

# Genesis - Lesson 37

Genesis Chapter 37

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Memory verses for this week: **1Jn 4:1** *Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.* **1Jn 4:2** *Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:*

**Introduction:** We continue our study on the book of Genesis this week as we transfer from our study specifically on Jacob who was renamed to Israel, to no studying about his family, specifically about Joseph and how his brothers rejected him.

There are a number of outstanding characters in the book of Genesis, but more space is given to the life of Joseph than any of the rest. Why? Because he was a type of Christ in more ways than any other Bible character.

1. Adam typified Christ in his headship
2. Abel typified Christ in his death.
3. Noah typified Christ in providing a refuge.
4. Melchizedek typified Christ as a priest
5. Moses typified Christ as a prophet.
6. David typified Christ as a king.
7. But Joseph typified Christ in many, many ways.

## I. Joseph the Beloved of his Father

**Gen 37:1** *And Jacob dwelt in the land wherein his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan.*

**Gen 37:2** *These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brethren; and the lad was with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives: and Joseph brought unto his father their evil report.*

**Gen 37:3** *Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours.*

**Gen 37:4** *And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.*

There was definitely a reason why Joseph was hated by his brethren. Anytime a parent goes out of the way to show favoritism to a child, you will have problems. That isn't to say we won't have certain children that may be more special to us than others. It was clear that Esau was Isaac's favorite as the hunter, while Jacob was one dwelling in the tents and favored more by his mother. But as parents, we should do our very best to treat each child fairly and consistently. God certainly loves all of His children

and blesses us all, and we should look to that as our ultimate example.

Let's look at some of the parallels between Joseph and Christ. Joseph's father was a stranger in the land. So was the Father of Jesus a stranger in the land.

*Joh 8:18 I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me.*

*Joh 8:19 Then said they unto him, Where is thy Father? Jesus answered, Ye neither know me, nor my Father: if ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also.*

*Joh 8:20 These words spake Jesus in the treasury, as he taught in the temple: and no man laid hands on him; for his hour was not yet come.*

*Joh 8:21 Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come.*

Another typification of Joseph is that he was a shepherd. We certainly know Christ was the shepherd, and today is the Great Shepherd over all those who know Him as Lord and Savior.

***Psa 23:1 A Psalm of David. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.***

*Psa 23:2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

*Psa 23:3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

*Psa 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

*Psa 23:5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

*Psa 23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.*

*Joh 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.*

*Joh 10:12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.*

*Joh 10:13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.*

*Joh 10:14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.*

*Joh 10:15 As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.*

*Joh 10:16 And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.*

Joseph was opposed to evil as was Christ.

*Joh 7:6 Then Jesus said unto them, My time is not yet come: but your time is always ready.*

*Joh 7:7 The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil.*

Jacob showed great love towards Joseph. Christ was the only Begotten Son of God and greatly loved by the Father.

*Mat 17:5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.*

*Joh 10:17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.*

Joseph was the son of Jacob's old age. Christ, the Son of The Father, is from eternity. They have forever existed which is a hard teaching. The human mind has trouble comprehending this, but it is as true as any other teaching in the bible.

*Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.*

*Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.*

*Mic 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.*

Jacob had a beautiful coat of many colors prepared and given to Joseph. Joseph had a coat of distinction, one unlike any other. Christ was distinctly robed on the Mount of Transfiguration.

*Mat 17:1 And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,*

*Mat 17:2 And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.*

Christ also had a valuable robe at the time of His crucifixion.

Joseph was clearly hated by his brethren. This was the case in Christ's life also.

*Joh 15:24 If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.*

*Joh 15:25 But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause.*

Adam Clarke pointed out in his commentary that the brothers could not even speak to Joseph peaceably.

**And could not speak peaceably unto him** - Does not this imply, in our use of the term, that they were continually quarrelling with him? but this is no meaning of the original: they could not speak peace to him, i. e., they would not accost him in a friendly manner. They would not even wish him well. The eastern method of salutation is, Peace be to thee! shalom lecha, among

the Hebrews, and salam, peace, or salam kebibi, peace to thee my friend, among the Arabs. Now as peace among those nations comprehends all kinds of blessings spiritual and temporal, so they are careful not to say it to those whom they do not cordially wish well. It is not an unusual thing for an Arab or a Turk to hesitate to return the salam, if given by a Christian, or by one of whom he has not a favorable opinion: and this, in their own country, may be ever considered as a mark of hostility; not only as a proof that they do not wish you well, but that if they have an opportunity they will do you an injury. This was precisely the case with respect to Joseph's brethren: they would not give him the salam, and therefore felt themselves at liberty to take the first opportunity to injure him.

*Gen 37:5 And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.*

*Gen 37:6 And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed:*

*Gen 37:7 For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf.*

*Gen 37:8 And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words.*

*Gen 37:9 And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.*

While the brothers of Joseph saw the dreams as nothing but something to elevate Joseph and possibly belittle them, in reality, Joseph received divine knowledge. In this dream, we see additional typification of our Lord and Savior.

Joseph knew the future. Christ, being God himself, also knew all things. Based upon the dream, Joseph was to be exalted above his brethren. Certainly no other has ever been so highly exalted as Christ.

*Php 2:8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*

*Php 2:9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:*

*Php 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;*

*Php 2:11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Joseph's brethren were to bow down to him. Likewise, so will all the brethren of Christ (as well as everyone who has ever lived.)

*Rom 14:11 For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.*

Joseph's brothers did not want him to reign over them. Neither did the brethren of Christ want him to reign over them.

*Luk 19:14 But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.*

*Gen 37:10 And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?*

*Gen 37:11 And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.*

Joseph was hated for his words. Even his own father rebuked him for speaking of this dream. No one was ever hated more for his words than Christ.

*Joh 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.*

*Joh 15:17 These things I command you, that ye love one another.*

*Joh 15:18 If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.*

*Joh 15:19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.*

*Joh 15:20 Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.*

*Joh 15:21 But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me.*

*Joh 15:22 If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin.*

*Joh 15:23 He that hateth me hateth my Father also.*

*Joh 5:17 But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.*

*Joh 5:18 Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.*

*Joh 10:30 I and my Father are one.*

*Joh 10:31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him.*

*Joh 10:32 Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me?*

*Joh 10:33 The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.*

*Gen 37:12 And his brethren went to feed their father's flock in Shechem.*

*Gen 37:13 And Israel said unto Joseph, Do not thy brethren feed the flock in Shechem? come, and I will send thee unto them. And he said to him, Here am I.*

*Gen 37:14 And he said to him, Go, I pray thee, see whether it be well with thy brethren, and well with the flocks; and bring me word again. So he sent him out of the vale of Hebron, and he came to Shechem.*

Matthew Henry made some good comments about how we should be quick to obey our father's command.

The kind visit which Joseph, in obedience to his father's command, made to his brethren, who were feeding the flock at Shechem, many miles off. Some suggest that they went thither on purpose, expecting that Joseph would be sent to see them, and that then they should have an opportunity to do him a mischief. However, Joseph and his father had both of them more of the innocence of the dove than of the wisdom of the serpent, else he had never come thus into the hands of those that hated him: but God designed it all for good. See in Joseph an instance, 1. Of dutifulness to his father. Though he was his father's darling, yet he was made, and was willing to be, his father's servant. How readily does he wait his father's orders! *Here I am, Gen 37:13.*

Note, Those children that are best beloved by their parents should be most obedient to their parents; and then their love is well-bestowed and well-returned. 2. Of kindness to his brethren. Though he knew they hated him and envied him, yet he made no objections against his father's commands, either from the distance of the place or the danger of the journey, but cheerfully embraced the opportunity of showing his respect to his brethren. Note, It is a very good lesson, though it is learnt with difficulty and rarely practiced, *to love those that hate us*; if our relations do not their duty to us, yet we must not be wanting in our duty to them.

Work was to be done with the flocks, and Joseph was sent by his father to check that all was well with Joseph's brothers. In verse 13, Joseph was sent by his father unto his brethren. Christ was certainly sent by the Heavenly Father to the brethren.

*1Jn 4:9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.*

*1Jn 4:10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

*Heb 10:6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.*

*Heb 10:7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.*

*Heb 10:8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;*

*Heb 10:9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.*

*Heb 10:10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*

*Joh 1:10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.*

*Joh 1:11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.*

*Gen 37:15 And a certain man found him, and, behold, he was wandering in the field: and the man asked him, saying, What seekest thou?*

*Gen 37:16 And he said, I seek my brethren: tell me, I pray thee, where they feed their flocks.*

*Gen 37:17 And the man said, They are departed hence; for I heard them say, Let us go to Dothan. And Joseph went after his brethren, and found them in Dothan.*

Joseph's brothers had strayed from the place of obedience. So had the earthly brethren of Christ. Only a few were in the will of God when he came.

*Luk 2:25 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.*

*Luk 2:26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.*

*Luk 2:27 And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,*

*Luk 2:28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,*

*Luk 2:29 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:*

*Luk 2:30 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,*

*Luk 2:31 Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;*

*Luk 2:32 A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.*

While they had moved to another location, Joseph wandered in a field seeking his brothers. So did Christ search in the field of the world for those who are lost and need salvation.

*Mat 13:37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;*

*Mat 13:38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;*

*Mat 13:39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.*

While not being in the place he expected, Joseph seeks his brethren until he finds



them. Thank God Christ does the same. He seeks each of us out and saves all who will come unto Him.

*Luk 19:10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*

## STUDY QUESTIONS

1. How did the following men typify Christ: Adam, Abel, Noah, Melchizedek, Moses, David?

1. Adam typified Christ in his headship
2. Abel typified Christ in his death.
3. Noah typified Christ in providing a refuge.
4. Melchizedek typified Christ as a priest
5. Moses typified Christ as a prophet.
6. David typified Christ as a king.

2. Why was Joseph hated by his brethren and give some reasons why these typify Christ?

He was loved by his father and given gifts that they did not receive. He had dreams showing how the whole family would bow and give obeisance to him. The world said they would not bow down or have reign Christ over them. Joseph was hated for his words. No one was ever hated more for their true words than Jesus Christ.

3. Joseph received divine knowledge. How did this effect his brethren?

By dreaming the dream of what would happen in the future in Egypt, it caused his brethren to hate him even more. Even his father rebuked him for the dream which was divinely given from God.

4. Give some ways in which Joseph being sent out by his father typifies Christ.

We was to go and seek his brethren. Christ was sent to seek and save those who are lost. Joseph was sent by command of his father, and Christ was certainly came at the will of the Father.

Joseph's brothers were not in the place of obedience, and many brethren of the Lord are not in a place of God's perfect will. But Joseph did not stop, but continued to seek them out. Same with Christ.

### **I. Joseph's Brethren Conspire to Eliminate Him.**

*Gen 37:18 And when they saw him afar off, even before he came near unto them, they conspired against him to slay him.*

*Gen 37:19 And they said one to another, Behold, this dreamer cometh.*

*Gen 37:20 Come now therefore, and let us slay him, and cast him into some pit, and we will*



*say, Some evil beast hath devoured him: and we shall see what will become of his dreams.*

Even before Joseph arrives. the brothers plan to kill him. Verse 18 says they saw him afar off, and they conspired to put him to death before he came near. So did the Jews conspire against Christ. The religious leaders particularly wanted Christ to be killed.

*Mat 12:14 Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him.*

*Joh 11:46 But some of them went their ways to the Pharisees, and told them what things Jesus had done.*

*Joh 11:47 Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, What do we? for this man doeth many miracles.*

*Joh 11:48 If we let him thus alone, all men will believe on him: and the Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation.*

*Joh 11:49 And one of them, named Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said unto them, Ye know nothing at all,*

*Joh 11:50 Nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not.*

*Joh 11:51 And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation;*

*Joh 11:52 And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad.*

*Joh 11:53 Then from that day forth they took counsel together for to put him to death.*

In verse 19, Joseph the "dreamer" was disbelieved. This is so similar to the New Testament when Christ also was not believed.

*Joh 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*

*Joh 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.*

*Joh 3:20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd.*

*Joh 3:21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.*

...

*Joh 3:35 The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.*

*Joh 3:36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*

*Mat 27:39 And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads,*

*Mat 27:40 And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross.*

*Mat 27:41 Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said,*

*Mat 27:42 He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him.*

*Mat 27:43 He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.*

*Mat 27:44 The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth.*

We have many who come into the church, hear the gospel, and walk out without making a decision to accept Christ. Makes you wonder how many really believe Jesus today?

Verse 20 points out that they were ready to slay Joseph. How many times in the four accounts of the gospels did the Jews desire to slay Christ.

*Luk 4:28 And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath,*

*Luk 4:29 And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong.*

*Luk 4:30 But he passing through the midst of them went his way,*

*Luk 4:31 And came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and taught them on the sabbath days.*

*Luk 4:32 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for his word was with power.*

*Joh 7:28 Then cried Jesus in the temple as he taught, saying, Ye both know me, and ye know whence I am: and I am not come of myself, but he that sent me is true, whom ye know not.*

*Joh 7:29 But I know him: for I am from him, and he hath sent me.*

**Joh 7:30** *Then they sought to take him: but **no man** laid hands on him, because his hour was not yet come.*

...

*Joh 7:42 Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was?*

*Joh 7:43 So there was a division among the people because of him.*

*Joh 7:44 And some of them would have taken him; but no man laid hands on him.*

*Joh 7:45 Then came the officers to the chief priests and Pharisees; and they said unto them, Why have ye not brought him?*

*Joh 7:46 The officers answered, Never man spake like this man.*

*Gen 37:21 And Reuben heard it, and he delivered him out of their hands; and said, Let us not kill him.*

*Gen 37:22 And Reuben said unto them, Shed no blood, but cast him into this pit that is in the wilderness, and lay no hand upon him; that he might rid him out of their hands, to deliver him to his father again.*

*Gen 37:23 And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stript Joseph out of his coat, his coat of many colours that was on him;*

*Gen 37:24 And they took him, and cast him into a pit: and the pit was empty, there was no water in it.*

After they change their plans to not kill Joseph, they next plan to throw him in a pit. Reuben cared, and he was the one who sought to deliver Joseph. Even so Pilate sought to deliver Christ from death.

*Mat 27:21 The governor answered and said unto them, Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you? They said, Barabbas.*

*Mat 27:22 Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?*

*They all say unto him, Let him be crucified.*

*Mat 27:23 And the governor said, Why, what evil hath he done? But they cried out the more, saying, Let him be crucified.*

*Mat 27:24 When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made,*

*he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.*

*Mat 27:25 Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children.*

*Mat 27:26 Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.*

The brothers conspire again and Joseph was stripped of his coat. Christ also suffered the same insult.

*Mat 27:27 Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers.*

*Mat 27:28 And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe.*

*Joh 19:23 Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part; and also his coat: now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout.*

*Joh 19:24 They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be: that the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots. These things therefore the soldiers did.*

Man can live up to a month without food, but it only takes a few days to kill us if we are withheld water. Joseph cast into a pit where there was no water. This being in a pit is the type of Christ between His death and resurrection.

*Mat 12:38 Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee.*

*Mat 12:39 But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:*

*Mat 12:40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.*

*Gen 37:25 And they sat down to eat bread: and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a company of Ishmeelites came from Gilead with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry it down to Egypt.*

*Gen 37:26 And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood?*

*Gen 37:27 Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother and our flesh. And his brethren were content.*

*Gen 37:28 Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.*

As fate would have it, a company of Ishmeelites came from Gilead heading to Egypt. We know this was all in God's complete plan to deliver the family years from now. The brothers sell Joseph as a slave. His brethren had no sympathy for his plight. Likewise neither did the brethren of Christ. No one stood up for him on that horrible day at Calvary.

*Mat 27:33 And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull,*

*Mat 27:34 They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink.*

*Mat 27:35 And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.*

*Mat 27:36 And sitting down they watched him there;*

*Mat 27:37 And set up over his head his accusation written, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.*

*Mat 27:38 Then were there two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left.*

*Mat 27:39 And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads,*

*Mat 27:40 And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross.*

*Mat 27:41 Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said,*

*Mat 27:42 He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him.*

*Mat 27:43 He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.*

Judah was eager to make a profit on Joseph. Judas (the anglicized form of the Greek equivalent, Matt. 1:1-3) was also anxious to make a profit.

*Mat 1:1 The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.*

*Mat 1:2 Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren;*

*Mat 1:3 And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram;*

*Luk 22:1 Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover.*

*Luk 22:2 And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people.*

*Luk 22:3 Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve.*

*Luk 22:4 And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them.*

*Luk 22:5 And they were glad, and covenanted to give him money.*

*Luk 22:6 And he promised, and sought opportunity to betray him unto them in the absence of the multitude.*

Joseph was lifted out of the pit alive and sold for 20 pieces of silver. In even a greater way, Jesus came out of the grave alive after 3 days and 3 nights.

*Act 1:3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:*

There is no contradiction in the usage of the Ishmeelites and Midianites. No doubt the party or group was made up of both. How could the brothers of Joseph be so cruel? They grew up in a bigamous home where there was a lack of harmony and spiritual teaching. They may have depended on their ancestry rather than watch and pray for themselves.

*Gen 37:29 And Reuben returned unto the pit; and, behold, Joseph was not in the pit; and he rent his clothes.*

*Gen 37:30 And he returned unto his brethren, and said, The child is not; and I, whither shall I go?*

While the other 10 brothers plotted and sold Joseph, Reuben had nothing to do with the sale. You can tell from his words that he was not pleased with what had happened.

## **II. The Brothers Fabricate A False Story**

*Gen 37:31 And they took Joseph's coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood;*

*Gen 37:32 And they sent the coat of many colours, and they brought it to their father; and said, This have we found: know now whether it be thy son's coat or no.*

*Gen 37:33 And he knew it, and said, It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces.*

*Gen 37:34 And Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days.*

*Gen 37:35 And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him.*

*Gen 37:36 And the Midianites sold him into Egypt unto Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, and captain of the guard.*

The brothers come up with a plan to convince their father that something evil had befallen Joseph. Joseph's blood-sprinkled coat was presented to the father to convince him that a wild animal had killed him. Christ's blood was presented on the heavenly mercy seat before the Father.

*Heb 9:11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;*

*Heb 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.*

*Heb 9:13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:*

*Heb 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*

*Heb 9:25 Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others;*

*Heb 9:26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.*  
*Heb 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:*  
*Heb 9:28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.*

Joseph, being Jacob's favorite son of his old age, was driven to anguish. His grief was almost more than he could bare. But the reality was that Joseph was sold to Potiphar, the captain of the guard in Egypt. This story was just beginning with Joseph.

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*Prov 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.*

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**Practice Random Acts of Kindness. Each act spreads, and many will be blessed.**