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Joseph's Glory Through Trial

The Lord was with Joseph, and he was a successful man.
Genesis 39: 2

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”
Matthew 19:14

Joseph led a very difficult life. But he chose not be bitter, avoided resentment and trusted his God until the end. Those that are close to us are the ones who will hurt us most. Let us not choose bitterness and learn to forgive our families and friends like our father Joseph. Joseph was the only person in the entire Bible to be called successful. The secret of his success is forgiveness and trusting God in all the difficult situations. We also can unite with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ if we learn to love and forgive.

Jacob had twelve sons. Joseph was his favorite because he was the son of his old age. Jacob made Joseph a colorful coat.



His brothers saw this and they got very jealous. They did not like Joseph because he sometimes told his father about the bad things they do. So they could not speak kindly to him.



Joseph had a dream. He told it to his brothers, “We were tying up bunches of grain from the field when suddenly your bundles of grain bowed down to mine.” His brothers did not like what he told them.



Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. “Listen,” he said, “I had another dream, and this time the sun, moon and eleven stars bowed down to me.”



When his father heard it, he was angry at him and said, “What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to you someday?” His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.



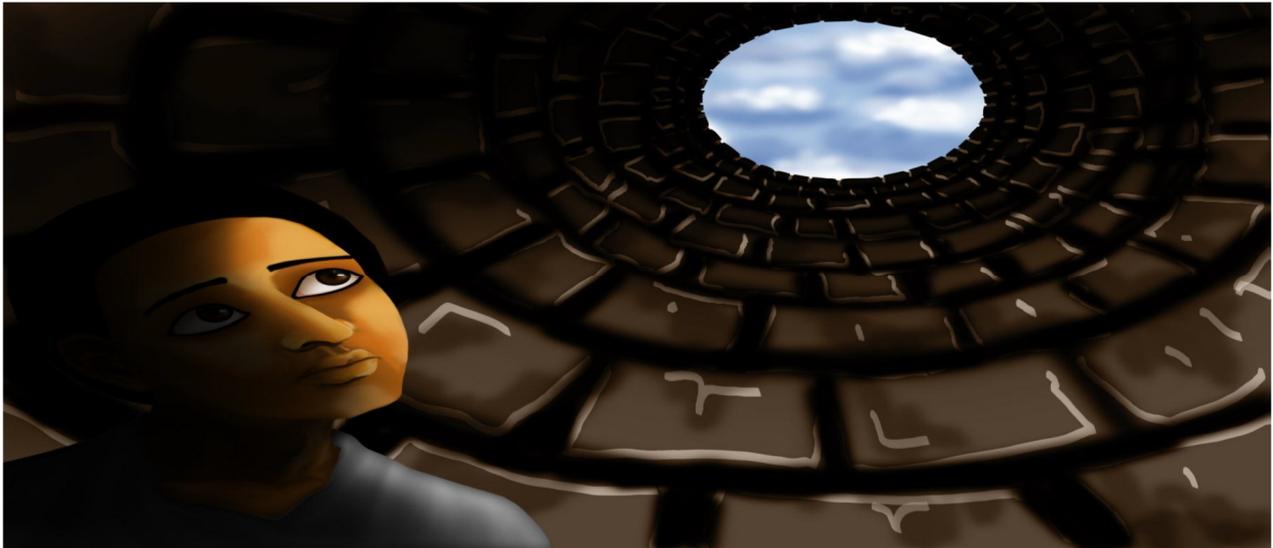
One day Jacob sent Joseph to check on his brothers and bring word back to him. But when his brothers saw him coming, they made plans to hurt him. Joseph did not know the danger before him.



So when Joseph got there, his brothers grabbed him without warning. They took off his beautiful coat that had made them so jealous.



Just then Reuben, one of the older ones, saw a deep hole nearby and had an idea. They agreed to throw him into a dry empty well.



Along came some traders on their way to Egypt. The brothers decided that here was an even better way to get rid of Joseph! They sold him as a slave for twenty pieces of silver to the traders, who then took him to Egypt.



Then they dipped his coat in goat's blood and took it to their father. They lied to Jacob and said Joseph had been killed by a wild animal. Jacob cried for his son many days. But God was with Joseph.



The traders took Joseph to Egypt. Joseph became a servant at the house of Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's assistants. Potiphar put Joseph in charge of his house because he always worked hard and could be trusted. The Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake. ዛንታ የሴፍ



Joseph trusted and served God faithfully. But trouble came to Joseph. Potiphar's wife was not a good woman. She asked Joseph to take the place of her husband. Joseph refused saying, "How could I sin against God by wronging Potiphar?"



Because Joseph refused, she went to Joseph's master and told a lie about Joseph. When he heard it from his wife, Potipher was very angry.



Potiphar put Joseph in jail for something he did not do. It is a place where the king's prisoners were confined. But even in prison, he obeyed God. The Lord was with Joseph and showed him mercy.



The Lord was with Joseph in jail. The chief jailer put Joseph in charge of all prisoners because the Lord was with him and made whatever he did prosper. Because God was with Joseph, prison life became a better place for everybody.



While in prison, both the king's cup bearer and baker saw a dream. They told their dreams to Joseph. Joseph told the cup bearer he would be out of jail and become Pharaoh's cup bearer again and asked him not to forget about him once he is free. But the cup bearer forgot Joseph once he was free.



When Joseph was in prison, Pharaoh had two strange dreams. In the first dream, he saw seven fat cows and seven skinny cows coming out of the river. The skinny cows ate all the fat cows.



In his second dream, Pharaoh saw seven healthy grains on one stalk. Then he saw seven dried grains. The dried grains swallowed the seven good grains. Pharaoh was puzzled.



The cup bearer remembered what Joseph did for him. He told Pharaoh that Joseph could explain his dreams as he interpreted it for him while he was in prison.



Then Joseph was brought before Pharaoh. Joseph said to the king, "God is warning you. For the next seven years, plenty of crops will grow. Then there will be seven years of bad crops." Joseph advised Pharaoh to find a wise person to store food for the bad years.



Pharaoh thought that Joseph was a wise man. And because of Joseph's God-given wisdom and ability Pharaoh made Joseph ruler over all the land of Egypt, second only to the king himself.



For the first seven good years, Joseph gathered all the food in the land of Egypt and put it in storehouses. Joseph worked hard to carry out the plans that God showed him.



Then the seven years of famine started. There was no food all over the world except in Egypt. Joseph's father Jacob sent his sons to Egypt to buy food.



The 10 brothers bowed before Joseph, the great prince of Egypt. He knew who they were, but they did not know him. Then Joseph remembered his dreams. The dreams that had made them so angry had actually come true.



He sold them some food. He kept his brother Simeon with him, and told them that when they come again, they would have to bring their youngest brother Benjamin.



When they had eaten up the food, they brought from Egypt, their father asked them to go back to buy more food. Jacob was afraid to send Benjamin. But soon all the food was used up. The brothers had to go back to Egypt with Benjamin, since Joseph warned them.



When the brothers returned, Joseph told them who he was. His brothers could not answer him because they were afraid. Joseph forgave them and told them not to be sad for selling him because God meant it for good. He told them to go back and bring their father to Egypt.



Joseph's brothers went home and told their father. Jacob was so happy to hear that Joseph was alive. Jacob and all the family moved to Egypt with their livestock and goods.



Joseph made ready his chariot and went up to meet his father Israel. He threw his arms around his father and wept for a long time. Then Jacob thanked and praised God.



Joseph went and told Pharaoh that his family has come from the land of Canaan. Then Joseph brought his father Jacob in and presented him before Pharaoh. Jacob blessed Pharaoh.



Pharaoh told them to live in the best land of Egypt. Joseph had loved and obeyed his father. Because of his faith in God, Joseph received honor for the rest of his life. And if we meet any trial with the same trust and obedience to God, we can look forward to our reward on earth and in heaven.



The End!!!

Sources:

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