

GENESIS CHAPTER 37

¹ And Jacob dwelt in the land where his father sojourned, in the land of Canaan. ² And these are the generations of Jacob. And Joseph was seventeen years old, feeding the sheep of his father with his brothers, being young; with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, the wives of his father; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to Israel their father. ³ And Jacob loved Joseph more than all his sons, because he was to him the son of his old age; and he made for him a coat of many colors. ⁴ And his brothers, seeing that his father loved him more than all his sons, hated him, and could not speak anything peaceable to him.

⁵ And Joseph dreamed a dream, and told it to his brothers. ⁶ And he said to them, "Hear this dream which I have dreamed. ⁷ I thought you were binding sheaves in the middle of the field, and my sheaf stood up and was erected, and your sheaves turned round, and bowed down to my sheaf." ⁸ And his brothers said to him, "Shall you indeed reign over us, or shall you indeed be lord over us?" And they hated him all the more for his dreams and for his words.

⁹ And he dreamed another dream, and told it to his father, and to his brothers, and said, "Behold, I have dreamed another dream: and this time, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars bowed down to me." ¹⁰ And his father rebuked him, and said to him, "What is this dream which you have dreamed? Shall indeed both I and your mother and your brothers come and bow before you to the earth?" ¹¹ And his brothers envied him; but his father observed the saying.

¹² And his brothers went to feed the sheep of their father in Shechem. ¹³ And Israel said to Joseph, "Do not your brothers feed their flock in Shechem? Come, I will send you to them"; and he said to him, Behold, I *am here*. ¹⁴ And Israel said to him, "Go and see if your brothers and the sheep are well, and bring me word." So he sent him out of the valley of Hebron, and he came to Shechem. ¹⁵ And a man found him wandering in the field; and the man asked him, saying, "What are you seeking?" ¹⁶ And he said, "I am seeking my brothers; tell me where they feed *their flocks*." ¹⁷ And the man said to him, "They have departed from here, for I heard them saying, Let us go to Dothan"; and Joseph went after his brothers, and found them in Dothan.

¹⁸ And they spied him from a distance before he came near them, and they wickedly took counsel to kill him. ¹⁹ And each said to his brother, "Look, here comes that dreamer! ²⁰ Now then come, let us kill him, and cast him into one of the pits; and we will say, 'An evil wild beast has devoured him'; and we shall see what his dreams will be." ²¹ And Reuben, having heard it, rescued him out of their hands, and said, "Let us not kill him." ²² And Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; cast him into one of these pits in the wilderness, but do not lay *your* hand upon him; that he might rescue him out of their hands, and restore him to his father."

²³ And it came to pass, when Joseph came to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his tunic that was upon him, *the tunic* of many colors. ²⁴ And they took him and cast him into the pit; and the pit was empty, it had no water. ²⁵ And they sat down to eat bread. And having lifted up their eyes they beheld, and lo,

Ishmaelite travelers came from Gilead, and their camels were heavily loaded with spices, and resin, and myrrh; and they were on their way to bring them to Egypt. ²⁶ And Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood?" ²⁷ Come, let us sell him to these Ishmaelites, but let not our hands be upon him, because he is our brother and our flesh"; and his brothers listened. ²⁸ And the men, the merchants of Midian, went by, and they reached down and lifted Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of gold; and they brought Joseph down into Egypt. ²⁹ And Reuben returned to the pit, and did not see Joseph in the pit; and he tore his clothes. ³⁰ And he returned to his brothers and said, "The boy is no *more*; and I, where shall I go?" ³¹ And having taken the coat of Joseph, they killed a kid of the goats, and stained the coat with the blood. ³² And they sent the coat of many colors, and they brought it to their father, and said, "We have found this: Do you know if it is your son's coat or not?" ³³ And he recognized it, and said, "It is my son's coat, an evil wild beast has devoured him; a wild beast has carried off Joseph." ³⁴ And Jacob tore his clothes, and put sackcloth on his loins, and mourned for his son many days. ³⁵ And all his sons and his daughters gathered themselves together, and came to comfort him; but he would not be comforted, saying, "I will go down to my son mourning to Hades"; and his father wept for him. ³⁶ And the Midianites sold Joseph into Egypt; to Potiphar, Pharaoh's eunuch, the captain of the guard.