

“Genesis 37–44”

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BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation titled “Genesis 37-44.” Here are some of the scriptures that I read.

Joseph had two dreams

- Genesis 37:1-2—Joseph (age 17) brought a bad report about the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah.
- Genesis 37:3—Israel loved Joseph (son of his old age) and gave him a coat of many colors.
- Genesis 37:4—His brothers “hated” him, and could not say good things about him.
- Genesis 37:5-7—When Joseph told them about the first dream (“your sheaves bowed down to my sheaf”), his brothers hated him even more.
- Genesis 37:8—The brothers asked: “Shall you reign over us?” and “Shall you have dominion over us?”
- Genesis 37:9-11—When Joseph told his family about the second dream (“the sun, moon and 11 stars bowed down to me”), Jacob asked: “Shall your mother, I and your brothers bow down to you?”

Brothers sold Joseph

- Genesis 37:12-17—Jacob sent Joseph to his brothers.
- Genesis 37:18-20—The brothers talked about killing him.
- Genesis 37:21-24—Reuben suggested that they put Joseph into a pit.
- Genesis 37:25-28—Judah sold Joseph to Ishmaelites for 20 shekels of silver.
- Genesis 37:29-30—When Reuben returned to the pit, he thought Joseph was dead.
- Genesis 37:31-35—The brothers put goat’s blood on the coat and took the coat to their father.
- Genesis 37:36—The Midianites sold Joseph to Potiphar.

Some history about Judah

- Genesis 38:1-30—This chapter described various stories about Judah.

Joseph and Potiphar

- Genesis 39:1-23—This chapter talked about Joseph’s initial good relationship with Potiphar; the misbehavior of Potiphar’s wife; her lies about Joseph; and Joseph being put into prison.

Events in prison

■ Genesis 40:1-22—This chapter talked about Joseph separately interpreting the dreams of the butler and the baker; Pharaoh restoring the butler and hanging the baker; and the butler not remembering Joseph at this time.

Pharaoh heard about Joseph

■ Genesis 41:1-57—This chapter talked about Pharaoh having a dream; the butler telling Pharaoh about Joseph interpreting two dreams in prison; Joseph interpreting Pharaoh's dream; Joseph giving advice to Pharaoh; Pharaoh rewarding Joseph with a leadership position; Joseph preparing for bad financial times; and the nations coming to Joseph to buy grain.

Joseph saw his brothers

- Genesis 42:1-6—Jacob sent 10 sons to Egypt to buy grain.
- Genesis 42:7-8—Joseph recognized his brothers.
- Genesis 42:9-20—Joseph called them spies with a plan for them to bring Benjamin to Egypt (to prove their honesty and to prove that they were not spies); put them in prison for three days.
- Genesis 42:21-23—When the brothers reminisced about the way they had mistreated Joseph, they did not know that Joseph understood their language.
- Genesis 42:24-28—Joseph bound Simeon and sent the other brothers on their way.
- Genesis 42:29-38—When Jacob heard the message, he did not want to send Benjamin to Egypt, because he had already lost two sons (believing Joseph was dead and hearing that Simeon was held in Egypt).

Brothers returned to Egypt

- Genesis 43:1-2—Jacob instructed his sons to go back to Egypt to get more grain.
- Genesis 43:3-7—When Judah reminded his father that they needed to take Benjamin, the father initially recoiled at the idea.
- Genesis 43:8-15—When Judah told Jacob that he would personally be a surety for Benjamin, Jacob agreed and instructed them to take gifts.
- Genesis 43:16-28—When the brothers arrived in Egypt, they went to Joseph's house.
- Genesis 43:29-34—Joseph reacted when seeing Benjamin.

Joseph sent them away with a plan

- Genesis 44:1-5—Joseph sent the brothers away with a plan (by planting a silver cup in their possession).
- Genesis 44:6-13—Joseph's steward caught up with them and found the cup in Benjamin's sack.
- Genesis 44:14-34—The brothers returned to Joseph's house.