



“Joseph”

Favored Son, Hated Brother
Genesis 37:1-11

Joseph enjoyed a life of:

I. Preference - “Israel loved Joseph more” (vs. 1-4)

It is about:

A. Passion - “because he was the son of his old age”

B. Position - “he made him a coat of many colors”

C. Perception - “his brethren saw...father loved him more”

II. Providence - “And Joseph dreamed a dream” (vs. 5-8)

It is about:

A. Rising - “and, lo, my sheaf arose”

If your going to be taken high, you will inevitably be brought low.

B. Remaining - “and also stood upright”

C. Respect - “made obeisance to my sheaf”

III. Prominence - “made obeisance to me” (vs. 9-11)

relative importance or consequence

It is often:

A. Unanticipated - “Shall I and thy mother...bow down”

B. Unappreciated - “And his brethren envied him”

C. Unavoidable - “his father observed the saying”

Sentence Sermon:

“God has given us promises in advance to hang on to in times of trials.”

Additional Verses

- *Romans 15:4*
- *Psalms 16:8-11*
- *Psalms 110:1*
- *Luke 19:14*
- *John 19:15*
- *Revelation 12:1-6*
- *Proverbs 10:12*
- *Matthew 5:21-26*
- *I John 3:5*
- *John 8:29*
- *John 15:25*
- *Matthew 21:33-43*
- *Matthew 27:18*
- *Proverbs 18:12*

Questions to Ponder:

1. What are the key words in this passage?
2. Who is the central character of the passage?
3. What can we glean from the inclusion of v. 2 in the narrative?
4. Besides the coat, what would indicate Joseph's favored status?
5. Was the brothers' hatred of Joseph justified?
6. Why did the dreams make the brothers hate Joseph more?
7. Were the dreams of Joseph from God?
8. Why would God have given Joseph the dreams?
9. Do you think Joseph should have kept quiet about the dreams?
10. Why do you think he told his brethren and parents the dreams?
11. How does this short section of scripture help us in understanding and enjoying the remainder of the book of Genesis and the life of Joseph?
12. What lesson can we learn from this passage to encourage us?