

THE STORY OF GENESIS

The Favored Son

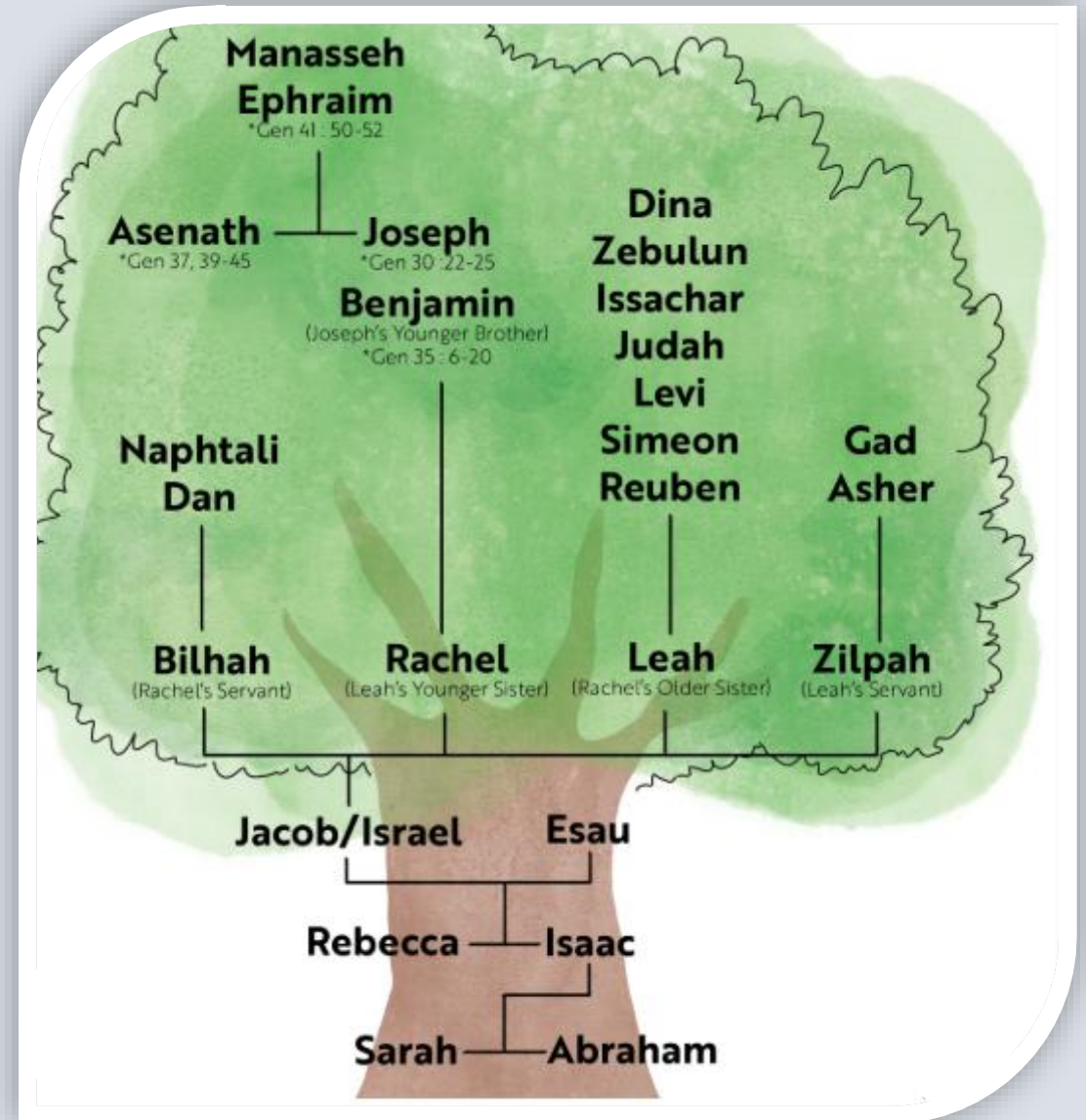
Genesis 37-41

Part 5: May 11, 2026

A Family Full of Conflict

- Jacob (Israel) had many sons through different mothers
- Rivalries and tension existed among the brothers
- Favoritism created division within the family
- Joseph became the center of much jealousy

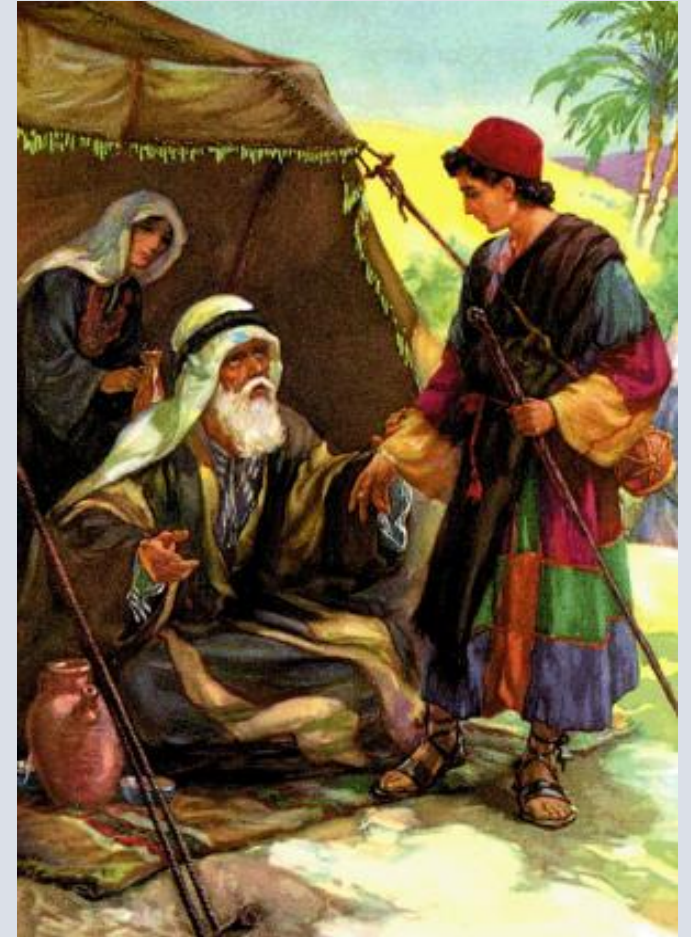
Could Jacob's sins effect what happened to his family?



Joseph: The Favored Son

Genesis 37: 3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate^[a] robe for him. ⁴ When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

- Joseph was highly favored by his father, Jacob
- Jacob gave Joseph special attention and privileges
- Joseph's brothers became angry and resentful
- The famous "coat of many colors" symbolized this favoritism



Betrayed by his brothers

Chapter 37: ⁵ Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more. ⁶ He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had: ⁷ We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it."



¹⁷ So Joseph went after his brothers and found them near Dothan. ¹⁸ But they saw him in the distance, and before he reached them, they plotted to kill him. ¹⁹ "Here comes that dreamer!" they said to each other. ²⁰ "Come now, let's kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him. Then we'll see what comes of his dreams." ²¹ When Reuben heard this, he tried to rescue him from their hands.

Sold and Taken to Egypt

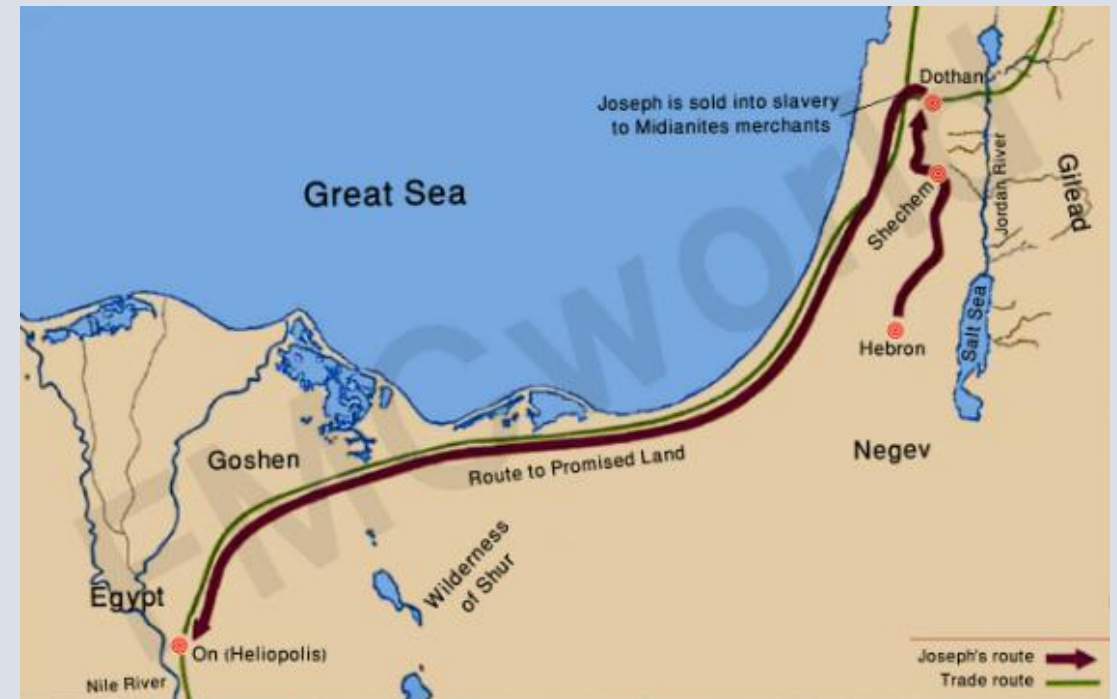
²⁶ Judah said to his brothers, “What will we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? ²⁷ Come, let’s sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood.” His brothers agreed.

Joseph went from his father’s favored son to being sold into slavery. This must have been a crushing blow to him.

Notice, his family started off in the promised land that God would later give back to the Jewish people.

Could this be a case of them losing something they already had because of their lack of appreciation to God or failure to cherish the good things God had given them?

Old Testament/Maps – الأم ماغي خزام



And now, a short video



[Joseph's Coat | Stories of the Bible](#)

Slavery -> Success ----- Shackles -> Supervisor

These are not analogies; they are Joseph's story in Egypt.

Slavery

- Joseph was purchased by Potiphar, an Egyptian official

Success

- Joseph worked hard and gained trust
- Potiphar placed Joseph in charge of his household

Shackles

- Potiphar's wife falsely accused Joseph
- Joseph was thrown into prison
- Even in prison, Joseph gained responsibility and trust
- He interpreted dreams for other prisoners

Supervisor

- Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's troubling dreams
- Pharaoh recognized Joseph's wisdom
- Joseph was released from prison
- He was placed in charge of Egypt's social and economic programs



What Stands Out to You?



Jacob was deceived by his son's. When he was young, Jacob was the deceiver.

They start out in the promised land, but we know they eventually end up in Egypt.

Like Jesus, Joseph suffered injustice. God loves us deeply and His plans for us are good. When we suffer, we should cling tightly to God knowing our ultimate place is by His side.

Joseph also gained favor everywhere he went. This says a lot about his character. He was always shining God's light.