

"Introduction to Joseph's Family"

Introduction to the Life of Joseph

Gen 39:2 And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.

- I. Introduction: Joseph's life was a series of good things followed by bad things
- II. The father: Jacob the deceiver

- A. The birthright: Jacob deceives his father for Isaac's blessing

Genesis 27:19, 22, 24 And Jacob said unto his father, "I am Esau thy firstborn; I have done according as thou badest *<asked>* me: arise, I pray thee, sit and eat of my venison, that thy soul may bless me." ... ²²And Jacob went near unto Isaac his father; and he felt him, and said, "The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau." ... ²⁴And he said, "Art thou my very son Esau?" And he said, "I am."

- B. Jacob is deceived by his father-in-law in marriage

Genesis 29:20-21, 25 And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her. ²¹And Jacob said unto Laban, "Give me my wife, for my days are fulfilled, that I may go in unto her." ... ²⁵And it came to pass, that in the morning, behold, it was Leah: and he said to Laban, "What is this thou hast done unto me? did not I serve with thee for Rachel? **wherefore then hast thou beguiled *<why have you deceived>* me?**"

- C. Jacob deceives his father-in-law by fleeing back to Canaan

Genesis 31:17, 20-21, 26 Then Jacob rose up, and set his sons and his wives upon camels; ... ²⁰And **Jacob stole away unawares** to Laban the Syrian, in that he told him not that he fled. ²¹So he fled with all that he *<Jacob>* had; and he rose up, and passed over the river, and set his face toward the mount Gilead. ... ²⁶And Laban said to Jacob, "What hast thou done, that **thou hast stolen away unawares to me, and carried away my daughters**, as captives taken with the sword?"

- III. The jealousy in Jacob's family

- A. Jacob learned jealousy from his parents

Genesis 25:28 And Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of his venison: but Rebekah loved Jacob.

- B. Jacob bred jealousy in his wives

Genesis 29:30 And he went in also unto Rachel, and **he loved also Rachel more than Leah**, and served with him yet seven other years.

- C. Jacob bred jealousy in his children

Genesis 30:23-24 And she *<Rachel>* conceived, and bare a son; and said, God hath taken away my reproach: ²⁴And she called his name Joseph; and said, The LORD shall add to me another son.

Genesis 37:3-4 Now **Israel *<Jacob>* loved Joseph more than all his children**, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colors. ⁴And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.

- IV. Joseph's future life gets worse

- A. Sold into slavery by his brothers
- B. Unjustly sent to prison by a master he served faithfully
- C. Lived with famine all around him the rest of his life

- Deception started with Abram & Sarai lied to Pharaoh of Egypt (Gen 12:11-13) ~~and tried to~~
 - Deception again with Abraham & Sarah lied to King Abimelech of Gerar of Canaan (Gen 20:1-7)
 * Sarah was Abraham's half sister (Gen 20:12)

V. Conclusion: Application for our lives

A. Do not deceive. Let Jesus be our example.

Isaiah 53:9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, **neither was any deceit in his mouth.**

B. Love genuinely. Every person has something valuable within them. Jesus died for them, too.

Romans 12:9 **Let love be without dissimulation** <hypocrisy>. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

C. Bad things can happen to good people who are trying to please God.

Genesis 39:2 And **the LORD was with Joseph**, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the **house of his master** the Egyptian.

D. God is in control, even when we can't see how anything good could come from our circumstances.

Genesis 39:21 But **the LORD was with Joseph**, and shewed him mercy, and gave him favor in **the sight of the keeper of the prison.**

When Joseph became a slave

- Gen 39:2-3 the Lord was with Joseph

- Gen 39:21

- Gen 39:23



- in all of Joseph's difficulties, the Lord was with Joseph

* in Potiphar's house age 17 (Gen 37:2)

* when accused of rape

* when in prison - age 28 (Gen 41:1)

* when he became viceroy overall Egypt - age 30 (Gen 41:46)

* when Joseph's brothers came second time into Egypt to buy grain - 39 years old (Gen 45:6)

- 40 sons of Jacob come to Egypt to buy grain (Gen 42:6)

* they bowed themselves down in front of Joseph

x they did not recognize him (Gen 42:8)

x but Joseph remembered them vividly

* Finally after all these years, Joseph remembered his dreams (Gen 42:9)

x dreams detailed when he was age 17 (Gen 37:5-11)

x His 10 brothers gave him the nickname "Dreamer" (Gen 37:19)