

# The Prophets – Joseph

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## His father loved him dearly

### Genesis 37:3

<sup>3</sup> 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 robe for him.

### Matthew 3:17

<sup>17</sup> And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

## A shepherd of his father’s sheep

### Genesis 37:2

This is the account of Jacob’s family line.

Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah.

### John 10:11 and 27

<sup>11</sup> “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

<sup>27</sup> My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

## Sent by father to brothers

### Genesis 37:13-14

<sup>13</sup> .. and Israel said to Joseph, “As you know, your brothers are grazing the flocks near Shechem. Come, I am going to send you to them.” “Very well,” he replied. <sup>14</sup> So he said to him, “Go and see if all is well with your brothers and with the flocks, and bring word back to me.” Then he sent him off from the Valley of Hebron.

### Hebrews 2:11

<sup>11</sup> Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters.



Tempted in the Wilderness

## Hated by brothers

### Genesis 37:4

<sup>4</sup> 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.

### John 7:5

<sup>5</sup> For even his own brothers did not believe in him.

## Others plotted to harm them

### Genesis 37:20

<sup>20</sup> “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.”

### John 11:53

<sup>53</sup> So from that day on they plotted to take his life.

## Tempted

### Genesis 39:7

<sup>7</sup> and after a while his master’s wife took notice of Joseph and said, “Come to bed with me!”

### Matthew 4:1

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

## Taken to Egypt

### Genesis 37:25

<sup>25</sup> As they sat down to eat their meal, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead. Their camels were loaded with spices, balm and myrrh, and they were on their way to take them down to Egypt.

### Matthew 2:14-15

<sup>14</sup> So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, <sup>15</sup> where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.

### Robes taken from them

#### Genesis 37:23

<sup>23</sup> So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe - the ornate robe he was wearing

#### John 19:23

<sup>23</sup> When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

### Sold for the price of a slave

#### Genesis 37:28

<sup>28</sup> So when the Midianite merchants came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.

#### Matthew 26:15

<sup>15</sup> "What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?" So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver.



### Bound in chains

#### Genesis 39:20

<sup>20</sup> Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined.

#### Matthew 27:2

<sup>2</sup> So they bound him, led him away and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

### Falsely accused

#### Genesis 39:16-18

<sup>16</sup> She kept his cloak beside her until his master came home. <sup>17</sup> Then she told him this story: "That Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to make sport of me. <sup>18</sup> But as soon as I screamed for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house."

#### Matthew 26:59-60

<sup>59</sup> The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. <sup>60</sup> But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward.

### Placed with 2 other prisoners, one who was saved and the other lost

#### Genesis 40:21-22

<sup>21</sup> He restored the chief cupbearer to his position, so that he once again put the cup into Pharaoh's hand- <sup>22</sup> but he impaled the chief baker, just as Joseph had said to them in his interpretation.

#### Luke 23:32

<sup>32</sup> Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed.

### Both 30 years old at the beginning of public recognition

#### Genesis 41:46

<sup>46</sup> Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from Pharaoh's presence and travelled throughout Egypt.

#### Luke 3:23

<sup>23</sup> Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph..

### Exalted after suffering

#### Genesis 41:41

<sup>41</sup> So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt."

#### Philippians 2:9-11

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that

at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup> and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### **Forgave those who wronged them**

#### **Genesis 45:1-15**

<sup>45</sup> Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, "Have everyone leave my presence!" So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. <sup>2</sup> And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's household heard about it.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still living?" But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

<sup>4</sup> Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! <sup>5</sup> And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. <sup>6</sup> For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no ploughing and reaping. <sup>7</sup> But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

<sup>8</sup> "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. <sup>9</sup> Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay. <sup>10</sup> You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me - you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. <sup>11</sup> I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.'

<sup>12</sup> "You can see for yourselves, and so can my brother Benjamin, that it is really I who am speaking to you. <sup>13</sup> Tell my father about all the honour accorded me in Egypt and about everything you have seen. And bring my father down here quickly."

<sup>14</sup> Then he threw his arms around his brother Benjamin and wept, and Benjamin embraced him, weeping. <sup>15</sup> And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them. Afterward his brothers talked with him.

#### **Luke 23:34**

<sup>34</sup> Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

### **Saved their nation**

#### **Genesis 45:7**

<sup>7</sup> But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

#### **Matthew 1:21**

<sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

### **What men did to hurt them God turned to good**

#### **Genesis 50:20**

<sup>20</sup> You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

#### **1 Corinthians 2:7-8**

<sup>7</sup> No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. <sup>8</sup> None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

## **The Collect**

*God of heaven, you send the gospel to the ends of the earth and your messengers to every nation: send your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of everlasting life in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

## **The Grace**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and evermore. Amen.