

ARGUMENT OVER THE WELLS

- ¹⁸ Then Isaac dug again the wells of water which had been dug in the days of his father Abraham, for the Philistines had stopped them up after the death of Abraham; and he gave them the same names which his father had given them. ¹⁹ But when Isaac's servants dug in the valley and found there a well of flowing water, ²⁰ the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with the herdsmen of Isaac, saying, "The water is ours!" So he named the well Esek, because they argued with him. ²¹ Then they dug another well, and they quarreled over it too, so he named it Sitnah. ²² Then he moved away from there and dug another well, and they did not quarrel over it; so he named it Rehoboth, for he said, "At last the LORD has made room for us, and we will be fruitful in the land."²³ And he went up from there to Beersheba. ²⁴ And the LORD appeared to him the same night and said,
 - "I am the God of your father Abraham;
Do not fear, for I am with you.
I will bless you and multiply your descendants,
For the sake of My servant Abraham."
- ²⁵ So he built an altar there and called upon the name of the LORD, and pitched his tent there; and there Isaac's servants dug a well.



MAKING THE BEST
OF A BAD SITUATION

*DIG
ANOTHER
WELL*



DIG ANOTHER WELL

- Worst Patient of My Career
 - Conversation between Ed and I
- “Strong’s”
 - **Eseq: "contention"**
 - **Sitnah: "hostility"**
 - **Rehoboth: "broad places"**

EXAMPLES

- God Gives us examples of nearly any issue we can imagine.
- Joseph
- Abraham
 - Isaac
 - Jacob
 - Leah
 - Bilhah
 - Rachel → **Joseph**/Benjamin
 - Zilpah



JOSEPH

- Joseph's Dreams

- **37:1** Now Jacob lived in the land where his father had lived as a stranger, in the land of Canaan. 2 These are the records of the generations of Jacob. Joseph, when he was seventeen years of age, was pasturing the flock with his brothers, while he was still a youth, along with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives. And Joseph brought back a bad report about them to their father. 3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his other sons, because he was the son of his old age; and he made him a multicolored tunic. 4 And his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers; and so they hated him and could not speak to him on friendly terms. 5 Then Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. 6 He said to them, "Please listen to this dream which I have had; 7 for behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf stood up and also remained standing; and behold, your sheaves gathered around and bowed down to my sheaf." 8 Then his brothers said to him, "Are you actually going to reign over us? Or are you really going to rule over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words. 9 Then he had yet another dream, and informed his brothers of it, and said, "Behold, I have had yet another dream; and behold, the sun and the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me." 10 He also told it to his father as well as to his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, "What is this dream that you have [g]had? Am I and your mother and your brothers actually going to come to bow down to the ground before you?" 11 And his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.



JOSEPH

- Verses 12-14
 - Jacob tells Joseph to find his brothers and bring word of their wellbeing.
- Verses 15-17
 - Joseph meets a man that directs him toward Dothan, where his brothers are.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Bad situation: His brothers saw that their father loved Joseph more than all his brothers

- Their Response: They hated him and could not speak to him on friendly terms.

Bad situation: Joseph's brothers hate him

- Joseph's Response: He wishes no ill will for them, and carries out his father's wishes

JOSEPH

- The Plot against Joseph
- 37:18 When they saw him from a distance, and before he came closer to them, they plotted against him to put him to death. 19 They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer! 20 Now then, come and let's kill him, and throw him into one of the pits; and we will say, 'A vicious animal devoured him.' Then we will see what will become of his dreams!" 21 But Reuben heard this and rescued him out of their hands by saying, "Let's not take his life." 22 Then Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood. Throw him into this pit that is in the wilderness, but do not lay a hand on him"—so that later he might rescue him out of their hands, to return him to his father. 23 So it came about, when Joseph reached his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the multicolored tunic that was on him; 24 and they took him and threw him into the pit. Now the pit was empty, without any water in it. 25 Then they sat down to eat a meal. But as they raised their eyes and looked, behold, a caravan of Ishmaelites was coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying labdanum resin, balsam, and myrrh, on their way to bring them down to Egypt. 26 And Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it for us to kill our brother and cover up his blood? 27 Come, and let's sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers listened to him. 28 Then some Midianite traders passed by, so they pulled him out and lifted Joseph out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. So they brought Joseph into Egypt.

JOSEPH

- 29 Now Reuben returned to the pit, and behold, Joseph was not in the pit; so he tore his garments. 30 He returned to his brothers and said, "The boy is not there; as for me, where am I to go?" 31 So they took Joseph's tunic, and slaughtered a male goat, and dipped the tunic in the blood; 32 and they sent the multicolored tunic and brought it to their father and said, "We found this; please examine it to see whether it is your son's tunic or not." 33 Then he examined it and said, "It is my son's tunic. A vicious animal has devoured him; Joseph has surely been torn to pieces!" 34 So Jacob tore his clothes, and put on a sackcloth undergarment over his waist, and mourned for his son many days. 35 Then all his sons and all his daughters got up to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. And he said, "Surely I will go down to Sheol in mourning for my son." So his father wept for him. 36 Meanwhile, the Midianites sold him in Egypt to Potiphar, Pharaoh's officer, the captain of the bodyguard.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Bad situation: Reuben notices that his brothers have malice toward Joseph

- His Response: He convinced them not to kill Joseph

Bad situation: Joseph's brothers sold him

- Reuben's Response: "What will happen to me?"

JOSEPH

- 39:1 Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an Egyptian officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the bodyguard, bought him from the Ishmaelites, who had taken him down there. 2 And the Lord was with Joseph, so he became a successful man. And he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian. 3 Now his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord made all that he did prosper in his hand. 4 So Joseph found favor in his sight and became his personal servant; and he made him overseer over his house, and put him in charge of all that he owned. 5 It came about that from the time he made him overseer in his house and over all that he owned, the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house on account of Joseph; so the Lord's blessing was upon all that he owned, in the house and in the field. 6 So he left Joseph in charge of everything that he owned; and with him there he did not concern himself with anything except the food which he ate.

JOSEPH

- Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance. 7 And it came about after these events that his master's wife had her eyes on Joseph, and she said, "Sleep with me." 8 But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, with me here, my master does not concern himself with anything in the house, and he has put me in charge of all that he owns. 9 There is no one greater in this house than I, and he has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great evil, and sin against God?" 10 Though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he did not listen to her to lie beside her or be with her. 11 Now it happened one day that he went into the house to do his work, and none of the people of the household was there inside. 12 So she grabbed him by his garment, saying, "Sleep with me!" But he left his garment in her hand and fled, and went outside. 13 When she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled outside, 14 she called to the men of her household and said to them, "See, he has brought in a Hebrew to us to make fun of us; he came in to me to sleep with me, and I screamed. 15 When he heard that I raised my voice and screamed, he left his garment beside me and fled and went outside." 16 So she left his garment beside her until his master came home.

JOSEPH

- 17 Then she spoke to him with these words: "The Hebrew slave, whom you brought to us, came in to me to make fun of me; 18 but when I raised my voice and screamed, he left his garment beside me and fled outside." 19 Now when his master heard the words of his wife which she spoke to him, saying, "This is what your slave did to me," his anger burned. 20 So Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined; and he was there in the prison.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Bad situation: Joseph was tempted by Potiphar's wife

- His Response: He kept God's commands before his own desires

Bad situation: Joseph was accused of a terrible crime

- Joseph's Response: He continued to serve God (we will see)

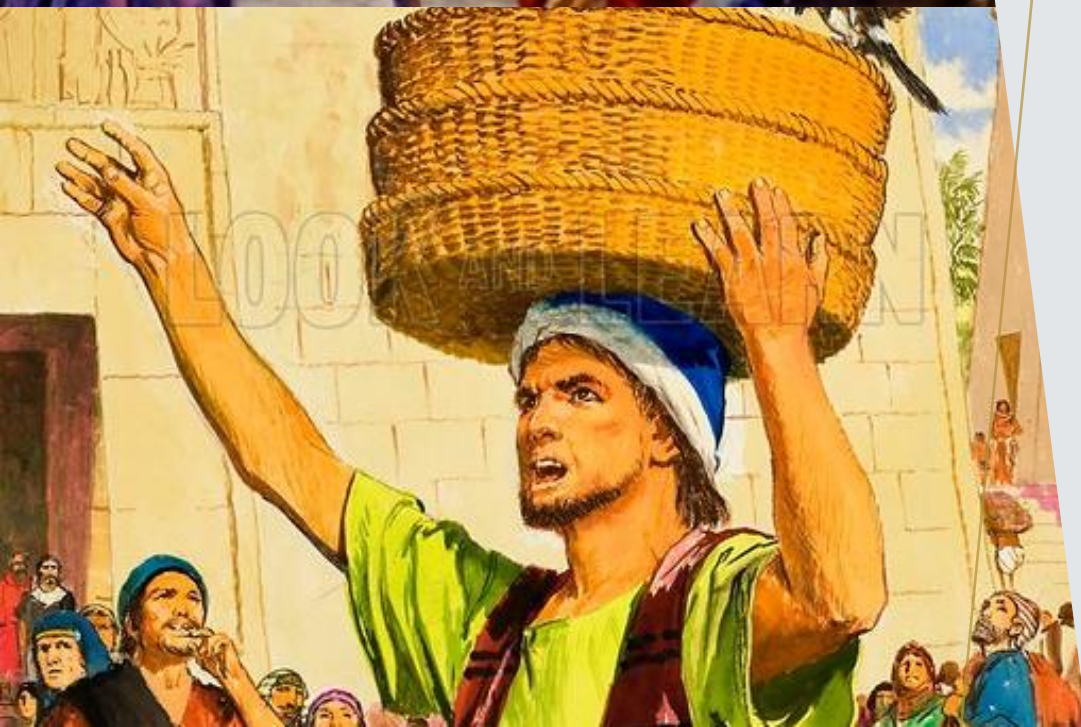
JOSEPH

- 39:21 But the Lord was with Joseph and extended kindness to him, and gave him favor in the sight of the warden of the prison. 22 And the warden of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners who were in the prison; so that whatever was done there, he was responsible for it. 23 The warden of the prison did not supervise anything under Joseph's authority, because the Lord was with him; and, the Lord made whatever he did prosper.
- Joseph stuck with God, and God stuck with Joseph



JOSEPH

- Joseph Interprets Dreams
- 40:1-3 - Pharaoh imprisoned his chief cupbearer and baker with Joseph.
- 40:4 - Joseph was put in charge of them
- 40:5-15 - Joseph tells the cupbearer that his dream means that he will be restored to his position
- 40:16-19 - Joseph tells the baker that he will not be looked on as favorably
- 40:20-23 - Joseph's interpretations came true



JOSEPH



- Pharaoh's Dream
- 41:1-8 Pharaoh has a dream
- 41:9-13 The cupbearer remembers Joseph
- 41:14-24 Pharaoh tells his dream to Joseph
- 41: 25- 37 Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's dream and explains that the dream foretells of the upcoming famine.
- 41:38-49 Joseph is put back in charge and prepares Egypt for hardship during seven plentiful years

JOSEPH

- Joseph's Brothers Sent to Egypt
- 42 Now Jacob saw that there was grain in Egypt, and Jacob said to his sons, "Why are you staring at one another?" 2 Then he said, "Look, I have heard that there is grain in Egypt; go down there and buy some for us from that place, so that we may live and not die." 3 So ten of Joseph's brothers went down to buy grain from Egypt. 4 But Jacob did not send Joseph's brother Benjamin with his brothers, for he said, "I am afraid that harm may happen to him." 5 So the sons of Israel came to buy grain among those who were coming, because the famine was also in the land of Canaan. 6 Now Joseph was the ruler over the land; he was the one who sold grain to all the people of the land. And Joseph's brothers came and bowed down to him with their faces to the ground. 7 When Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them, but he disguised himself to them and spoke to them harshly. He said to them, "Where have you come from?" And they said, "From the land of Canaan, to buy food."

JOSEPH

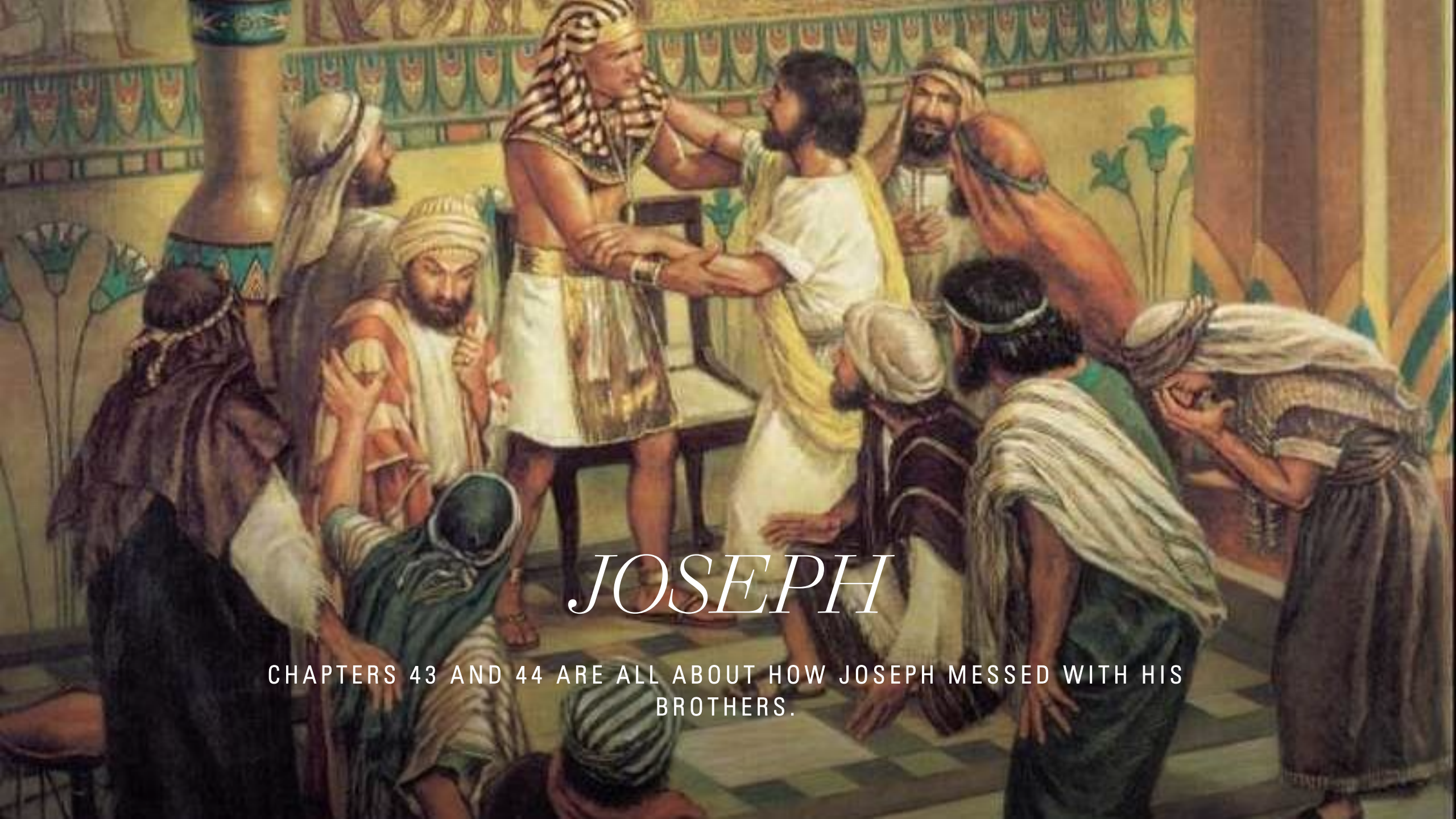
- 8 But Joseph had recognized his brothers, although they did not recognize him. 9 And Joseph remembered the dreams which he had about them, and he said to them, "You are spies; you have come to look at the undefended parts of our land." 10 And they said to him, "No, my lord, but your servants have come to buy food. 11 We are all sons of one man; we are honest men, your servants are not spies." 12 Yet he said to them, "No, but you have come to look at the undefended parts of our land!" 13 But they said, "Your servants are twelve brothers in all, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan; and behold, the youngest is with our father today, and one is no longer alive." 14 Yet Joseph said to them, "It is as I said to you, you are spies; 15 by this you will be tested: by the life of Pharaoh, you shall not leave this place unless your youngest brother comes here! 16 Send one of you and have him get your brother, while you remain confined, so that your words may be tested, whether there is truth in you. But if not, by the life of Pharaoh, you are certainly spies!" 17 So he put them all together in prison for three days.

JOSEPH

- 18 Now Joseph said to them on the third day, "Do this and live, for I fear God: 19 if you are honest men, let one of your brothers be confined in your prison; but as for the rest of you, go, carry grain for the famine of your households, 20 and bring your youngest brother to me, so that your words may be verified, and you will not die." And they did so. 21 Then they said to one another, "Truly we are guilty concerning our brother, because we saw the distress of his soul when he pleaded with us, yet we would not listen; for that reason this distress has happened to us." 22 Reuben answered them, saying, "Did I not tell you, 'Do not sin against the boy'; and you would not listen? Now justice for his blood is required." 23 They did not know, however, that Joseph understood, for there was an interpreter between them. 24 Then he turned away from them and wept. But when he returned to them and spoke to them, he took Simeon from them and bound him before their eyes. 25 Then Joseph gave orders to fill their bags with grain, but also to return every man's money in his sack, and to give them provisions for the journey. And that is what was done for them. 26 So they loaded their donkeys with their grain and departed from there. 27 But when one of them opened his sack to give his donkey feed at the overnight campsite, he saw his money; and behold, it was in the opening of his sack! 28 So he said to his brothers, "My money has been returned, and look, it is right in my sack!" Then their hearts sank, and they turned trembling to one another, saying, "What is this that God has done to us?"

JOSEPH

- 29 When they came to their father Jacob in the land of Canaan, they told him everything that had happened to them, saying, 30 "The man, the lord of the land, spoke harshly with us, and took us for spies of the country. 31 But we said to him, 'We are honest men; we are not spies. 32 We are twelve brothers, sons of our father; one is no longer alive, and the youngest is with our father today in the land of Canaan.' 33 But the man, the lord of the land, said to us, 'By this I will know that you are honest men: leave one of your brothers with me and take grain for the famine of your households, and go. 34 But bring your youngest brother to me so that I may know that you are not spies, but honest men. I will give your brother to you, and you may trade in the land.'" 35 Now it came about, as they were emptying their sacks, that behold, every man's bag of money was in his sack; and when they and their father saw their bags of money, they were afraid. 36 And their father Jacob said to them, "You have deprived me of my sons: Joseph is gone, and Simeon is gone, and now you would take Benjamin; all these things are against me." 37 Then Reuben spoke to his father, saying, "You may put my two sons to death if I do not bring him back to you; put him in my care, and I will return him to you." 38 But Jacob said, "My son shall not go down with you; for his brother is dead, and he alone is left. If harm should happen to him on the journey you are taking, then you will bring my gray hair down to Sheol in sorrow."



JOSEPH

CHAPTERS 43 AND 44 ARE ALL ABOUT HOW JOSEPH MESSED WITH HIS BROTHERS.

JOSEPH

- 45 Then Joseph could not control himself in front of everyone standing before him, and he shouted, "Have everyone leave me!" So there was no one with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. 2 Then he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard about it. 3 And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were terrified in his presence. 4 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Please come closer to me." And they came closer. And he said, "I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold to Egypt. 5 Now do not be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me ahead of you to save lives. 6 For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are still five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvesting. 7 So God sent me ahead of you to ensure for you a remnant on the earth, and to keep you alive by a great deliverance. 8 Now, therefore, it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his household, and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

JOSEPH

- 9 Hurry and go up 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, do not delay. 10 For you shall live in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your grandchildren, and your flocks and your herds and all that you have. 11 There I will also provide for you, for there are still five years of famine to come, and you and your household and all that you have would be impoverished.'" 12 Behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth which is speaking to you. 13 Now you must tell my father of all my splendor in Egypt, and all that you have seen; and you must hurry and bring my father down here." 14 Then he fell on his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept on his neck. 15 And he kissed all his brothers and wept on them, and afterward his brothers talked with him. 16 Now when the [i]news was heard in Pharaoh's house that Joseph's brothers had come, it pleased Pharaoh and his servants. 17 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Say to your brothers, 'Do this: load your livestock and go to the land of Canaan, 18 and take your father and your households and come to me; and I will give you the best of the land of Egypt, and you will eat the fat of the land.' 19 Now you are ordered, 'Do this: take wagons from the land of Egypt for your little ones and for your wives, and bring your father and come. 20 And do not concern yourselves with your property, for the best of all the land of Egypt is yours.'"

JOSEPH

- 21 Then the sons of Israel did so; and Joseph gave them wagons according to the command of Pharaoh, and gave them provisions for the journey. 22 To reach of them he gave changes of garments, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver and five changes of garments. 23 And to his father he sent the following: ten male donkeys loaded with the best things of Egypt, ten female donkeys loaded with grain, bread, and sustenance for his father on the journey. 24 So he sent his brothers away, and as they departed, he said to them, "Do not quarrel on the journey." 25 Then they went up from Egypt, and came to the land of Canaan, to their father Jacob. 26 And they told him, saying, "Joseph is still alive, and indeed he is ruler over all the land of Egypt." But he was stunned, for he did not believe them. 27 When they told him all the words of Joseph that he had spoken to them, and when he saw the wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, then the spirit of their father Jacob revived. 28 Then Israel said, "It is enough; my son Joseph is still alive. I will go and see him before I die."

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Bad situation: Joseph's brothers are starving

- Joseph's Response: He takes care of his brothers as he knows God would have him

Bad Situation: Joseph was likely tempted to get even

- He takes care of his family, but he has a bit of fun in the process

RECAP

- Joseph continually made decisions that the ideal Christian should make.
 - He always turned to God
 - He fled from sin
 - He worked hard
- Joseph seems a little bit too perfect, right?
 - Joseph clearly had no trouble remembering a wrong that was done to him decades in the past
 - Joseph was tempted and had to battle that sin constantly
 - Joseph's patience was tried as he was consistently thrown from positions of comfort

BE LIKE JOE

- “Life is what you make it, always has been, always will be” is a quote made famous by Eleanor Roosevelt.
- Joseph had unmatched perseverance and discipline.
 - Those attributes are not free
 - Those attributes never happen on accident

