

Chapter 37:

List characteristics of Joseph in this chapter:

What mistakes did Israel make?

What do the sun, moon and stars of Joseph's dream represent?

What were Reuben's strengths and failures?

They brutalized him and then sat down and ate! What insight does this give us? Who suggested they sell Joseph? Which is worse: that they decided to sell him to make some money OR that they wanted to murder him?

Chapter 38:

Where did Judah go and what type of a woman did he marry?

Why did Er die, what was Onan's problem, and who did Judah blame?

Describe the standards of the day as it affected men and women and subject of prostitution. What were the reasonings behind these double standards?

What is the significance of this chapter on Judah?

Chapter 39:

Who is Potiphar and what type of a man was he?

What did Joseph do in the face of great temptation? To whom did he consider sinning with Potiphar's wife, would be against?

Joseph is wrongfully accused of attempted rape. What should the punishment have been? Why do you think it was not as brutal?

What happens to Joseph in prison?

Where is God in all of this?

Discuss the marriage lesson also baked into this chapter:

Compare and contrast Judah and Joseph's actions and their character in these 2 chapters:

Reflection:

Unlike Jacob, God's favor is for ALL of His children. You've found favor in your heavenly Father's eyes; do you feel like your favor is trying to be "ripped away" sometimes? How can you protect yourself?

Dysfunctional families aren't new and always cause damage, Jacob's sons were not only brutal to Joseph but also callous to their father "see whether it is **your son's** robe". How can we ensure we show love to our family in a way that everyone can receive it equally?

Are you convinced that God is present in the hard times of your life?

Ways in Which Joseph Foreshadowed Jesus Christ

The Old Testament contains various “types” of Christ – people who foreshadowed or prefigured what the Messiah would be like. The one person who foreshadowed Jesus in the most ways was Joseph, the son of Jacob, in Genesis. Here is a list of similarities:

(1st scripture listed each time is from Genesis)

1. Joseph was loved by his father (37:3). Jesus was loved by God. Matt. 3:17
2. He rebuked his brethren (37:2). Jesus rebukes his fellow Jews-John 8
3. He was a shepherd (37:2). Jesus was the Good Shepherd -John 10:14
4. He opposed evil (37:3). Jesus – John 7:7
5. His master was pleased with Him (37:4). Jesus – Matt. 17:5
6. He was hated by his brothers (37:4, 5, 8). Jesus – John 5:18; 6:41; 10:30-31
7. Future sovereignty foretold & fulfilled (37:5-9; 42:6). Jesus – Isaiah 9:6-7; Matt. 26:64; Luke 1:31-33
8. He was envied by his brothers (37:11). Jesus – Matt. 27:17-18
9. He was obedient to go where his father sent him (37:12-13). Jesus – 1 John 4:10
10. He seeks the welfare of his brothers (37:14). Jesus – John 1:11; 3:17; Matt. 15:24; Rom.15:8
11. He was humiliated (37:23-28). Jesus – Matt.27:29-41
12. He was stripped of his robe (37:23). Jesus - Matt. 27:28
13. He was sold into the hands of his enemies (37:26-28). Jesus – Matt. 26:14-15
14. He was sold by one close to him, Judah (37:26-28). Jesus – Mark 14:10 (The Anglican translation for Judah is Judas.)
15. He was rejected by Israel and delivered to the Gentiles (37:26-28). Jesus – John 18:2-5
16. He was sold for the price of a slave (37:26-28). Jesus – Matt. 26:14-15
17. The LORD was with him and blessed him (39:2-5, 23). Jesus - Matt. 3:16
18. He was a blessing to others (39:4). Jesus – Galatians 3:14
19. He became a servant and prospered as a servant (39:1-5). Jesus – Phil. 2:6-7; Matt. 20:28
20. He was falsely accused (39:16-18). Jesus - Matt. 16:59-60
21. He was punished though he was innocent (39:20). Jesus- John 19:4-6
22. He was quiet before his accusers. He gave no defense(39:16-20). Jesus – Isaiah 53:7; Matthew 27:13-14.
23. He won the respect of his jailer (39:21-23). Jesus-Luke 23:47(Centurion at the cross)
24. He was numbered among the transgressors (40:1-4). Jesus - Luke 23:32
25. Of the two transgressors, one was lost and one was saved (40:20-22). Jesus – Luke 23:39-43
26. Joseph was the means of blessing to the one and judgment to the other. (40:9-19) Jesus – Luke 23:39-43
27. The baker represents the bread. Jesus – Matt. 26:26
28. He had a desire to be remembered. Joseph says, “Remember me,” (40:14). Jesus said, “Remember me” with the bread and the wine. Luke 22:19; 1 Cor. 11:24-25
29. His predictions came true (40:20-23; 41:47-57; 43:28). Jesus – John 2:19-22
30. He was given special insignia & clothing (40:42). Jesus – Heb. 2:9; Rev. 1:13
31. He was humiliated (ch. 37). Jesus – Matt.27:29-41
32. They were amazed at his wisdom (41: 37-41). Jesus – Matt. 7:28-29; John 7:46
33. He was exalted (ch. 41). Jesus – Acts 2:33; 1 Peter 3:22
34. He went out on the king’s authority (41:41-43). Jesus - Matt. 28:18
35. All people were required to bow at Joseph’s appearance (41:43). Jesus - Philippians 2:10 – every knee will bow.
36. The king gave him full authority (41:44). Jesus - (Matthew 28:18)

37. Joseph was given a new name - Zaphnath-paaneah = "treasury of the glorious rest"; "the god who speaks and lives"; "revealer of secrets" or "savior of the world" (41:45). The Son of God, the Christ was given a new name "Thou shalt call His name Jesus: for He shall save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21).
38. Joseph was 30 when he began his service to the king (41:46). Jesus was 30 when He began His ministry (Luke 3:33).
39. When people needed help, they went to Joseph (41:41,55-57). Jesus – Matt. 7:7-8; Matt. 21:22
40. He received a Gentile bride (41:45). Jesus -The Gentile church is referred to as the bride of Christ - Rev. 21:9.
41. All nations (Jews and Gentiles) had to come to Joseph to be saved. He was dispensing bread to a perishing world (41:56-57). Joseph provided the bread of life. (Jesus was the bread of life- John 6: 35,41,48,51)
42. He had the power and the means to meet the needs of all who came to him (41:57). Jesus – John 1:12; 3:16
43. He recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him (42:8). Jesus – John 1:11; 10:14
44. He tested his brothers (chs. 43 & 44). Jesus- Rev. 3:10
45. After his brothers' repentance and confession (45:16), Joseph revealed himself to them (45:3). Jesus – Acts 3:19-20
46. His brothers did not recognize him till the second time he appeared to them (45:3; Acts 7:13). Jesus – Phil.2: 9-11; Rev. 1:7
47. Joseph is very forgiving (chs. 44-50). Jesus – 1 John 1:9
48. He made full provision for his brothers (45:10). Jesus – Philippians 4:19
49. Joseph receives the blessing of the firstborn (49:22-26). Jesus - Colossians 1:18
50. What men intended for evil, God used for good to save many people (50:20); Jesus' death saves all who will believe (Acts 2:23-24; Romans 5:8)

(Main source was *Gleanings in Genesis* by Arthur W. Pink)

■ = Jesus' Lineage



