**Walk Through the Bible**

**Lesson Number Twenty Eight**

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**Joseph is bought by Potiphar – He blesses Potiphar’s house – Joseph accused of rape and thrown in prison – He interprets dreams and is made leader of Egypt – Joseph saved Egypt and surrounding countries from famine**

Joseph was sold into slavery and he was bought by a man by the name of Potiphar. Potiphar was the “captain of the guard” for Pharaoh. We learned, in out last couple of lessons, that Jacob favored Joseph over his other brothers and it appears that he was quite a brat!

The other brothers had had enough but instead of killing him or leaving him in a cistern, they decided to sell him to a group of traders that happened to come by their way. Then they tricked Jacob into believing Joseph had been killed by wild animals.

The Lord was with Joseph and we will see how God gave him favor in Egypt and used him to protect the Godly lineage that would lead to the birth of the Messiah many centuries later.

**Genesis 39:2-6a (NLT)**

**2The Lord was with Joseph**, so he **succeeded in everything he did** as he served in the home of his Egyptian master.

What was it that made Joseph succeed? “The Lord was with Him”

**You have the same Lord with you if you have accepted Christ as your Savior! Is He in your life? Then you are guaranteed to succeed!**

**3**Potiphar noticed this and realized that the Lord was with Joseph, giving him success in everything he did. **4**This pleased Potiphar, so he soon made Joseph his personal attendant. He put him in charge of his entire household and everything he owned. **5**From the day Joseph was put in charge of his master’s household and property, the Lord began to bless Potiphar’s household for Joseph’s sake. All his household affairs ran smoothly, and his crops and livestock flourished. **6**So Potiphar gave Joseph complete administrative responsibility over everything he owned. With Joseph there, he didn’t worry about a thing—except what kind of food to eat!

**Notice that Potiphar’s house was blessed by the mere fact that Joseph was there and that Joseph was blessed by the Lord!**

**Potiphar -- a Eunuch**

The Hebrew word *cariyc* (HSN-[<H5631>](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?strongs=H5631)), a eunuch, comes from a verb, to castrate. This person was a valet of females' quarters and thus a minister of state, a chamberlain ([Gen. 39:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A1); [40:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+40%3A2),[7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+40%3A7); [1Sam. 8:15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+8%3A15); [1Ki. 22:9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Ki+22%3A9); [2Ki. 8:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ki+8%3A6); [24:12-15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ki+24%3A12-15); [25:19](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ki+25%3A19); [1Chr. 28:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Ch+28%3A1); [2Chr. 18:8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ch+18%3A8)). It is translated "chamberlain" 13 times ([2Ki. 23:11](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ki+23%3A11); [Esther 1:10-15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Est+1%3A10-15); [2:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Est+2%3A3),[14,15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Est+2%3A14-15),[21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Est+2%3A21); [4:4-5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Est+4%3A4-5); [6:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Est+6%3A2),[14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Est+6%3A14); [7:9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Est+7%3A9)) and "eunuch" 17 times ([2Ki. 9:32](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ki+9%3A32); [20:18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ki+20%3A18); [Isa. 39:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Isa+39%3A7); [56:3-4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Isa+56%3A3-4); [Jer. 29:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jer+29%3A2); [34:19](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jer+34%3A19); [38:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jer+38%3A7); [41:16](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jer+41%3A16); [52:25](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jer+52%3A25); [Dan. 1:3-18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Da+1%3A3-18)). This may explain the unfaithfulness of Potiphar's wife ([Gen. 39:10-13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A10-13)). In the East many eunuchs had wives and even harems where they kept many women, but they bore no children.

**c** [**captain of the guard**] In charge of police; chief of the butchers. It fit his duties. If a person offended one of the Eastern despotic rulers, it was the duty of such guards to destroy the offender without trial. Potiphar executed Pharaoh's will on all subjects of his displeasure.

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**God wants to bless you JUST as much as He blessed Joseph! You, as a believer in Jesus Christ, should be a blessing to your employer.**

**Prosperity from God**

**Eight Examples of Prosperity From God:**

1. Joseph ([Gen. 39:2-3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A2-3),[23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A23); [41:40-44](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+41%3A40-44))

2. Joshua ([Josh. 1:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jos+1%3A7); [12:1-24](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jos+12%3A1-24); [24:15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jos+24%3A15))

3. David ([2Sam. 5:10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Sa+5%3A10); [Ps. 30:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+30%3A6))

4. Solomon ([1Ki. 3:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Ki+3%3A13); [4:1-34](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Ki+4%3A1-34); [10:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Ki+10%3A7))

5. Uzziah ([2Chr. 26:5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ch+26%3A5))

6. Hezekiah ([2Chr. 31:21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ch+31%3A21); [32:30](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ch+32%3A30))

7. Daniel ([Dan. 6:28](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Da+6%3A28))

8. Messiah ([Isa. 53:10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Isa+53%3A10); [Jer. 23:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jer+23%3A4))

**Seven Laws of Prosperity:**

1. God with man ([Gen. 39:1-3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A1-3),[23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A23); [Jer. 20:11](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jer+20%3A11))

2. Obedience ([Dt. 28:1-14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Dt+28%3A1-14); [29:9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Dt+29%3A9); [1Ki. 2:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Ki+2%3A3); [1Chr. 22:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Ch+22%3A13))

3. Meditation ([Josh. 1:8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jos+1%3A8); [Ps. 1:2-3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+1%3A2-3))

4. Faith ([2Chr. 20:20](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ch+20%3A20); [Neh. 2:20](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ne+2%3A20))

5. Seeking God ([2Chr. 26:5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ch+26%3A5); [Jer. 10:21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jer+10%3A21))

6. Goodness to Israel ([Gen. 12:1-3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+12%3A1-3); [Ps. 122:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+122%3A6))

7. Hospitality ([Lk. 6:38](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lk+6%3A38); [2Cor. 8:15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Co+8%3A15))

**Promises for Prosperity:**

**Psalm 1:1-3 (KJV)**   
1  Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.   
2  But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.   
3  And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

**3 John 1:2 (KJV)**   
2  Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

**Isaiah 54:17 (KJV)**   
17  No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue *that* shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This *is* the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness *is* of me, saith the LORD.

**Reasons Some Do Not Prosper:**

1. **Rebellion against God**

**Deuteronomy 28:29 (KJV)**   
29  And thou shalt grope at noonday, as the blind gropeth in darkness, and thou shalt not prosper in thy ways: and thou shalt be only oppressed and spoiled evermore, and no man shall save *thee*.

**2. Covering sins**

**Proverbs 28:13 (KJV)**   
13  He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh *them* shall have mercy.

1. **Lack of knowledge of God’s Word and walking away from God’s Word**

**Hosea 4:6a (KJV)**   
6  My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

**What is it that makes the United States so great and why is it that this country has been so prosperous?**

There are other countries that have as many or more natural resources than we do. Other countries have citizens with brilliant minds. So what is it? The United States is different **because of those who believe in Jesus Christ and that this country was founded on Godly principals!**

If it weren’t for the Christians in this country, it would be just another third world country. We are seeing God’s judgment on this country because of the sin that is so rampant.

**One of these days soon, the RAPTURE is going to take place and this country will be doomed along with the rest of the world.**

The Bible goes on to tell us in Genesis 39:6b that Joseph was a very nice looking young man. I’m sure there was something about him that made him very attractive. I’m sure he had a great attitude along with being good looking.

**Genesis 39:6b, 7 (NLT)**

Joseph was a very handsome and well-built young man, **7**and Potiphar’s wife soon began to look at him lustfully. “Come and sleep with me,” she demanded.

**Joseph**

Joseph was handsome and had a good physique. The same Hebrew expressions used of him are also used of Rachel (note, [Gen. 29:17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+29%3A17)). Persian poets and the twelfth chapter of the Koran speak of his beauty as perfect. Tradition says that Zuleekha, Potiphar's wife, was at first a virtuous woman, but when she saw Joseph she became a slave to her passion. On one occasion she supposedly invited forty of the most beautiful women of Egypt to a dinner. When they saw Joseph, they were so moved with admiration that they exclaimed with one accord that he must be an angel.

His character stands out as one of the purest in history. He allowed no temptation to affect his high morality, no calamity to shake his implicit faith in God, no adversity to depress him, and no power or position to make him proud and haughty. In his father's house he had likely been pampered; in slavery he was falsely accused. In the palace as the ruler of what was then the greatest kingdom on earth he was always the same truthful, pure, just, merciful, kind and God-fearing man.

**Twenty-two Facts About Joseph:**

1. The eleventh of Jacob's twelve sons but the first by his favorite wife ([Gen. 30:22-26](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+30%3A22-26))

2. His father's favorite child ([Gen. 37:2-3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+37%3A2-3))

3. Had an unimpeachable character ([Gen. 37:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+37%3A2),[14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+37%3A14); [39:7-20](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A7-20); [50:15-21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+50%3A15-21))

4. Had the divine gift of interpretating dreams ([Gen. 37:5-10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+37%3A5-10); [40:7-23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+40%3A7-23); [41:1-44](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+41%3A1-44))

5. Had a flawless record of faithfulness and trust in God and man ([Gen. 37:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+37%3A2),[13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+37%3A13); [39:1-23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A1-23); [40:1-23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+40%3A1-23); [Gen. 41:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+41%3A14) -- [Gen. 50:21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+50%3A21))

6. Was hated and rejected by his brethren ([Gen. 37:4-33](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+37%3A4-33))

7. Was sold into foreign slavery ([Gen. 37:28-36](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+37%3A28-36); [39:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A1))

8. Adjusted his life perfectly in favor or disfavor, slavery or freedom, as a servant or master ([Gen. 37:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+37%3A2) -- [Gen. 41:57](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+41%3A57))

9. Prospered by God in all places of trust ([Gen. 39:2-3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A2-3),[23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A23); [40:1-23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+40%3A1-23); [41:14-57](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+41%3A14-57))

10. Was content and happy in adversity or success ([Gen. 39:3-23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A3-23); [40:1-23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+40%3A1-23))

11. Was an outstanding witness for God ([Gen. 39:3-6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A3-6); [40:8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+40%3A8); [41:8-36](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+41%3A8-36))

12. Found grace in the eyes of all except his brethren ([Gen. 39:3-13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A3-13),[21-23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A21-23); [41:14-44](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+41%3A14-44))

13. Served with distinction in every place of responsibility ([Gen. 37:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+37%3A2); [39:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A3) -- [Gen. 41:57](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+41%3A57))

14. Was put in the highest places of trust in private and governmental affairs ([Gen. 39:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A3) -- [Gen. 41:57](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+41%3A57))

15. God blessed private industry and the whole nation of Egypt because of him ([Gen. 39:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A4) -- [Gen. 41:57](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+41%3A57))

16. Was handsome and perfect in body ([Gen. 39:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A6))

17. Maintained moral purity in face of severe and daily temptation ([Gen. 39:7-13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A7-13))

18. Suffered for righteousness ([Gen. 39:14-23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A14-23))

19. Suffered the depths of humiliation and rose to the highest exaltation ([Gen. 39:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A14) -- [Gen. 41:57](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+41%3A57))

20. Was father of two of the greatest tribes of Israel ([Gen. 41:50-52](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+41%3A50-52); [48:15-22](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+48%3A15-22)) **Manasseh and Ephraim**

21. Showed forgiveness to his enemies ([Gen. 42:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+42%3A1) -- [Gen. 45:20](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+45%3A20); [50:15-21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+50%3A15-21))

22. Saved Israel from death, thus preserving the line through whom the Messiah was to come ([Gen. 45:21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+45%3A21) -- [Gen. 47:31](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+47%3A31); [50:20](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+50%3A20); [Mt. 1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+1))

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**Genesis 39:11,12 (NLT)**

**11**One day, however, no one else was around when he went in to do his work. **12**She came and grabbed him by his cloak, demanding, “Come on, sleep with me!” Joseph tore himself away, but he left his cloak in her hand as he ran from the house. **13**When she saw that she was holding his cloak and he had fled, **14she called out to her servants. Soon all the men came running. “Look!” she said. “My husband has brought this Hebrew slave here to make fools of us! He came into my room to rape me, but I screamed. 15**When he heard me scream, he ran outside and got away, but he left his cloak behind with me.”

**16**She kept the cloak with her until her husband came home. **17**Then she told him her story. “That Hebrew slave you’ve brought into our house tried to come in and fool around with me,” she said. **18**“But when I screamed, he ran outside, leaving his cloak with me!”

In Celebrate Recovery, we have small groups where people share what is going on in their lives. The ONLY small group where men and women meet together is in the newcomer’s class. Because of the issues we deal with, we just don’t have small groups where men and women meet together.

Apparently, Joseph tried not to put himself in situations with Potiphar’s wife but just this once, it did happen and she tried to take advantage of it. **Let me encourage you to NOT put yourself in these kinds of positions either.**

When someone of the opposite sex is having marital troubles, DO NOT put yourself in a position to counsel them.

Pastors are taught in seminaries to not counsel women by themselves. In fact, a pastor, if at all possible should find another woman who can counsel a woman that needs help. If that is not possible, the pastor’s wife should be there when the counseling is going on. There have been many pastors who fell into adulterous relationships by putting themselves in these situations.

Notes For Verse 14

**a** [**mock us**] Hebrew: tsachaq, disgrace us. She used her advantage to show Joseph he couldn't spurn her and escape. Her husband believed the lie and Joseph suffered in silence with uninterrupted faith ([Gen. 39:19-23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+39%3A19-23)). She was an unscrupulous woman whose kind is described in Proverbs:

1. Strange woman ([Prov. 2:16](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+2%3A16); [6:24](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+6%3A24); [7:5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+7%3A5); [20:16](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+20%3A16); [23:27](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+23%3A27); [27:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+27%3A13))

2. Evil woman ([Prov. 6:24](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+6%3A24))

3. Whorish woman ([Prov. 6:26](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+6%3A26))

4. Foolish woman ([Prov. 9:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+9%3A13))

5. Fair woman without discretion ([Prov. 11:22](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+11%3A22))

6. Adulterous woman ([Prov. 30:20](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+30%3A20))

7. Odious woman ([Prov. 30:23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+30%3A23))

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**Guard your heart in this area!**

**1 Thessalonians 5:22 (KJV)**

Abstain from all appearance of evil.

You may have the best intentions and you may be able to meet with the opposite sex without anything happening that shouldn’t but look at Joseph. He did NOT commit adultery with Potiphar’s wife but because he didn’t, she accused him of trying to rape her. **If he would have avoided this situation from the start, it would have never happened.**

When Potiphar heard what his wife said, he was furious. He immediately had Joseph thrown into prison.

Pharaoh had his cupbearer and his baker thrown into the prison too. They both had dreams and Joseph interpreted them.

Joseph told the cupbearer that he would be restored to serving Pharaoh again and he asked him if he would mention him to Pharaoh to help him get out of prison. The baker, on the other hand, was told that he would be hanged and he was.

The cupbearer forgot about Joseph until one day when Pharaoh had a dream and looked all over the country to find someone who could interpret it but could not find anyone. The cupbearer then remembered Joseph and Pharaoh called Joseph to himself to interpret his dream.

**Genesis 41:1-7 (NLT)**

Two full years later, Pharaoh dreamed that he was standing on the bank of the Nile River. **2**In his dream he saw seven fat, healthy cows come up out of the river and begin grazing in the marsh grass. **3**Then he saw seven more cows come up behind them from the Nile, but these were scrawny and thin. These cows stood beside the fat cows on the riverbank. **4**Then the scrawny, thin cows ate the seven healthy, fat cows! At this point in the dream, Pharaoh woke up.

**5**But he fell asleep again and had a second dream. This time he saw seven heads of grain, plump and beautiful, growing on a single stalk. **6**Then seven more heads of grain appeared, but these were shriveled and withered by the east wind. **7**And these thin heads swallowed up the seven plump, well-formed heads! Then Pharaoh woke up again and realized it was a dream.

Joseph said the dreams were showing that there would be seven very good years but after that, there would be seven years of very severe famine.

Joseph had a plan. He had every city in Egypt store up 1/5th of all of the grain that was harvested in the good seven years. The famine came and the people of Egypt were prepared for it. Not only were they able to eat but they also supplied grain to many of the other countries around them.

**Genesis 41:41-49 (NLT)**

**41**Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I hereby put you in charge of the entire land of Egypt.” **42**Then Pharaoh removed his signet ring from his hand and placed it on Joseph’s finger. He dressed him in fine linen clothing and hung a gold chain around his neck. **43**Then he had Joseph ride in the chariot reserved for his second-in-command. And wherever Joseph went, the command was shouted, “Kneel down!” So Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of all Egypt. **44**And Pharaoh said to him, “I am Pharaoh, but no one will lift a hand or foot in the entire land of Egypt without your approval.”

**45**Then Pharaoh gave Joseph a new Egyptian name, Zaphenath-paneah. **He also gave him a wife, whose name was Asenath.** She was the daughter of Potiphera, the priest of On. So Joseph took charge of the entire land of Egypt. **46**He was thirty years old when he began serving in the court of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. And when Joseph left Pharaoh’s presence, he inspected the entire land of Egypt.

Pharaoh made Joseph his right hand man. The only person who had more power in Egypt than Joseph was Pharaoh. Through Joseph’s wife, Asenath, Manasseh and Ephraim were born.

You will see later on in the Bible that in the list of the twelve tribes of Israel, Manasseh and Ephraim took the place of Joseph and Dan. Joshua comes through Manasseh and Gideon comes through Ephraim.

**47**As predicted, for seven years the land produced bumper crops. **48**During those years, Joseph gathered all the crops grown in Egypt and stored the grain from the surrounding fields in the cities. **49**He piled up huge amounts of grain like sand on the seashore. **Finally, he stopped keeping records because there was too much to measure.**

**This is EXACTLY how God wants to bless you!**

Canaan was going through the famine and Jacob told his sons to Egypt to buy grain because he had heard they were selling it.

All of the brothers except for the youngest, Benjamin, went to Egypt. When they got there, they met Joseph and asked to purchase grain. They did not realize it was Jacob but he realized it was them.

Jacob spoke harshly to them and accused them of being spies. After awhile, he told his men to load up his brothers’ packs with grain and told them to secretly put their money back in the bags with the grain. Joseph’s brothers left and before long, one of them found the money. Then they all found every bit of their money in with the grain. They were worried about what this might mean. Joseph forced them to leave one of their brothers with him and he ordered them to bring their youngest brother, Benjamin, back with them.

The brothers told Jacob what had happened to them and that they had to take Benjamin back with them. Jacob would have no part of that since he thought he had already lost Joseph.

I wonder if Benjamin was favored over all the brothers just like Joseph was?

**Genesis 43:11-18 (NLT)**

11So their father, Jacob, finally said to them, “If it can’t be avoided, then at least do this. Pack your bags with the best products of this land. Take them down to the man as gifts—balm, honey, gum, aromatic resin, pistachio nuts, and almonds. 12Also take double the money that was put back in your sacks, as it was probably someone’s mistake. 13Then take your brother, and go back to the man. 14May God Almighty give you mercy as you go before the man, so that he will release Simeon and let Benjamin return. But if I must lose my children, so be it.”

15So the men packed Jacob’s gifts and double the money and headed off with Benjamin. They finally arrived in Egypt and presented themselves to Joseph.16When Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the manager of his household, “These men will eat with me this noon. Take them inside the palace. Then go slaughter an animal, and prepare a big feast.” 17So the man did as Joseph told him and took them into Joseph’s palace.

18The brothers were terrified when they saw that they were being taken into Joseph’s house. “It’s because of the money someone put in our sacks last time we were here,” they said. “He plans to pretend that we stole it. Then he will seize us, make us slaves, and take our donkeys.”