

Genesis – “Enter: Joseph”
Genesis 37

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God is *FAITHFUL* ~ As we consider the lives of the Patriarchs, none are perfect in all their ways . . . as we consider the lives of all who have followed, *NONE* are perfect in all their ways! The qualities that our God looks for are not actions but heart focused – do we have a heart for Him; do we pursue Him . . . even when we falter, do our eyes go to self . . . or to Him who is fully able?

Context: Jacob has his 12 boys! The oldest perhaps in his late 30's, the youngest @ 2 yrs of age! Joseph, the 2nd from the youngest, now 17 yrs old, becomes a focal point . . . and in his youthfulness, exasperates his older brothers . . .

Genesis 37:1-4

[Contextually, Isaac is still alive. Tho' he breathed his last and was buried in 35:28,29, that was parenthetical overview as we receive the descendants of Isaac, Jacob, Esau and Seir, the Horite - who intermarried with Esau resulting in the Edomites. The narration now begins again in Ch. 37 . . .]

“was pasturing the flock”

“with his brothers . . . sons of Bilhah and Zilpah”

“a bad report”

[Rueben, Simeon, Levi & Judah]

Vs. 3-4

“loved Joseph more . . . son of old age”

varicolored tunic –

(cp. 2 Sam. 3:18,19)

“loved >

Vs. 5-11 Two dreams . . .

Vs. 12-17

Vs. 18-24

Vs. 25-28

Vs. 29-36

O, the grief, the pain for Jacob-Israel. All based upon hatred, deception and lies! How can Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah or the rest of the boys bear the pain of their lies! Since “Sin Separates”, how deep the wedge has been driven! Sin's progression . . .

Consideration > Attitude > Action > Habit

Not one chose right-ness over the pain of the lies in Dad!! How hard-hearted one is to bear such a grudge - shackled, chain-forging, slave to fear, lies and sin . . . But God . . .! Freedom only a right-choice away!

What part of this passage “caught your attention”?

Is God saying something to you? What is it?

How will you respond?