

What measure will you go to maintain the self-gratifying spiritual status quo, or ungodliness? Joseph's brothers, perceiving that their futures were at stake sought to kill Joseph. They suffered for years with the decision. Joseph said, "Don't worry God sent me ahead to preserve us all." God help me forgive myself for my failures. (Genesis 45)

USAMPS Weekly Bible Study
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God Help Me Forgive Myself for My Failures

(Read Genesis 45)

1. How old was Joseph when he had the dreams about his brothers? Joseph was seventeen when he was sold into slavery. (Genesis 37:2)
2. What was Joseph's status among his brothers? (chronological and relationally speaking)
Joseph was the second youngest and one of only two children of Rachel.
3. Did Israel favor any of the boys over the others? Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he *was* the son of his old age. Also he made him a tunic of *many* colors. (Gen. 37:3)
4. How did the other brothers respond to the issue of dad's favoritism? But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him. (Gen. 37:4)
5. What was Joseph's attitude concerning the dreams?

⁵ Now Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him even more. ⁶ So he said to them, "Please hear this dream which I have dreamed: ⁷ There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Then behold, my sheaf arose and also stood upright; and indeed your sheaves stood all around and bowed down to my sheaf." ⁸ And his brothers said to him, "Shall you indeed reign over us? Or shall you indeed have dominion over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words. ⁹ Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, "Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me." ¹⁰ So he told *it* to his father and his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, "What *is* this dream that you have dreamed? Shall your mother and I and your brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?" ¹¹ And his brothers envied him, but his father kept the matter in mind. (Gen. 37:5-11)

Joseph Sold by His Brothers

¹² Then his brothers went to feed their father's flock in Shechem. ¹³ And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers feeding *the flock* in Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." So he said to him, "Here I am." ¹⁴ Then he said to him, "Please go and see if it is well with your brothers and well with the flocks, and bring back word to me." So he sent him out of the Valley of Hebron, and he went to Shechem. ¹⁸ Now when they saw him afar off, even before he came near them, they conspired against him to kill him. ¹⁹ Then they said to one another, "Look, this dreamer is coming! ²⁰ Come therefore, let us now kill him and cast him into some pit; and we shall say, 'Some wild beast has devoured him.' We shall see what will become of his dreams!"

Joseph's brothers, perceiving that their futures were at stake, sought to kill Joseph.

What measure will you go to maintain the self-gratifying spiritual status quo or ungodliness?

How can we rid our lives of the godless activities that threaten our increasing desire to get more of God?

The Lord was with Joseph and everything that he touched prospered. (Gen.39:3)

God was with Joseph...

Galatians 5:19-25 illustrates how sin (weeds) need to be pulled out and righteous living cultivated in order to maximize spiritual growth.

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