

REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF

JOSEPH

Genesis 37,39-50



REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

Genesis 37-50

RELEVANCE OF SCRIPTURE

THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

THE WISDOM OF GOD

PROVIDENTIAL CARE OF GOD

A TYPE / FORESHADOW OF
REDEMPTION IN CHRIST



REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

Genesis 37-50

JOSEPH EXPERIENCED

Favor / Blessedness



REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

Genesis 37-50

JOSEPH EXPERIENCED

Favor / Blessedness

Envy & Hatred

Mistreatment

Betrayal



REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

Genesis 37-50

JOSEPH EXPERIENCED

Favor / Blessedness

Envy & Hatred

Mistreatment

Betrayal

Temptation

False Accusations



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Genesis 37-50

JOSEPH EXPERIENCED

Favor / Blessedness

Envy & Hatred

Mistreatment

Betrayal

Temptation

False Accusations

Suffered For Doing Right

Ingratitude

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Genesis 37-50

JOSEPH EXPERIENCED

Favor / Blessedness

Envy & Hatred

Mistreatment

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False Accusations

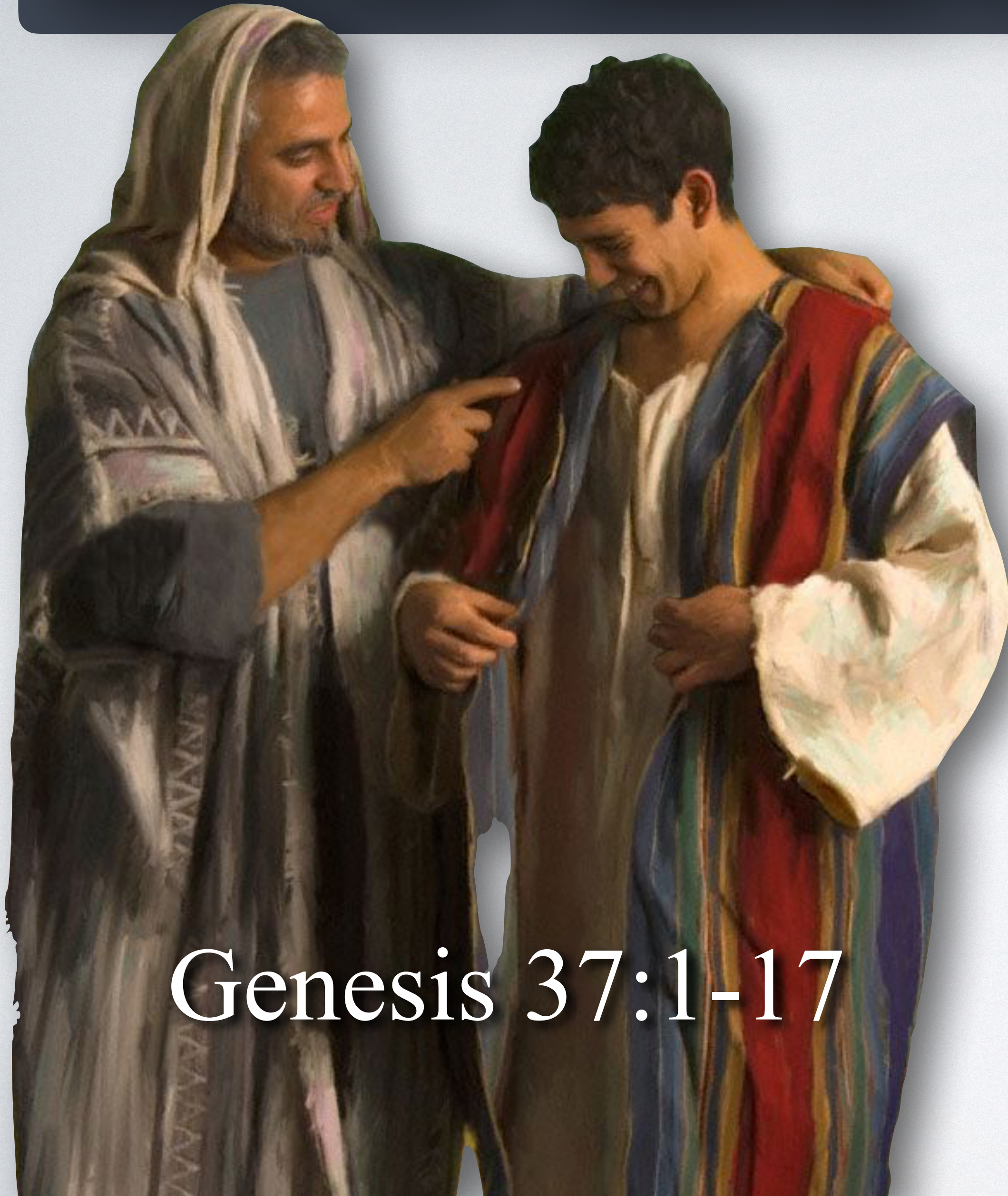
Suffered For Doing Right

Ingratitude

Power & Wealth



REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

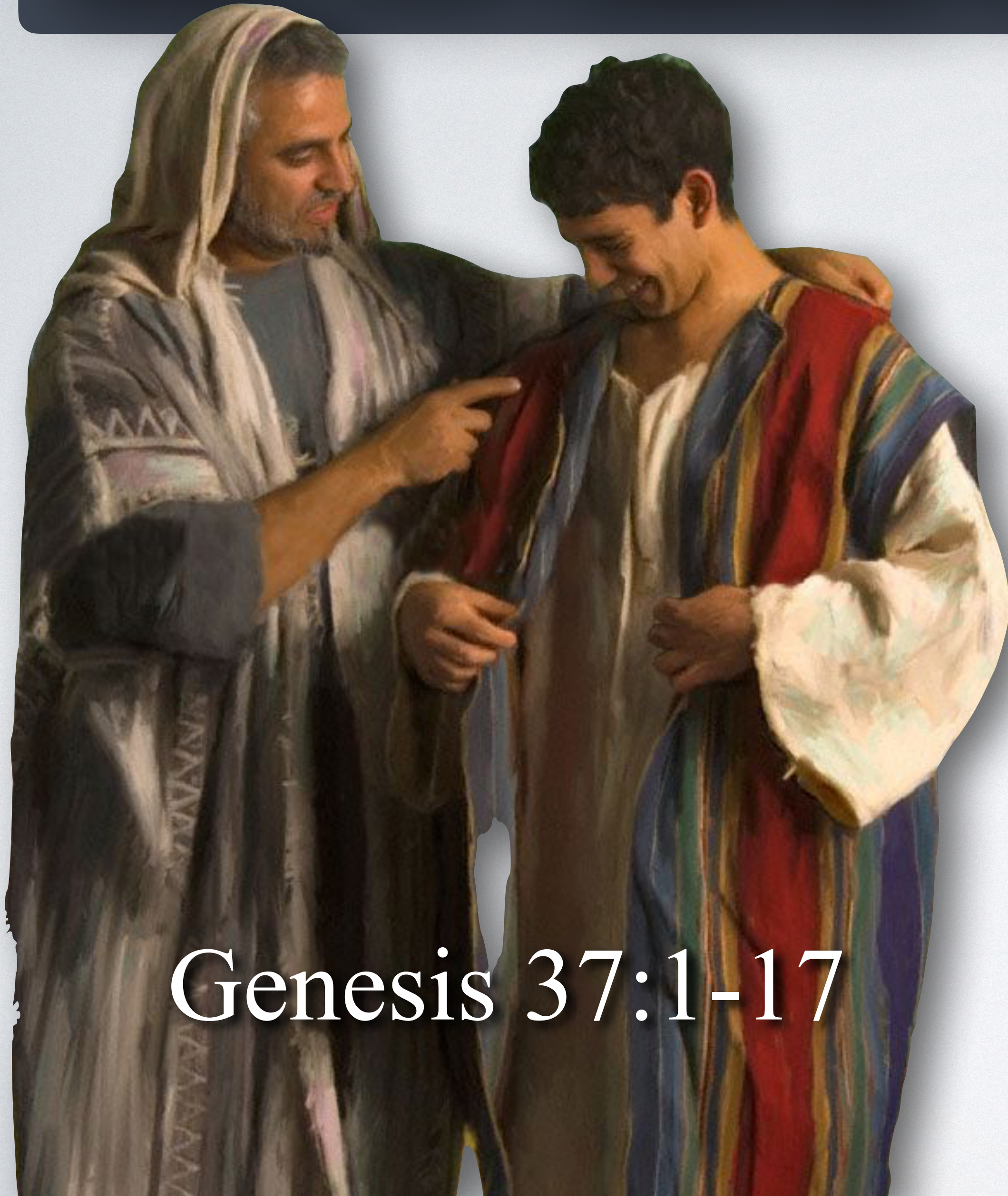


Genesis 37:1-17

EXPERIENCED ENVY & HATRED

- Gave his father an evil report about his brothers (37:2)
- Shown favoritism by his father thus generating hatred in his brothers - they could not even speak peaceably with him (37:3,4)
- Joseph shared his dreams with his brothers and their hatred grew (37:5-10)
- They envied him (37:11)

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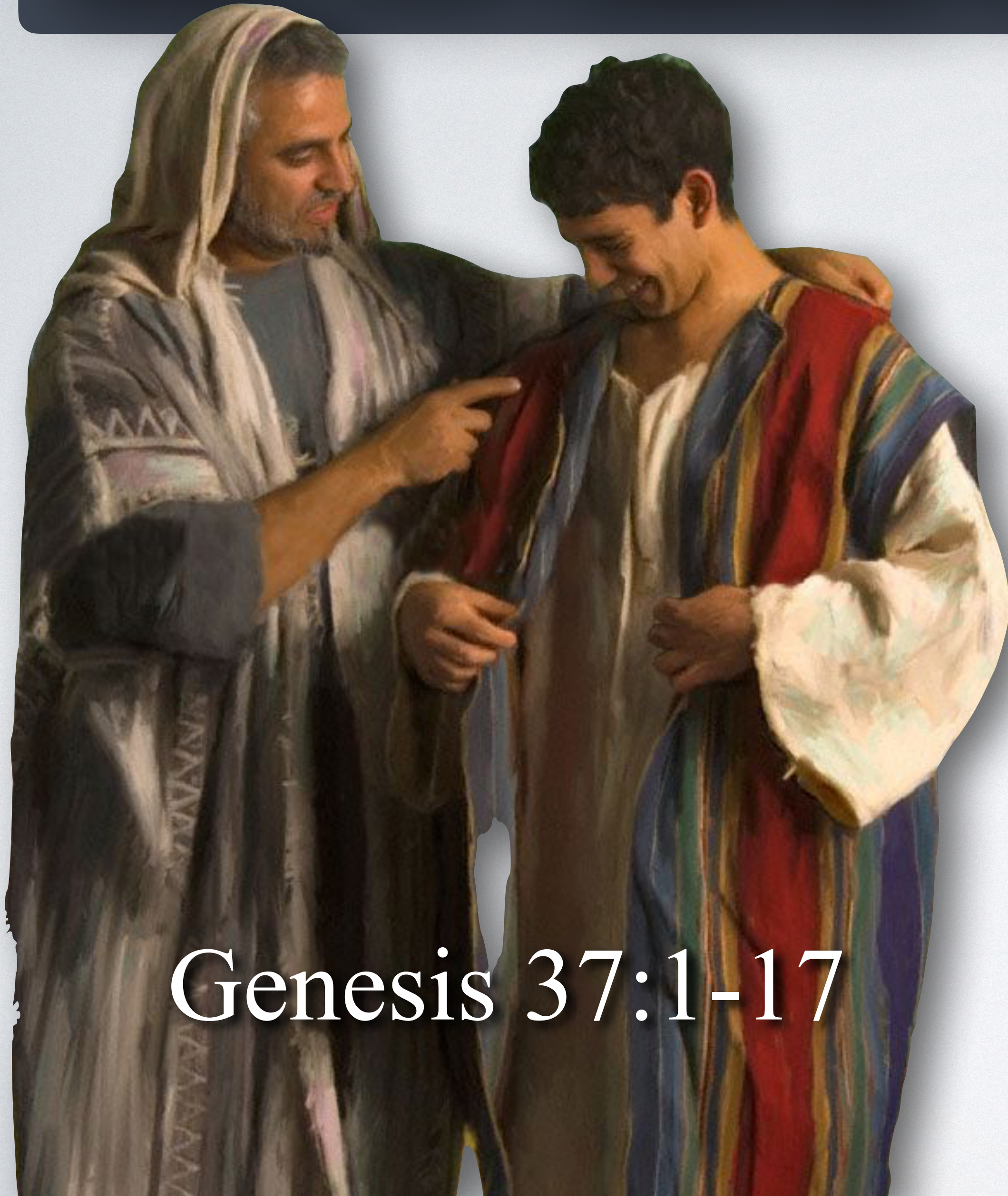


Genesis 37:1-17

EXPERIENCED ENVY & HATRED

- Obeyed his father's instructions to find his brothers (Gen 37:13-14)
- Knowing his brothers would not be happy to see him – he was yet persistent in his search for them (Gen 37:15-17)
- There is no evidence of Joseph returning hatred for hatred, or envy for envy

REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH



Genesis 37:1-17

EXPERIENCED ENVY & HATRED

- Those who are blessed are often envied by those who are not (37:4,5,8,11; Gen 4:3-8; Ac. 7:9; 13:45)
- We should not be surprised when the world hates us for saying and doing what is right (1 Sam. 17:28; 1 Ki. 18:17, 18; John 15:18-20; 1 John 3:13; Gal. 4:16)
- If someone expresses hatred & envy towards us - Let us make sure it is not our fault! (Rom. 12:18; Mat. 5:38-42; Heb. 12:14; Gal. 4:16; Mat. 5:3-16; Lk 6:27-30)

REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH



Genesis 37:18-28

EXPERIENCED BETRAYAL

- Joseph's brothers conspire to kill him (37:18-20)
- Reuben persuades them not to kill him, so they cast him into a pit, (cistern) (37:21-25; 29,30)
- Judah suggest they sell him to Midianite traders, Ishmaelites, for twenty shekels of silver. (37:26-28)
- Joseph pleaded with his brothers (Gen 42:21)

REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH



Genesis 37:18-36

EXPERIENCED BETRAYAL

- Taken to Egypt and sold into slavery (37:28)
- Joseph was trustworthy – loyal & godly as a slave in the house of Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard (Gen. 39:1-6; cf. Acts 7:9)
- Joseph did not fill his life with hatred, bitterness and/or ungodliness –

REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH



EXPERIENCED BETRAYAL

- Betrayal does not justify hatred, bitterness or revenge (Mat. 5:43-48)

Romans 12:17-21 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. ¹⁹ Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but *rather* give place to wrath; for it is written, “*Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,*” says the Lord. ²⁰ Therefore “*If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.*” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH



Genesis 37:18-36

EXPERIENCED BETRAYAL

- Betrayal does not justify hatred, bitterness or revenge (Mat. 5:43-48)

I Peter 3:8–12 (NKJV)

⁸ Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; ⁹ not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH



Genesis 37:18-36

EXPERIENCED BETRAYAL

- Betrayal does not justify hatred, bitterness or revenge (Mat. 5:43-48)

I Peter 3:8–12 (NKJV)

*¹⁰ For “He who would love life And see good days,
Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips
from speaking deceit. ¹¹ Let him turn away from
evil and do good; Let him seek peace and pursue
it. ¹² For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
And His ears are open to their prayers; But the
face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”*

REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

EXPERIENCED BETRAYAL

- Godliness is NOT determined by circumstances (We can be godly, content & blessed whatever our circumstances) (Ps 37)

Philippians 4:11-13 (NKJV)

¹¹ Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: ¹² I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. ¹³ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.



Genesis 37:18-36

REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH



Genesis 37:18-36

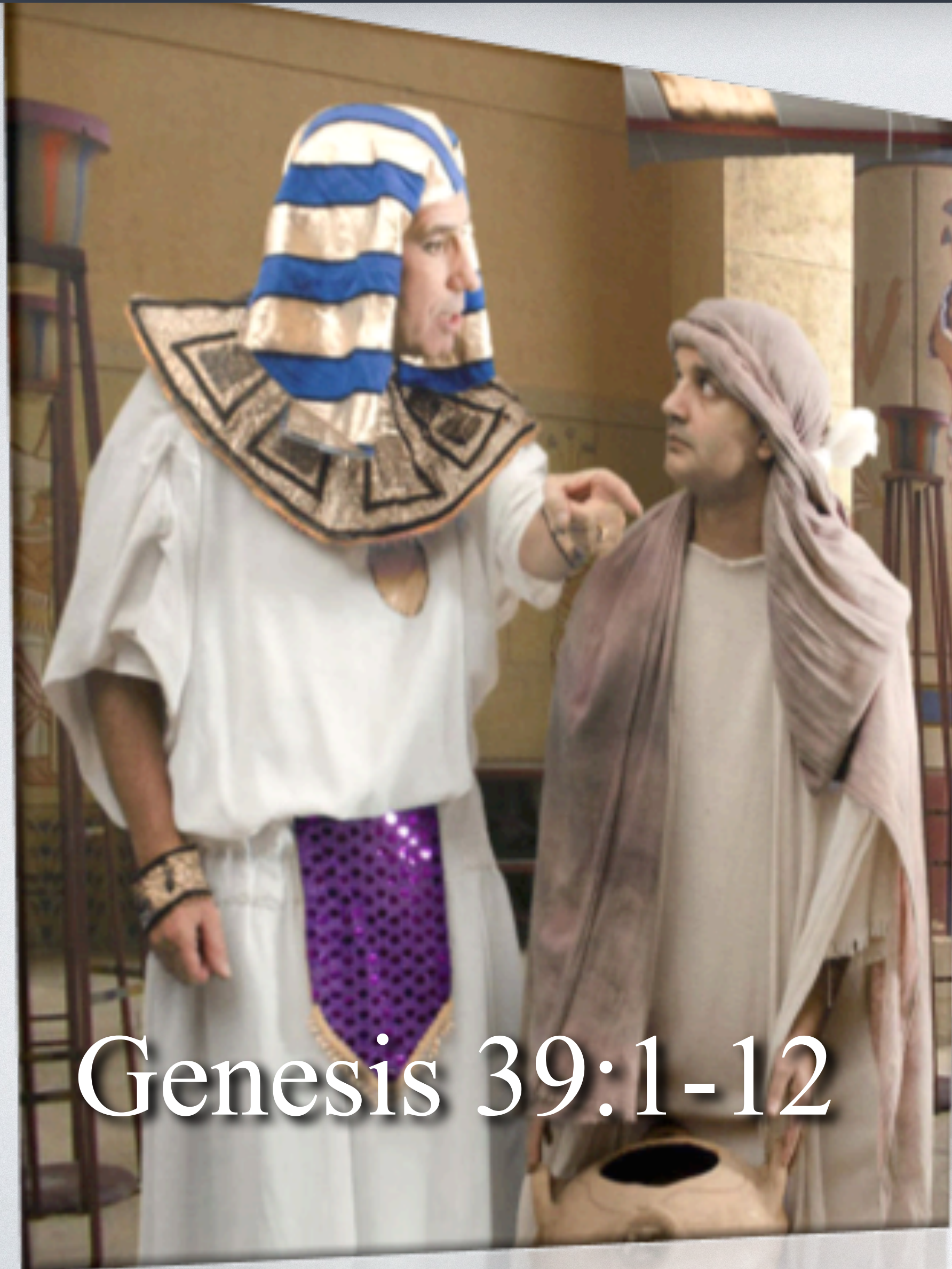
EXPERIENCED BETRAYAL

- Godliness is NOT determined by circumstances (We can be godly, content & blessed whatever our circumstances) (Ps 37)

Hebrews 13:5–6 (NKJV)

⁵ Let *your* conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “*I will never leave you nor forsake you.*” ⁶ So we may boldly say: “*The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?*”

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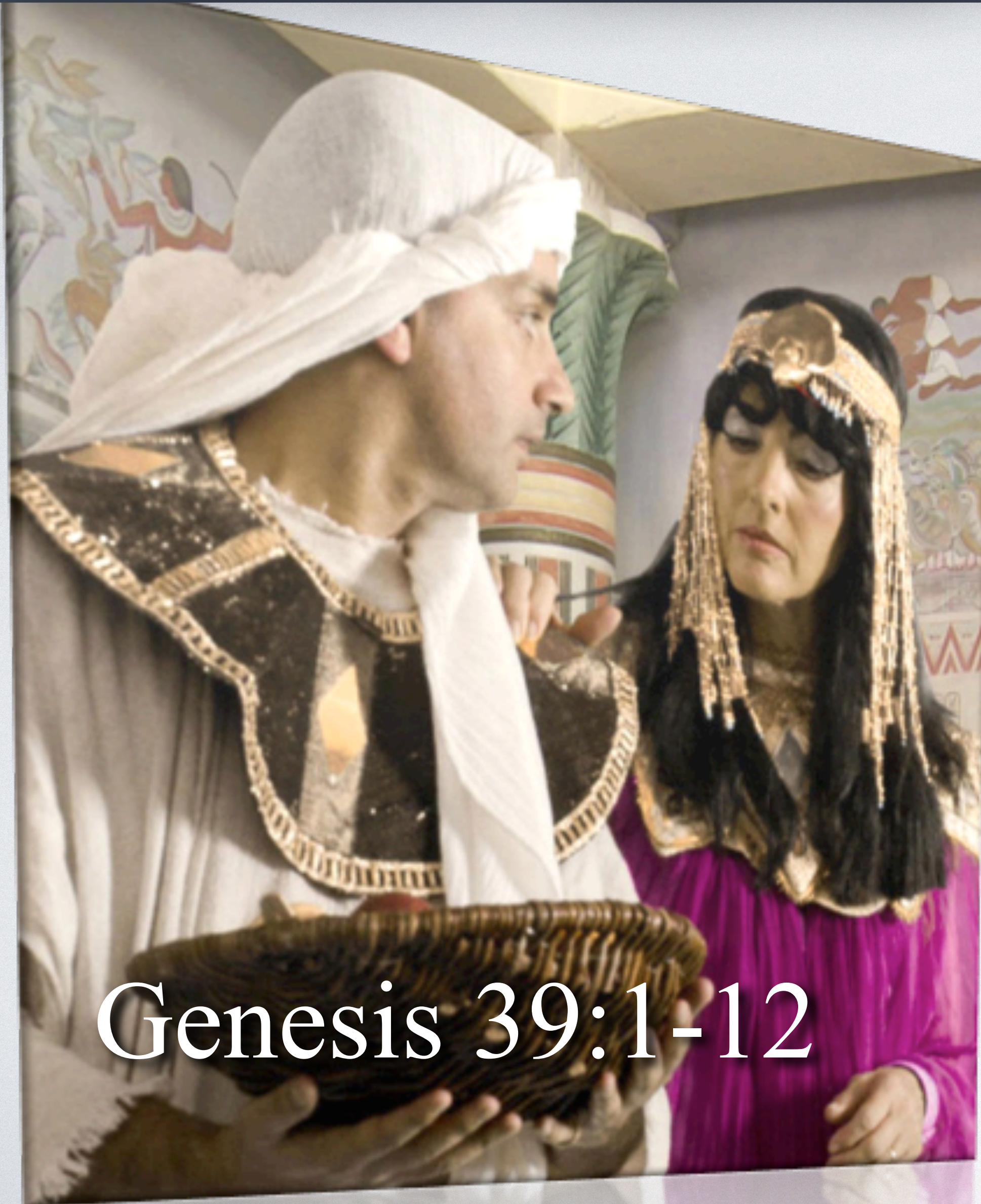


Genesis 39:1-12

EXPERIENCED TEMPTATION

- Chapter 39 returns to Joseph who had prospered as a steward over Potiphar's house, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, [The Pharaoh was probably Sesostris II (1897–1879 b.c.)]. (39:1-4)
- Potiphar's house was blessed by God because of Joseph (39:5)

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Genesis 39:1-12

EXPERIENCED TEMPTATION

- Potiphar's wife “cast longing eyes on Joseph, and she said ‘Lie with me’” (39:7)
- She persisted in tempting Joseph every day (39:10)
- She increased the aggressive nature of her temptation (39:11,12)

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EXPERIENCED TEMPTATION

■ Joseph's Response

- ▶ (39:8-9) 8 But he refused ... 9 ... How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"
- ▶ (39:10) 10 "... he did not heed her, to lie with her or to be with her."
- ▶ (39:11,12) 12 "... he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside"



Genesis 39:1-12

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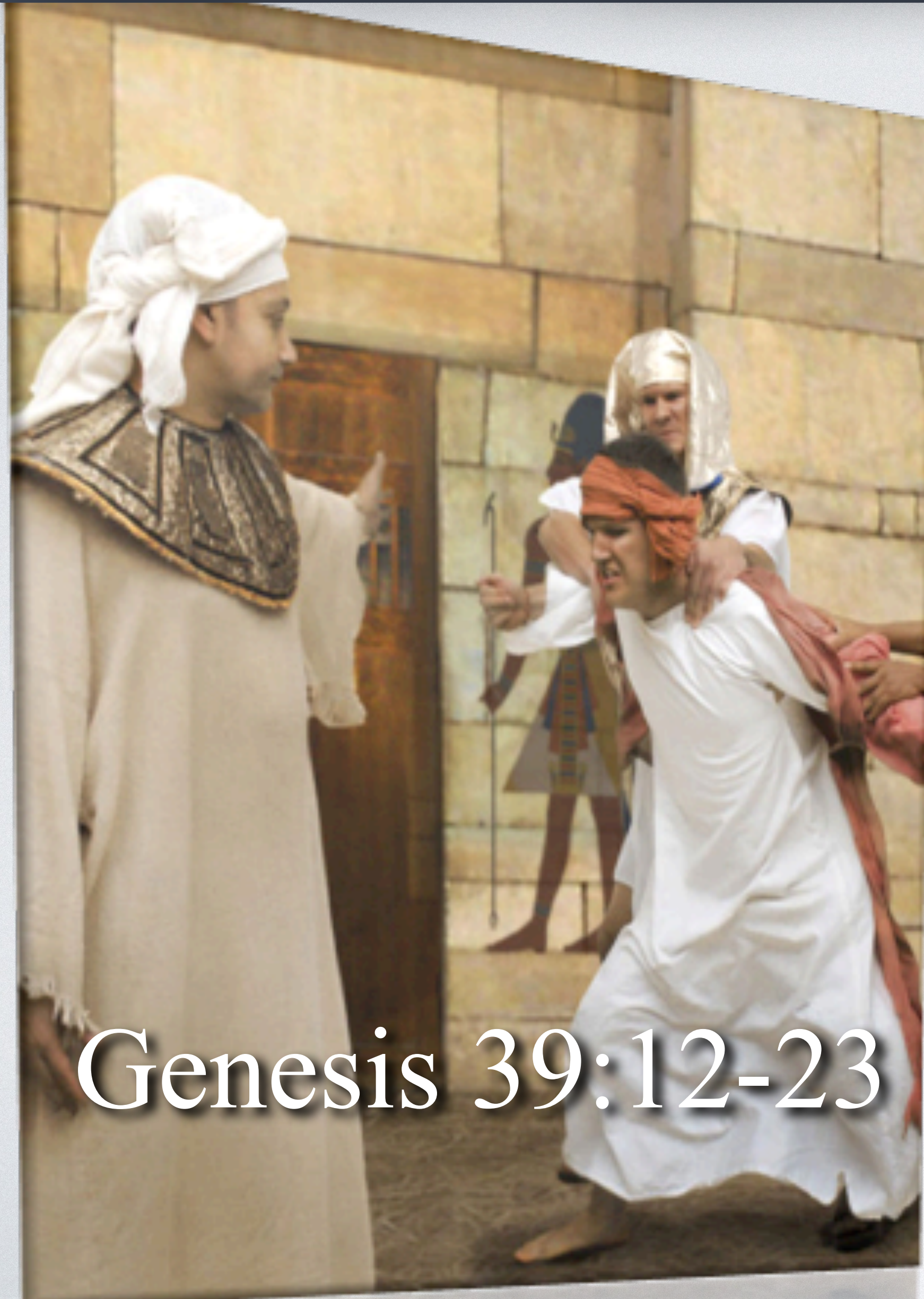


Genesis 39:1-12

EXPERIENCED TEMPTATION

- All of us will face temptation (James 1:12-16; 1 Cor 10:13)
- We can and should say “no” – (Gen 4:7; Pro 1:10)
- Refuse to listen, and avoid temptation – (Pro 5:8; Mat 5:29,30; 6:13; 1 Thes 5:22)
- RUN!! (1 Co 6:18; 10:14; 1 Tim 6:11; 2 Tim 2:22)

REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

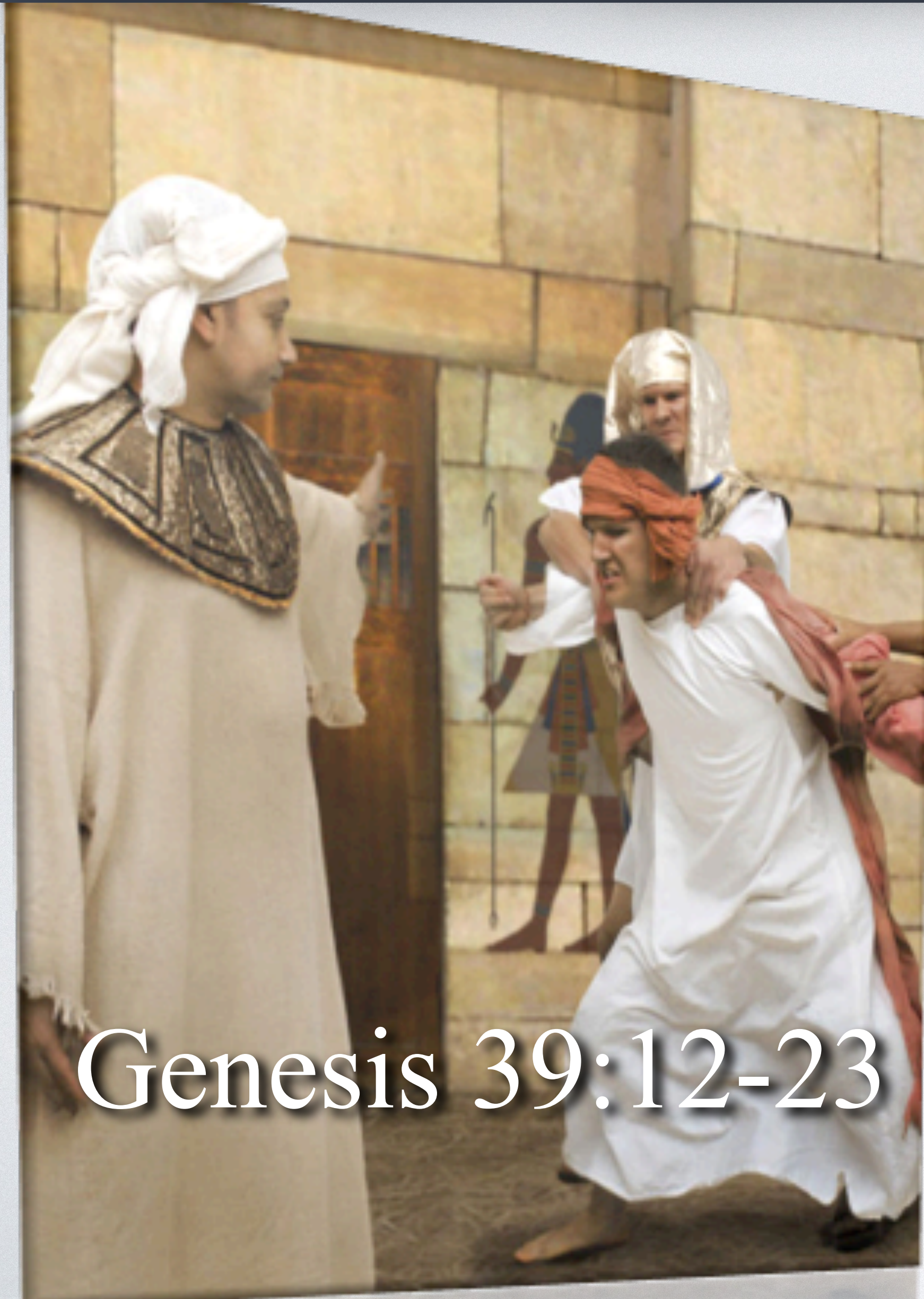


Genesis 39:12-23

EXPERIENCED FALSE ACCUSATIONS

- Falsely accused by Potiphar's wife
 - ▶ She told the men of her house – “See, he has brought in to us a Hebrew to mock us ...”(14-16)
 - ▶ Then she told Potiphar – “The Hebrew servant whom you brought to us came in to me to mock me; 18 so it happened, as I lifted my voice and cried out, that he left his garment with me and fled outside.”(17-19)

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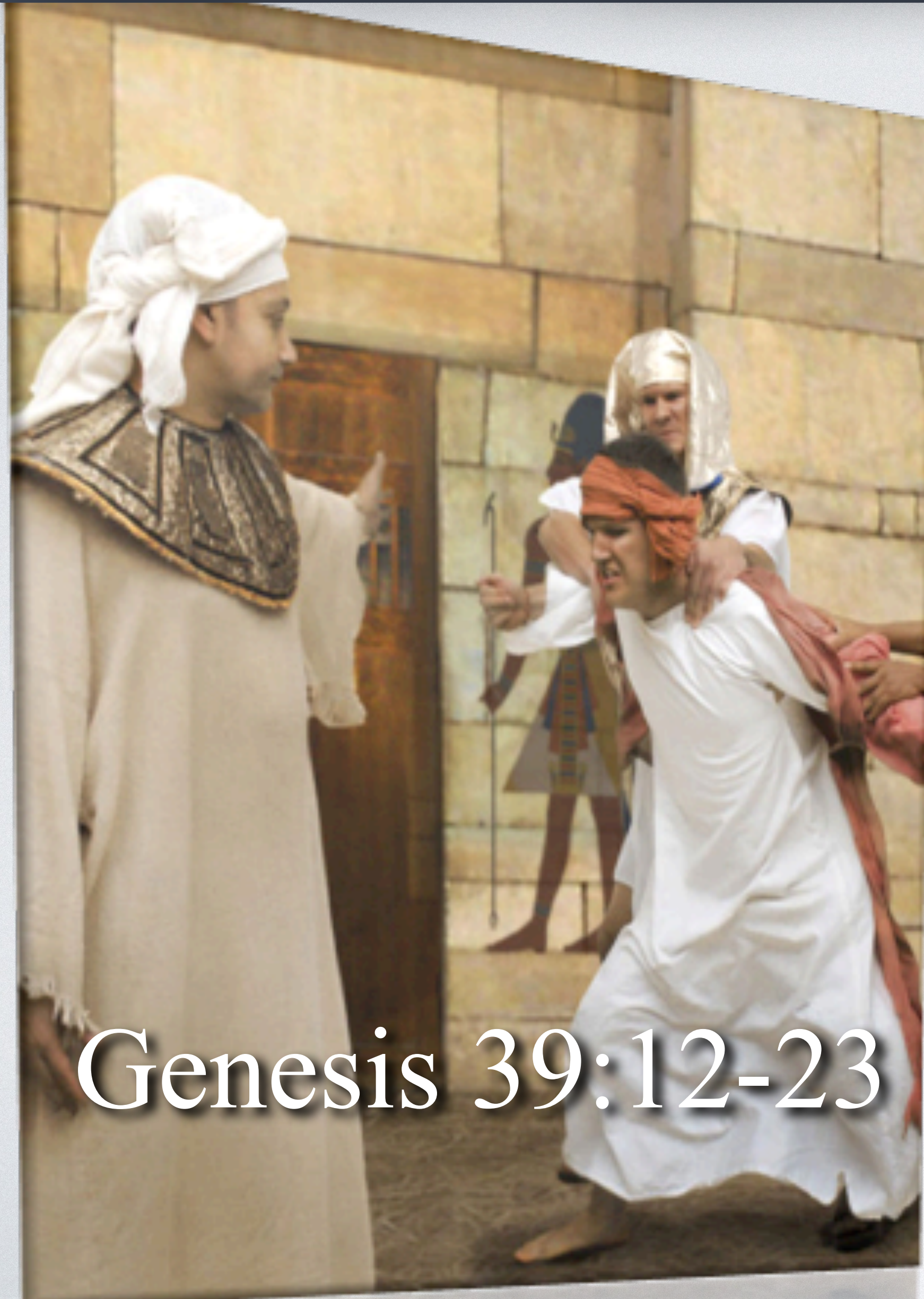


Genesis 39:12-23

EXPERIENCED FALSE ACCUSATIONS

- Potiphar has Joseph thrown into prison (39:20)
- Could have allowed discouragement, hatred and bitterness to destroy him ...
- BUT – The Lord blessed Joseph – implying that Joseph kept a faithful spirit (39:21-23)

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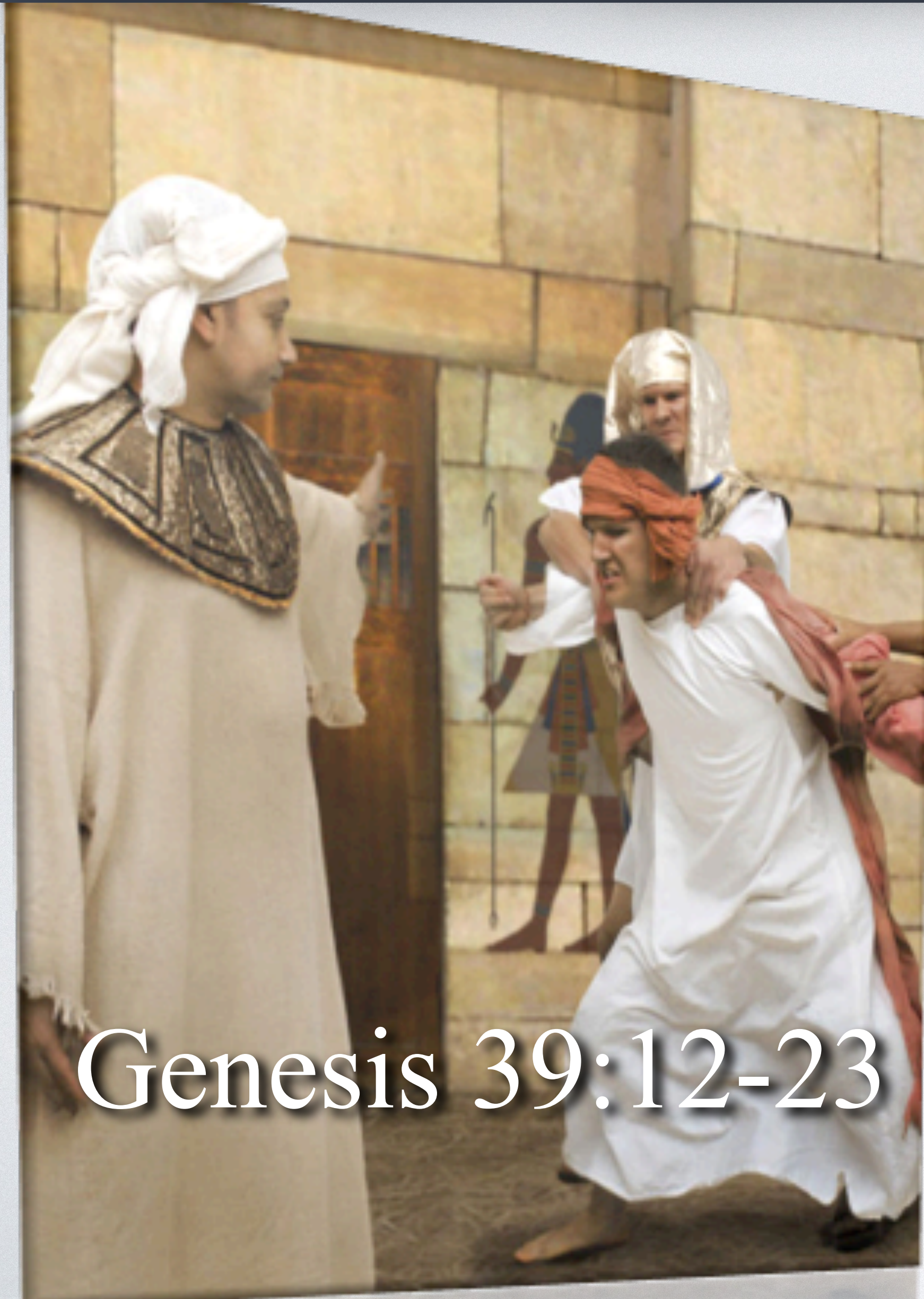


Genesis 39:12-23

EXPERIENCED FALSE ACCUSATIONS

- We must keep our lives above reproach – but that will not guarantee our enemies will not falsely accuse us (1 Pet 3:16; Luke 6:22)
- Enemies will constantly watch us to discredit and accuse us (Lk 6:7; 11:53,54).

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Genesis 39:12-23

EXPERIENCED FALSE ACCUSATIONS

- Too many brethren are too quick to believe false accusers without having any evidence.
- ▶ When falsely accused – Let us be like Joseph and Jesus –
- ▶ Retain our trust in God –
- ▶ Remain faithful to God –
- ▶ Be meek and humble -

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Romans 15:4 (NKJV)

⁴ For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.



REAL LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

Genesis 37-50

Joseph was faithful as a youth.
Joseph was faithful in spite of
his family.

Joseph was faithful despite all
of his troubles.

Joseph was faithful regardless
of his circumstances.

WE CAN BE FAITHFUL TOO!



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Genesis 37-50

HOW DO / WILL WE RESPOND

Favor / Blessedness / FAITHFULNESS?

Envy & Hatred / LOVE & KINDNESS?

Mistreatment / DOING GOOD?

Betrayal / ENDURANCE / TRUST?

Temptation / REJECTION / FLEE

**False Accusations / TRUST /
PERSERVERANCE?**



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Hebrews 11:39–12:3 (NKJV)

³⁹ And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, ⁴⁰ God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. ¹

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.