

SERMON NOTES - 8.25.19

Sermon Series: Genesis: Act III

Sermon Title: "Joseph: The Divine Redemption Of Our Scars" - Genesis 37 & 39

1. The Failings of Parental Favoritism

Jacob lived in the land of his father's sojournings, in the land of Canaan.² These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was pasturing the flock with his brothers. He was a boy with the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives. And Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father.³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a robe of many colors.⁴ But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him.⁵ Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they hated him even more.⁶ He said to them, "Hear this dream that I have dreamed:⁷ Behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf arose and stood upright. And behold, your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf."⁸ His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Or are you indeed to rule over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.⁹ Then he dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers and said, "Behold, I have dreamed another dream. Behold, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me."¹⁰ But when he told it to his father and to his brothers, his father rebuked him and said to him, "What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall I and your mother and your brothers indeed come to bow ourselves to the ground before you?"¹¹ And his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the saying in mind.

Genesis 37:1-11

They saw him from afar, and before he came near to them they conspired against him to kill him.¹⁹ They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer.²⁰ Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see what will become of his dreams."

Genesis 37:18-20

Then they sat down to eat. And looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels bearing gum, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry it down to Egypt.

Genesis 37:25

2. The Lord's Presence In The Midst of Our Pain

The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master. His master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord caused all that he did to succeed in his hands.

Genesis 39:2-3

"Suffering can refine us rather than destroy us because God himself walks with us in the fire."

Timothy Keller, [*Walking with God through Pain and Suffering*](#)

3. The Lord's Plan For The Redemption Of Your Pain