



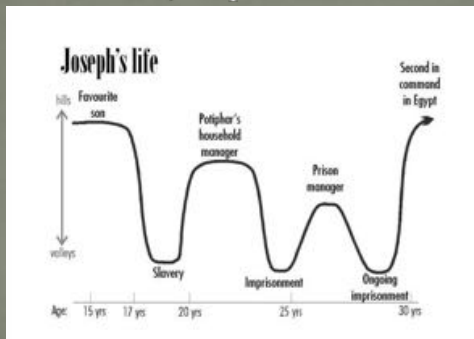
## Joseph (Gen. 37-50)

Forgiveness: Always the Better Choice

### OT Overview

- Creation-Fall-Noah (Gen. 1-9)
- 2086 B.C. – Abraham (4 promises)
- 2066 B.C. Isaac is born
- 2006 B.C. Jacob is born
- 1916 B.C. Joseph is born

### Overview of Joseph's Life



“The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man...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. So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that the had. (39:2-4)

“From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the Lord was on all that he had, in house and field. So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge, and because of him he had no concern about anything but the food he ate.” (39:4-6)

- Potiphar's wife: “lie with me,” but Joseph flees...she lies to Potiphar and accuses him of rape; Joseph to prison (39:14-20)
- “But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. And the keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners...the keeper...paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge because the Lord was with him. And whatever he did, the Lord made it succeed.” (39:23)

- Joseph interprets dreams of Cupbearer and Baker of King of Egypt while in prison saying, “Do not interpretations belong to God?” (40:8)
- Dreams come true and Joseph asks Cupbearer to remember him once released, but Cupbearer forgets Joseph for two years. (41:1)
- Pharaoh dreams, but none of his magicians and wise men could interpret (41:8)
- Joseph: “It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer....God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do.” 7 years of plenty; 7 of famine (41:16, 25)

- Pharaoh to Joseph at age 30: “Can we find a man like this, in whom is the Spirit of God? ... There is none as discerning and wise as you are. You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command...I have set you over all the land of Egypt.” (41:38-41)
- Famine hits and Jacob sends 10 sons to Egypt to buy grain (42:1-5)
- Brothers appear before Joseph but he acts like he doesn’t know them (42:7)

- Reuben expresses the truth (42:21) and offers his two sons (42:37)
- I ask about my father’s health (43:27)
- Judah expresses remorse (44:32)
- During second visit by brothers Joseph reveals himself as their brother and says:
  - “Do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.” (45:5)
  - “God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.” (45:7)

- Joseph continued, “So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.” (45:8-9)
- Family travels to Egypt (46:27)
- When famine peaks, Joseph acquires “all the money,” livestock, land and people and gives same to Pharaoh (47:13-25)

- Jacob curses Reuben (49:2-4)
- Jacob blesses Joseph (49:26)
- Jacob’s funeral (50:1-3)
- Brothers’ paranoia (50:15-18)
- Joseph’s forgiveness and ultimate perspective, “...you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good....” (50:19-21)

Who should you forgive?