**TRANSCRIPT OF PODCAST CCCXXX:** **THE BOOK OF GENESIS CHAPTER 39**

**GENESIS 39**: And Yosĕph had been taken down to Mitsrayim. And Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, a Mitsrite, bought him from the Yishma‛ĕlites who had taken him down there. [2](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-2.htm)And it came to be that יהוה was with Yosĕph, and he became a prosperous man, and was in the house of his master the Mitsrite. [3](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-3.htm)And his master saw that יהוה was with him and that יהוה made all he did to prosper in his hand. [4](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-4.htm)So Yosĕph found favour in his eyes, and served him, and he appointed him over his house, and gave into his hand all that he had. [5](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-5.htm)And it came to be, from the time that he appointed him over his house and all that he had, that יהוה blessed the Mitsrite’s house for Yosĕph’s sake. And the blessing of יהוה was on all that he had in the house and in the field. [6](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-6.htm)And he left in Yosĕph’s hand all that he had, and he did not know what he had except for the bread which he ate. And Yosĕph was handsome in form and appearance. [7](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-7.htm)And after these events it came to be that his master’s wife lifted up her eyes to Yosĕph and said, “Lie with me.” [8](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-8.htm)But he refused and said to his master’s wife, “Look, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has given into my hand all that he has. [9](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-9.htm)“No one is greater in this house than I, and he has not withheld whatever from me but you, because you are his wife. And how shall I do this great evil and sin against Elohim?” [10](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-10.htm)And it came to be, as she spoke to Yosĕph day by day, that he did not listen to her, to lie with her, to be with her. [11](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-11.htm)And it came to be on a certain day, when Yosĕph went into the house to do his work, and none of the men of the house was inside, [12](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-12.htm)that she caught him by his garment, saying, “Lie with me.” But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside. [13](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-13.htm)And it came to be, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and fled outside, [14](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-14.htm)that she called to the men of her house and spoke to them, saying, “See, he has brought in to us **a Heḇrew** to mock us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice.

[15](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-15.htm)“And it came to be, when he heard that I lifted my voice and cried out, that he left his garment with me, and fled and went outside.” [16](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-16.htm)And she kept his garment with her until his master came home. [17](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-17.htm)And she spoke to him these same words, saying, “The **Heḇrew** servant whom you brought to us came in to me, to mock me, [18](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-18.htm) so it came to be, as I lifted my voice and cried out, that he left his garment with me and fled outside.” [19](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-19.htm)And it came to be, when his master heard the words which his wife spoke to him, saying, “Your servant did to me according to these words,” that his displeasure burned. [**20**](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-20.htm)**Then Yosĕph’s master took him and put him into the prison**, a place where the sovereign’s prisoners were confined. And he was there in the prison. [21](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-21.htm)But **יהוה was with Yosĕph and extended kindness to him, and He gave him favour in the eyes of the prison warden**. [22](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-22.htm)And the prison warden gave into the hand of Yosĕph all the prisoners who were in the prison, and whatever was done there was his doing. [23](https://biblehub.com/genesis/39-23.htm)The prison warden did not look into any point that was under Yosĕph’s hand, because יהוה was with him. And whatever he did, יהוה made it prosper.”

In reviewing The Passion Translation Notes from Genesis 38, the translator questions why chapter 37 is about Joseph going into Egypt and Genesis 39 picks up the story of Joseph in Egypt – while Genesis 38 is about Judah and Tamar?

I know it is important to learn about the birth of Peretz and the nature of Judah, but why is it stuck in between the story of Joseph?

The translator of The Passion Version said it appears that Moses wanted to contrast the extreme difference in nature between Judah and Joseph. Judah was Leah’s 3rd son. Joseph was born to Rachael after much barrenness. Because of Ya’cob love for Rachael, he favored Joseph over the children of Leah and the children of Leah’s handmaid and Rachael’s handmaid.

It shows in a lot of ways what real love can do to mould a child’s personality in the right way – to bring confidence, security, a knowledge of love and compassion, mercy, kindness, gentleness. Though they were not killing humans, see the nature of Simeon and Levi as they literally slaughtered those men in Genesis 34.

We see in chapter 37 how Reuben and Judah saved Joseph from being left to die by the other brothers. Reuben, who lost his birth right doing something he thought was right by his mother, and Judah, saved Joseph. In doing so, they both saved all the tribes from extinction.

By saving Joseph, Judah saved the birth right holder for all the tribes, Ephraim – the youngest son of Joseph.

Then Genesis 39 picks up the story of Joseph. Joseph was 17 when he got into Egypt. He may have been 18 by the time he was approached by Potiphar’s adulterous wife.

In being loved so much by Ja’cob, Joseph was secure in that love – secure in the love of his mother, and Ya’cob’s love for his mother. Joseph was taught about Shaddai. The three of them made a very close inner family unit – but in doing so, the other sons, and perhaps Dinah, were neglected. Thus, they grew up like “loners,” each with his own self-centered opinion and emotional instability.

Joseph was peaceful and quite-natured, humble, contrite, and submitted to authority, as he was to Ja’cob. This brought him great favor with those in Egypt.

Being set up, and then accused of something he didn’t do, did not bring out a spirit of revenge in Joseph. He continued to see what God would do for him. He did not lose his righteous nature and turn bitter or hostile. He did not rail on “God” – as in “why did You let this happen to me?” He maintained a steady course that came from his raising by two parents who loved him.

Today, real love, the close and righteous family unit, and teachings of the Word to children is almost a thing of the past. Thus, children are being taught by the fallen ones through teachers at school, in church youth groups, at home, in movies, on TV, in games, and from others of their own age to follow the way of the flesh and choose what makes a person feel good about themselves. Thus, the breakup of the family, as Messiah tells us what would happen.

In prison, Joseph maintained his true nature. He must have been horrified at what his brothers did to him, and horrified at what they put his father through, but, like Yochanan/John on Patmos, he maintained who he was.

The Bible says that Yahuwah is faithful, even when we are not, FOR HE CANNOT DENY HIMSELF. (II Timothy 2)

Yahuwah IS love. He is joy and peace, gentle, kind, compassionate, merciful, full of faith in what He says, and always ready to help those who humbly and contritely come to Him, as in Isaiah 66:1-2. He has the nature of a good Father. He has to discipline and punish based on righteous judgment. However, because He IS love, as I John tells us, His nature does not allow Him to hold His wrath for long. He punishes and then moves on with those who obey Him.

“Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but Yahuwah delivers them all.”

“In this world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer. I have overcome the world.”

“No weapon formed against you will prosper…”

It’s not that betrayals don’t happen, and/or character assassination doesn’t happen (gossip and slander, lies, and treachery), the worst being from one’s own family or from a dear friend, it is how we view them, how we handle them, how we process them through our mind and emotions. Do we hold hurt? Do we want revenge? If we seek Abba and give it to Him, He has great ability to turn things around for the benefit of all.

What if Joseph had been bitter and full of hate, anger, seeking vengeance, becoming violent? We sure wouldn’t have the ten tribes today, or would we have gotten Messiah Yahushua of the tribe of Judah.

Genesis 39:17: the “Hebrew”: #5680 Strong’s Ibri (from Eber)

“To distinguish Israel/Ya’cob from foreigners, reference is to Eber. Abram “crossed over” the Euphrates. Those that cross over – is the meaning of “Hebrew” – in Hebrew tradition “from beyond the Euphrates.” But, in Canaan language “from beyond the Jordan.”

**Notes from The Passion** **Translation on Chapter 39**

Genesis 39:1 “Potiphar means “given by the sun-god Ra,” or “one who belongs to the sun-god Rah.”

Genesis 39:2: “The implication is that Joseph excelled in everything. God’s presence and favor do more for us than our skill, intelligence, and cleverness could achieve. God had his hand in everything that happened to Joseph, and He has His hand in everything that happens to you.”

Genesis 30:3: “Potiphar noted that Joseph did everything as unto God and gave Him the glory. There is something trustworthy about a person with no agenda other than to give God glory in everything.”

Genesis 39:6: “No other man is described in these terms in the Bible, however the Hebrew phrase is nearly identical to the description of Rachael (Genesis 29:17)” “Now Joseph was strikingly handsome, very good looking, and well-built.”

Genesis 39:9: “Joseph understood the great favor shown to him and would not violate the trust of his master. He valued Potiphar’s trust in him. Joseph knew that he was elevated to a place of honor; nothing was held back from him. Joseph had self-respect and respected Potiphar’s wife. Though she was evil he was honorable towards her.

Genesis 39:12: “Interestingly, the trilateral Hebrew root for `robe’ b-g-d, has a homonym meaning “marriage fidelity.”

“There are times when running is the mark of a coward, and there are times when running is the mark of courage. Joseph would rather run in embarrassment than linger, falling into the trap of sexual promiscuity (I Thess. 4:3-8) Self control is a true sign of integrity. It is better to lose a good coat than a good conscience. He may have lost his coat, but Joseph kept his character. If the Lord has destined you for greatness, if God has a work for you to do, there should be no surprise when this kind of temptation comes to you.

Genesis 39:19: “The text does not say with whom Potiphar was furious. Perhaps he knew his wife’s promiscuous ways. He had Joseph only thrown into prison, when a man with his authority could have had him killed. Perhaps he doubted the truth of her story, but had to save face, he had Joseph imprisoned.”

Genesis 39:20: In Psalm 105:17, we learn that Joseph’s feet were in chains and an iron collar was placed on his neck for “his soul.” It would be hard to imagine a lower point in Joseph life. Betrayed by his brothers, sold as a slave, and falsely accused, he suffered for a season until the time of deliverance arrived. As hard as it may seem, God may allow others to take advantage of us in order to carry out His secret will for our life. He will let us look like a fool in order to perfect our character. Genesis 39:20 with Ephesians 4:1)

Genesis 39:23: “Joseph had a God-favored life. A study of the life of Joseph is a study of the favor of God. He was faithful as a son, a shepherd and a servant. He was diligent in all that he did. He only adjusted to living in Egypt, but also flourished and became the personal attendant (administrator) of Potiphar’s affairs and eventually the supervisor of the penal system. Joseph would never have been given such an honor if he had not demonstrated a high degree of integrity and faithfulness. Everyone could see that God was with Joseph. He that was faithful over a few things was now being made a ruler over much (Matthew 25:21).

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Genesis 40:1 “Eleven years had passed since the time Joseph was sold into slavery. He was bout twenty-eight at that time. This was the time when Joseph came out of prison and began to rise in power.”