

37:1-2

Now **Jacob dwelt in the land** This was probably a contrasting statement with the place where the other line was living (36:8). ^a**where his father was a ¹stranger, in the land of Canaan.**

²**This is the history of Jacob.**

Joseph, being seventeen years old, This is one of the figures we use to determine how old Jacob was at the time of his fleeing into Haran (by subtracting this from Joseph's age given in 41:36). These, in turn, are used to give us [assuming a 966 B.C. building of Solomon's temple (1 Kings 6:1) to start the count backwards (using Exodus 12:40 and Galatians 3:17 to get the clock started forward in Abram's 76th year)]. **was feeding the flock with his brothers. And the lad was with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah,** where are Leah's sons (Rachel's other son was Benjamin and too young to be away from dad)? I am not sure if it was just a point of record or not, but it seems like we shouldn't assume any information is mere "by the way" in God's Word.

his father's wives; So we see how handmaidens were counted—assuming there wasn't a change in status since they were given to he and his wives by Laban. **and Joseph brought ^ba bad report of them to his father.**

37:3-4

Now **Israel loved Joseph more** where did he learn to show more **love** to one son more than the other? His parents (Genesis 26-27). **than all his children, because he was ^cthe son of his old age.** 44:20 uses this same description about Benjamin. ¹ **Also he ^dmade him a tunic of many colors.** ⁴ **But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they ^ehated him and could not speak peaceably to him.**

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: while no overt sin is assigned to **Joseph** in the Scripture, one might question his wisdom. 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** It seems as though we are having the same dream twice. Why? 41:32 teaches us that two **dreams** of quick succession mean a soon fulfillment. 41:46 tell us that it has been 13 years since the **dream** (with 37:2). 46:2 tells us he is 39 years old (being 9 years through the afore-promised 14 years of dreams in chapter 41), and it has been 22 years since "quick" was promised to Joseph. But wait... God has been working moving pieces preparing for the fulfillment.

^a Gen. 17:8; 23:4; 28:4; 36:7; Heb. 11:9

¹ sojourner, temporary resident

^b Gen. 35:25, 26; 1 Sam. 2:22–24

^c Gen. 44:20

¹First pointed out to me by our friend Jamie Styles, teacher at BBA and a member of my SS class at BBC.

^d Gen. 37:23, 32; Judg. 5:30; 1 Sam. 2:19

^e Gen. 27:41; 49:23; 1 Sam. 17:28; John 15:18–20

^f Gen. 42:6, 9; 43:26; 44:14

and told it to his brothers, and said, “Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, ^gthe sun, the moon, and the eleven stars assuming we are not making reference to Diana, we have to assume that Joseph is born (we thought so anyway since mother died giving birth to him in chapter 35). 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 ^hyour brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?” ¹¹ And ⁱhis brothers envied him, but his father ^jkept the matter *in mind*. See Genesis 42:6-9, 43:26, 44:14, and 50:18 for this dream fulfilled.

¹² Then his brothers went to feed their father’s flock in ^kShechem. 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 ^lHebron, and he went to Shechem.

¹⁵ Now a certain man found him, and there he was, wandering in the field. And the man asked him, saying, “What are you seeking?”

¹⁶ So he said, “I am seeking my brothers. ^mPlease tell me where they are feeding *their flocks*.”

¹⁷ And the man said, “They have departed from here, for I heard them say, ‘Let us go to Dothan.’ ” So Joseph went after his brothers and found them in ⁿDothan.

¹⁸ Now when they saw him afar off, even before he came near them, ^othey conspired against him to kill him. ¹⁹ Then they said to one another, “Look, this ²dreamer is coming! ²⁰^pCome 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!”

²¹ But ^qReuben heard *it*, and he delivered him out of their hands, and said, “Let us not kill him.” ²² And Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood, *but* cast him into this pit which *is* in the wilderness, and do not lay a hand on him”—that he might deliver him out of their hands, and bring him back to his father.

²³ So it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they ^rstripped Joseph of his tunic, the tunic of *many* colors that *was* on him. ²⁴ Then they took him and cast him into a pit. And the pit *was* empty; *there was* no water in it.

^g Gen. 46:29; 47:25

^h Gen. 27:29

ⁱ Matt. 27:17, 18; Acts 7:9

^j Dan. 7:28; Luke 2:19, 51

^k Gen. 33:18–20

^l Gen. 13:18; 23:2, 19; 35:27; Josh. 14:14, 15; Judg. 1:10

^m Song 1:7

ⁿ 2 Kin. 6:13

^o 1 Sam. 19:1; Ps. 31:13; 37:12, 32; Matt. 21:38; 26:3, 4; 27:1; Mark 14:1; John 11:53; Acts 23:12

² Lit. *master of dreams*

^p Gen. 37:22; Prov. 1:11

^q Gen. 42:22

^r Matt. 27:28

²⁵ **And they sat down to eat a meal. Then they lifted their eyes and looked, and there was a company of ^tIshmaelites,** These were not supposed to happen...yet Abraham's sin worked out for the saving of many (50:20) in Joseph, and the saving of the world through Judah (Revelation 5:5). If Joseph is not sold into slavery through this "unplanned" pregnancy (from our perspective), then Jacob's family dies in the famine of Canaan and Israel as a nation stops, Genesis 3:15, and Genesis 12:3 don't occur, and we all die in our sins. **coming from Gilead with their camels, bearing spices, ^ubalm, and myrrh, on their way to carry *them* down to Egypt.** ²⁶ **So Judah said to his brothers, "What profit *is there* if we kill our brother and ^vconceal his blood? ²⁷ Come and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and ^wlet not our hand be upon him, for he *is* ^xour brother *and* ^your flesh."** And his brothers listened.

^s Prov. 30:20

^t Gen. 16:11, 12; 37:28, 36; 39:1

^u Jer. 8:22

^v Gen. 37:20

^w 1 Sam. 18:17

^x Gen. 42:21

^y Gen. 29:14