

**FAVORITE SON**  
**GENESIS 39:2 / JULY 9, 2017 / PM**

**I. JOSEPH'S LIFE AS A SON.**

A. What do we know about his family life?

1. He had two names.
  - a. His Hebrew name was "Joseph" which means "Increase" or "He will add".
  - b. His Egyptian or Coptic name was "Zaphnathpaaneah" which means "The preserver or Life.
2. His parents were Jacob and Rachel.
3. His wife was Asenath an Egyptian.
4. His sons were Manasseh and Ephraim.
5. His brother was Benjamin.
6. His half-brothers were Reuben, Simeon, Gad, Levi, Judah, Isaachar, Dan, Asher, Naphtali, and Zebulon.
7. His half-sister was Dinah.
8. His physical appearance was handsome.
9. His life span was 110 years.

B. What we know about his place in the family?

1. Joseph was Jacob's favorite for two reasons.
  - a. He was the son of his favorite wife, Rachel .
  - b. At that time he was his youngest son.
2. Jacob singled out Joseph by giving him a colorful coat to signify his love for him--37:3.

**II. JOSEPH'S LIFE AS A BROTHER.**

A. Why was Joseph hated by his half-brothers?

1. They hated him because he was a tattle tale--37:2.
2. They hated him because he was their father's favorite--37:4.

3. They hated him because he had dreams of his greatness.
    - a. He dreamed about sheaves--37:5-8.
    - b. He also dreamed about stars--37:9-11.
  - B. What did they do to Joseph because they hated him?
    1. They wanted to kill him--37:17b-18.
    2. They decided to sell him as a slave instead of killing him--37:28.
    3. They told their father that Joseph had been killed by a wild animal--37:31-33.
- III. JOSEPH'S CHARACTER AS A SON AND BROTHER.
- A. His weaknesses.
    1. He lacked sensitivity in telling his brothers his dreams of greatness.
    2. He lacked maturity in tattling on his brothers.
    3. He exhibited pride in wearing his special coat.
  - B. His strengths.
    1. His ability to interpret dreams.
    2. God's plans for Joseph's greatness didn't come without a price.
    3. God took care of Joseph in his hardships.
    4. God had a purpose in Joseph's sufferings.