



Joseph's Dreams Genesis 37:1-11

1. In today's text, it says that Jacob loved Joseph more than any of his other children. He knows favoritism can cause friction, but proceeds to make clear his preference for Joseph. It is a reminder for us that showing favoritism is a sin that always has destructive consequences. Where do you run the risk of showing favoritism? Where do you judge simply on a superficial level? Power, influence, education, gender, race, and political affiliation. Read [Romans 2:11](#). What can we learn about proper judgment from this verse?
[1 Samuel 16:7](#); [James 2:8-9](#)
2. Jacob's gift of the coat of many colors to Joseph was a dramatic way of saying he was the son to receive the birthright. Saying Joseph has preeminence over the rest. Although this was God's plan, Jacob shows a lack of trust in God's timing for all of this to be revealed. Knowing that God's timing is always right, where are you tempted to help God? Where do you need to wait on God? Where is God calling you to wait on Him?
[Ecclesiastes 3:1](#); [Psalm 27:14](#)
3. We are reminded that God, in His sovereignty, is using all of the dysfunction to work for His glory. What is Satan causing that God is using? Do you trust God to direct your steps? Are you resting in Christ? In what are you boasting? Christ or yourself?

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¹So Jacob settled again in the land of Canaan, where his father had lived as a foreigner.

²This is the account of Jacob and his family. When Joseph was seventeen years old, he often tended his father's flocks. He worked for his half brothers, the sons of his father's wives Bilhah and Zilpah. But Joseph reported to his father some of the bad things his brothers were doing.

³Jacob loved Joseph more than any of his other children because Joseph had been born to him in his old age. So one day Jacob had a special gift made for Joseph—a beautiful robe. ⁴But his brothers hated Joseph because their father loved him more than the rest of them. They couldn't say a kind word to him.

⁵One night Joseph had a dream, and when he told his brothers about it, they hated him more than ever. ⁶"Listen to this dream," he said. ⁷"We were out in the field, tying up bundles of grain. Suddenly my bundle stood up, and your bundles all gathered around and bowed low before mine!"

⁸His brothers responded, "So you think you will be our king, do you? Do you actually think you will reign over us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dreams and the way he talked about them.

⁹Soon Joseph had another dream, and again he told his brothers about it. "Listen, I have had another dream," he said. "The sun, moon, and eleven stars bowed low before me!"