





# Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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prosper. God blessed Potiphar because Potiphar was kind to Joseph.

Remember the promise to Abraham in *Genesis 12:3* ***And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.*** Joseph is the great-grandson of Abraham and God is keeping his promise to Abraham.

Potiphar had left such control to Joseph that he did not know what he even had. We see that Joseph was one who could be trusted to do right.

One thing that we must not let go unnoticed however is the last words of *Genesis 39:6* ***...And Joseph was a goodly person, and well favoured.***

## II- Potiphar's Wife

This man Potiphar is said in *Genesis 39:1* to be ***"an officer of Pharaoh."*** The meaning of the word officer here given by *Strong's Dictionary* is ***"...to castrate; a eunuch..."*** With this fact, we can speculate that perhaps his wife had married him only for political or monetary reasons.

Now notice *Genesis 39:7* ***And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me. 8 But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what is with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand; 9 There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?***

Joseph was a man of great integrity personally as well as politically. He could have easily rationalized away his morals and given in. He tells her that if he did so it would be a wickedness against his master and sin against God. All sin is ultimately against God though it affects and afflicts others around us.

David, after his adultery with Bathsheba confesses in *Psalms 51:1-4* ***Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. 4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.*** He then says in *Psalms 51:10* ***Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.***

Notice next the temptation kept coming at him day by day. Wearing down resistance is one tactic of the enemy of moral living. *Genesis 39:10* ***And it came to pass, as she spake to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her, to lie by her, or to be with her.***



**Coordinates:  
Gen 39:1-23**

### **Sights to See:**

- 1- God sees us in the midst of all our afflictions and prosperity.**
- 2- God's blessings are seen in many ways that sometimes go unnoticed.**
- 3- Temptation comes at us like waves on the ocean. Sometimes they are smaller sometimes in a torrid but always with another coming behind the last one.**
- 4- Sometimes doing what is right may look like it was wrong to someone who does not have all the facts. By the way God is the only one with all the facts.**
- 5- To cover our own sin we often create a smoke screen and divert attention to others.**
- 6- God's hand of providence is always caring for us as He fleshing out our character and His purpose. We may not always like the fire we pass through but we can trust God.**



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We see from the beginning that there are three areas of temptation that come to mankind. John said it well in *1 John 2:16* **For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.**

These three have played out multitudes of times from the temptation of Adam and Eve in the garden, to Joseph in our story, to David that we have mentioned until today. And may I say tomorrow as well.

### III- Doing Right When it Looks Wrong:

So what was Joseph to do? He had to be about the house in order to do his duties of caring for all that he was entrusted with. Many times in the course of life we are confronted with temptations that keep coming at us.

*Genesis 39:11* ***And it came to pass about this time, that Joseph went into the house to do his business; and there was none of the men of the house there within. 12 And she caught him by his garment, saying, Lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out.***

Joseph, caught in what looked like a very dangerous situation, is confronted with a decision again. Will he surrender or will he do what is right. You notice that he did what was right even though it looked wrong.

This brings us to a good point. Today in our world, we have what I call moral suspicion. Most of the time we are quick to jump to conclusion that may or may not be factual, as long as they are bad conclusions. What if we saw someone come running out of our neighbor's house wearing nothing. We would probably naturally assume the worst. Beloved Joseph fled and left his clothes in her hands. He did what was right even though it looked wrong.

### IV- Revenge of Potiphar's Wife:

When someone is wrong, and they know it, they usually begin to blame someone else for their failure. Joseph did the honorable thing in fleeing. She had to cover her own wicked heart so she accuses Joseph. He would not surrender to her seduction so she had to get revenge.

*Genesis 39:13* ***And it came to pass, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and was fled forth, 14 That she called unto the men of her house, and spake unto them, saying, See, he hath brought in an Hebrew unto us to mock us; he came in unto me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice: 15 And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled, and got him out.***

She accuses Joseph of attempting to rape her. But did you notice the accusation she makes against Potiphar first. I underlined it. She blames Potiphar for bring Joseph into the house. It was not her fault it was Potiphar's first and then Joseph.

### V- Potiphar's Anger:

Potiphar was not home when these events took place. His wife waits for his return so she can attack Joseph again and frame him.

*Genesis 39:16* ***And she laid up his garment by her, until his lord came home. 17 And she spake unto him according to these words, saying, The Hebrew servant, which thou hast brought unto us, came in unto me to mock me: 18 And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried,***

