

Genesis 37

- 37:1 So Jacob settled in the land of his father's sojourning,
the land of Canaan.
- 37:2 These are the generations [*toledot*] of Jacob:
Joseph was seventeen years of age,
pasturing the flock with his brothers;
he was a helper boy with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah,
wives of his father;
and Joseph brought a bad report to his father.
- 37:3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all of his brothers,
for he was a son of his old age;
and he made for him a coat to the palms.
- 37:4 When his brothers saw that it was he their father loved,
more than all his brothers, they hated him,
and they were not able
to speak to him peaceably.
- 37:5 Then Joseph dreamed a dream
and reported it to his brothers,
and once again they hated him.
- 37:6 He said to them,
"Hear now this dream that I dreamed.
- 37:7 "There we were,
binding sheaves in the middle of the field
and look, my sheaf rose and was standing up,
and here, your sheaves gathered around and bowed down before my sheaf."
- 37:8 His brothers said to him,
"You would be king over us?
Really, you would rule over us?"
So once again they hated him
because of his dream,
but also because of his words.
- 37:9 Again, he dreamed another dream
and recounted it to his brothers,
and he said, "Here, I have dreamt another dream,
and look, the sun, and the moon and eleven stars were bowing down before me."

37:10 So he recounted it to his father and to his brothers,
but his father rebuffed him;
he said to him, "What is this dream that you have dreamt?
Really, shall I come with your mother and your brothers
to bow to the ground before you?"

37:11 So his brothers were jealous of him,
but his father kept the matter (in mind).

37:12 Now when his brothers had gone
to pasture their father's flock at Shechem,

37:13 Israel said to Joseph,
"Are not your brothers pasturing at Shechem?
Come, I will send you to them.
And Joseph said, "Here I am."

37:14 Then he said to him,
"Go, see to the welfare of your brothers
and the welfare of the flock,
and bring back a report to me."
So he sent him from the Valley of Hebron
and he came to Shechem.

37:15 A man found him,
and look, he was wandering in the field,
so the man asked him, "What do you seek?"

37:16 He said, "I seek my brothers.
If you would please,
tell me where they are pasturing."

37:17 The man said, "They're gone from here,
for I heard them say, 'Let's go to Dothan.'"
So Joseph went after his brothers,
and he found them at Dothan.

37:18 But his brothers saw him from a distance,
before he came near to them,
and they plotted against him,
to put him to death.

37:19 They said to one another,
"Look, this Lord of the Dreams comes!"

- 37:20 “So come now, let us kill him
and throw him into one of the pits,
and we’ll say that a wild beast has eaten him.
Then we will see what comes of his dreams.”
- 37:21 But Reuben heard it and delivered him from their hand;
he said, “We must not take his life.”
- 37:22 Then Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood;
throw him into this pit here in the wilderness,
but don’t stretch out a hand against him,”
so he might deliver him from their hand
and return him to his father.
- 37:23 So when Joseph came to his brothers,
they stripped Joseph of his coat,
the coat to the palms that was on him.
- 37:24 They took him by force and threw him into the pit.
Now the pit was empty; no water was in it.
- 37:25 As they sat down to eat bread,
they lifted their eyes and saw—
look, a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead
with their camels carrying balm, balsam, and resin of myrrh,
traveling to bring them down to Egypt.
- 37:26 Then Judah said to his brothers,
“What is the profit
if we kill our brother and cover up his blood?”
- 37:27 “Come, let us sell him to the Ishamelites,
but let not our hand be against him,
for he is our brother, our flesh.”
And his brothers listened to him.
- 37:28 So when some men from Midian, traders, passed by,
they drew up Joseph out of the pit
and sold Joseph to Ishamaelites for twenty pieces of silver,
and they brought him to Egypt.
- 37:29 When Reuben returned to the pit,
look, Joseph was not in the pit!
So he tore his garments.

- 37:30 He returned to his brothers,
and said, "The boy is not (there)!
And I...where am I to go?"
- 37:31 They took Joseph's coat,
slaughtered a kid from the goats,
and dipped the coat in the blood.
- 37:32 Then they sent the coat of the palms
and had it brought to their father;
they said, "This we found—
recognize, if you will, whether it is the coat of your son or not."
- 37:33 He recognized it
and said, "My son's coat!
A wild animal has eaten him!
Joseph is torn, torn to pieces!"
- 37:34 Jacob tore his outer garment,
put sackcloth on his loins,
and mourned his son for many days.
- 37:35 All his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him,
but he would not be comforted.
He said, "No, I will go down to my son, mourning, to Sheol."
And so his father wept for him.
- 37:36 But the Midianites sold him to the Egyptians,
to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh,
his chief steward.

Genesis 38

- 38:1 At that time,
Judah went down from his brothers
and turned aside to an Adulamite man;
his name was Hirah.
- 38:2 There Judah saw a daughter of one of the Canaanite men;
his name was Shua;
he took her and went into her.
- 38:3 She conceived and bore a son,
and he called his name Er.
- 38:4 Then she conceived again,
and she bore a son;
she called his name Onan.
- 38:5 Yet again she bore a son,
and she called his name Shelah.
He was in Chezib when she bore him.
- 38:6 Judah took a wife for Er, his firstborn,
and her name was Tamar.
- 38:7 But Er, Judah's firstborn,
did evil in the eyes of the LORD;
so the LORD put him to death.
- 38:8 Judah said to Onan,
"Go into the wife of your brother;
perform the brother-in-law's duty with her
and raise up offspring for your brother."
- 38:9 But Onan knew that the offspring would not be his,
so whenever he went into the wife of his brother,
he would waste it on the ground
so as not to give offspring to his brother.
- 38:10 But that which he did was evil in the eyes of the LORD,
and he put him to death also.

- 38:11 So Judah said to Tamar, his daughter in law,
“Dwell as a widow in the house of your father
until Shelah, my son, is grown up,”
for he thought, “Lest he die also like his brothers.”
So Tamar went and dwelt in the house of her father.
- 38:12 After many days, the daughter of Shuah, the wife of Judah died;
when Judah was comforted,
he went up to his sheep shearers,
he and his neighbor, Hirah the Adulamite, to Timnah.
- 38:13 Now it was reported to Tamar,
“Look your father-in-law is going up to Timnah,
to shear his sheep.”
- 38:14 She put off her widow’s garments,
covered herself with a veil and wrapped herself,
and then sat down by the entrance to the well-spring [*enayim*],
which is on the way to Timnah,
for she saw that Shelah had grown up,
but she had not been given to him as a wife.
- 38:15 Now when Judah saw her,
he took her to be a prostitute,
for she had covered her face.
- 38:16 So he turned aside to her on the way
and said, “Come now—if you will, let me come into you,”
for he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law.
She said, “What will you give me if you come into me?”
- 38:17 He said, “I will send a goat from the kids of the flock.”
She said, “Not unless you give a pledge until you send it.”
- 38:18 He said, “What pledge shall I give to you?”
She said, “Your seal, your cord, and your staff that is in your hand.”
So he gave them to her, he went into her, and she conceived by him.
- 38:19 Then she rose up and left, put off her veil from her,
and dressed herself in her widow’s garments.
- 38:20 Judah sent the kid from the goats
by the hand of his neighbor, the Adulamite,
to take back the pledge from the hand of the woman,
but he did not find her.

- 38:21 So he asked the men of the place,
saying: "Where is that consecrated-one,
the one at the *enayim* beside the way?"
But they said, "There has been no consecrated-one in this place."
- 38:22 So he returned to Judah and said, "I did not find her,
and what's more, the men of the place said:
'There has been no consecrated-one in this place.'"
- 38:23 Judah said, "Let her keep them for herself,
lest we become a laughing stock.
Look, I sent this kid, but as for you, you did not find her."
- 38:24 And so it was that after three months, it was reported to Judah,
"Tamar, your daughter-in-law, has played the harlot,
and what's more she has become pregnant by her harlotry."
Judah said, "Bring her out, and let her be burned."
- 38:25 As she was being brought out, she sent to her father-in-law,
saying, "By the man to whom these belong I became pregnant."
And she said, "Recognize, if you will,
whose seal, cords and staff, are these?"
- 38:26 Judah recognized them
and said, "She is right more than I,
for I did not give her to Shelah, my son."
And he did not know her again.
- 38:27 Now when the time came for her to deliver,
look, twins in her womb!
- 38:28 So it was that as she was delivering, he gave out a hand,
so the midwife took a scarlet thread and tied it on his hand,
saying, "This one came out first."
- 38:29 But then, as he pulled back his hand, look, his brother came out!
She said, "What a breach you've breached for yourself!"
So they called his name Perez.
- 38:30 After that his brother came out,
the one whose hand had the scarlet thread on it,
and they called his name Zerah.

Genesis 44:1-45:

- 44:1 He then commanded the one who was over his house, saying, "Fill the men's packs with food, as much as they are able to carry, and put the silver of each in the mouth of his pack.
- 44:2 And my goblet, the silver goblet, put it in the mouth of the youngest one's sack, along with his silver for the grain." So he did according to the word Joseph had spoken.
- 44:3 At morning light, the men were sent off, they and their donkeys.
- 44:4 They had gone out of the city, they had not gone far, when Joseph said to the one over his house, "Get up and go after the men, and when you overtake them, you shall say to them, 'Why have you repaid with evil instead of good?'
- 44:5 Is not this (goblet) the one with which my lord drinks, the one with which he practices divination? You have worked evil with what you have done!"
- 44:6 So when he overtook them, he spoke to them those words.
- 44:7 And they said to him, "Why does my lord speak these words? Far be it from your servants to do this thing!
- 44:8 Look, the silver which we found in the mouth of our packs, we brought back to you from the land of Canaan. How then could we steal silver or gold from the house of your lord?
- 44:9 The one with whom it is found from among your servants, he shall die, and moreover, we shall become slaves of my lord!"
- 44:10 He said, "Even now, according to your words, so it shall be; the one with whom it is found shall become my slave, but you all will be cleared."

- 44:11 So they hurried,
and each man pulled down his pack to the ground,
and each man opened his pack.
- 44:12 Then he searched,
beginning with the oldest and finishing with the youngest,
and the goblet was found in the sack of Benjamin.
- 44:13 They tore their clothes;
each man loaded his donkey,
and they returned to the city.
- 44:14 Then came Judah and his brothers into the house of Joseph;
he was still there,
and they fell before him to the ground.
- 44:15 Joseph said to them,
“What is this you have done?
Did you not know that a man like me can indeed practice divination?”
- 44:16 Then Judah said, “What can we say to my lord?
What can we say and what (can we do) to show ourselves righteous?
God has found out the guilt of your servants.
See, we are slaves of my lord,
both we and the one in whose hand the goblet was found.”
- 44:17 But he said, “Far be it from me to do this.
The man in whose hand the goblet was found shall become my slave,
but as for you, go up in peace to your father.”
- 44:18 Then Judah came near to him and said,
“Please my lord, if you will,
let your servant speak a word in the ears of my lord.
Let not your anger burn against your servant,
for you are like Pharaoh.
- 44:19 My lord questioned his servants,
saying, ‘Do you have a father or a brother?’
- 44:20 And we said to my lord,
‘We have an old father and a child of his old age,
a young one, but his brother is dead,
and he alone is left of his mother,
and his father loves him.’

- 44:21 But you said to your servants,
'Bring him down to me,
that I may set my eyes on him.'
- 44:22 But we said to my lord,
'The lad cannot leave his father;
if he were to leave his father, he would die.'
- 44:23 But you said to your servants,
'If your youngest brother does not come down with you,
you will not see my face again.'
- 44:24 And so it was that we went up to your servant, my father,
and we told him my lord's words.
- 44:25 Our father said, 'Go back; buy us some grain.'
- 44:26 But we said, 'We cannot go down;
only if our youngest brother is with us will we go down,
for we cannot see the face of the man if our youngest brother is not with us.'
- 44:27 Then your servant my father, said to us,
'You yourselves know that my wife bore two to me.'
- 44:28 The one went away from me and I said,
'Surely, he was torn to pieces,'
and I have not seen him since.
- 44:29 Now should you take this one from before my face as well,
and should harm come to him,
you will bring down my grey head in sorrow to Sheol.'
- 44:30 So now, when I come to your servant my father,
and the lad is not with us—his life is bound up with his—
- 44:31 it will be that when he sees the lad is gone he will die,
and your servants will have brought down
the grey head of your servant our father in sorrow to Sheol!
- 44:32 For your servant made a pledge for the lad with my father,
saying, 'If I do not bring him to you,
I will bear the guilt before my father all my days.'

- 44:33 So now, pray, let your servant stay instead of the lad,
a servant to my lord,
and let the lad go up to his father.
- 44:34 For how can I go to my father if the lad is not with me?
Please, lest I see the sorrow that will find my father.”
- 45:1 Then Joseph was no longer able to restrain himself
before all who were standing around him;
he cried out, “Every man, depart from before me,”
so there was not a man who stood with him
when Joseph made himself known to his brothers.
- 45:2 He raised his voice in weeping;
the Egyptians heard,
and the house of Pharaoh heard.
- 45:3 Then Joseph said to his brothers,
“I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?”
His brothers were not able to answer him,
for they were undone in his presence.
- 45:4 So Joseph said to his brothers,
“Pray, come near to me,”
and they came near, and he said,
“I am Joseph, your brother, whom you sold into Egypt.
- 45:5 But now, do not be grieved,
and do not be angry with yourselves that you sold me here,
for it was to save life that God sent me before you.
- 45:6 For these two years there has been famine in the land,
and yet five more years will be without plowing or reaping.
- 45:7 But God sent me before you
to place you as a remnant in the land,
and to preserve you alive, a great deliverance.
- 45:8 So now it was not you who sent me here, but God!
He has made me father to Pharaoh,
and lord of all his house,
and ruler of all the land of Egypt.

- 45:9 Hurry, and go up to my father and say to him
'Thus says your son Joseph.
God has made me lord of all Egypt.
Come down to me, do not delay.'
- 45:10 You shall live in the land of Goshen
and you will be near me--
you and your children, and your grandchildren,
your flocks, and herds, and all that is yours.
- 45:11 I will provide for you there—
for there are yet five years of famine—
lest you suffer want
with your house and all that is yours.
- 45:12 Look, you can see with your own eyes,
and so can the eyes of my brother Benjamin,
that it is my mouth that speaks to you.
- 45:13 So tell my father about all my glory in Egypt
and all that you have seen.
Hurry and bring my father down here!"
- 45:14 Then he fell on the neck of Benjamin, his brother;
he wept, and Benjamin also wept upon his neck.
- 45:15 He kissed all his brothers and wept upon them;
after this, his brothers were able to speak with him.
- 45:16 When a voice was heard in Pharaoh's house,
saying, "Joseph's brothers have come,"
it was good in the eyes of Pharaoh
and in the eyes of his servants—
- 45:17 Pharaoh said to Joseph,
"Tell your brothers: 'Do this:
Load your animals
and go up at once to the land of Canaan.
- 45:18 Take your father and your household
and come to me.
I will give you the best of the land of Egypt;
You will eat the fat of the land!

Genesis 49:1-50:26

- 49:1 Then Jacob called for his sons.
He said, "Gather around
so I can tell you what will happen to you
in the days to come.
- 49:2 Assemble and listen,
sons of Jacob;
listen to Israel your father.
- 49:3 Reuben, my firstborn,
you are my might,
the first of my vigor,
excelling in rank, excelling in honor.
- 49:4 Like waters that swell,
you will not exel;
for when you went up onto your father's bed,
you defiled it—he went up on my own couch!
- 49:5 Simeon and Levi, brothers—
instruments of violence, their swords.
- 49:6 May I never enter their counsel,
or join their assembly,
for in their anger, they kill men,
and with pleasure they hamstring oxen.
- 49:7 Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce,
and their wrath, for it is cruel.
I will divide them in Jacob
and scatter them in Israel.
- 49:8 You, Judah, your brothers shall praise;
your hand shall be at the neck of your enemies;
the sons of your father shall bow down low before you.
- 49:9 A lion's cub, Judah—
from the prey, my son, you have gone up.
Lying down, he stretches out like the lion,
like the lioness—who dares to rouse him?

- 49:10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah,
the ruler's staff from between his feet,
until he comes to whom it belongs (or until *shiloh* comes),
and the obedience of the peoples will be his.
- 49:11 Tying his foal to the vine,
his ass's colt to the choice vine,
he washes his garments in wine,
his robe in the blood of grapes.
- 49:12 His eyes, darker than wine,
and his teeth, whiter than milk.
- 49:13 Zebulun will dwell at the shore of the sea;
he will be a haven-shore for ships,
and his border will be at Sidon.
- 49:14 Issachar is a strong donkey,
lying down between the campfires.
- 49:15 He saw a good resting place,
and a pleasant land,
he bent his shoulder to the burden
and he gave himself to forced labor.
- 49:16 Dan will do justice for his people
as one of the tribes of Israel.
- 49:17 Dan will be a serpent by the roadside way,
a viper on the path,
biting the heel of the horse
so that its rider falls backward.
- 49:18 For your deliverance I wait, O LORD!
- 49:19 Gad will be raided by raiders,
but he will raid at their heels.
- 49:20 Asher's food will be rich;
he will provide delicacies fit for the king.
- 49:21 Naphtali, like a doe, sent out
As one who gives beautiful speech.

- 49:22 A fruitful vine, Joseph
A fruitful vine by a spring,
climbing over a wall.
- 49:23 Archers bitterly attacked him;
Lords of the arrows, they cherished their hostility.
- 49:24 His bow stayed steady,
agile his strong arms,
by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob,
from there, the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel,
- 49:25 by the God of your father.
May he help you,
and may the Almighty bless you
with blessings of heaven above,
blessings of the deep that spreads out below,
blessings of the breast and womb!
- 49:26 May the blessings of your father,
Be greater than the blessings of my ancestors,
as far as the boundary of the eternal hills.
May they rest on the head of Joseph,
on the brow of the one consecrated among his brothers.
- 49:27 Benjamin, a ravenous wolf!
In the morning, he devours the prey
in the evening, he divides the spoil
- 49:28 All these, the tribes of Israel, twelve
and this is what their father said to them.
He blessed them;
each according to his own blessing did he bless them.
- 49:29 And so he charged them saying,
“I am (about) to be gathered to my people;
bury me with my fathers,
in the cave, in the field of Ephron the Hittite,
- 49:30 “the cave in the field of Makpelah,
facing Mamre, in the land of Canaan,
the field that Abraham bought from Ephron the Hittite,
for possession as a burial property,

- 49:31 “where they buried Abraham and Sarah, his wife;
where they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife;
and where I buried Leah—
- 49:32 “the field and the cave in it,
purchased from the Hittites.”
- 49:33 When Jacob finished giving charge to his sons,
he gathered up his feet on the bed,
and he breathed his last; he was gathered to his people.
- 50:1 Joseph fell upon his father's face,
and he wept upon him and kissed him.
- 50:2 Then Joseph ordered his servants the physicians
to embalm his father with spices,
and so the physicians embalmed Israel with spices.
- 50:3 It took a full forty days,
for those are the full days of embalming with spices;
the Egyptians wept for him seventy days.
- 50:4 When the days of weeping had passed,
Joseph spoke to the house of Pharaoh,
saying, “If I have found favor in your eyes,
speak in the ears of the Pharaoh as follows:
- 50:5 “My father made me swear an oath,
saying, ‘I am dying;
in the grave that I dug for myself in the land of Canaan,
there you shall bury me.’
So now, let me go up and bury my father, and then I will return.”
- 50:6 Pharaoh said, “Go up and bury your father,
as he made you swear.”
- 50:7 So Joseph went up to bury his father,
and all Pharaoh's servants went up with him,
the elders of his household and all the elders of the land of Egypt,
- 50:8 with all of Joseph's house,
his brothers and all his father's house;
only their children, their flocks, and their herds
were left in the region of Goshen.

- 50:9 And there went up with him chariots and horsemen;
it was a very substantial company.
- 50:10 When they came to the threshing floor of Atad,
which is beyond the Jordan,
they lamented there with great and grievous lamentation;
and so they made a mourning for his father, seven days.
- 50:11 When the Canaanites who lived in the land
saw the mourning at the threshing floor of Atad,
they said, "This is a grievous mourning of the Egyptians."
Therefore they called its name Abel-Mizraim (mourning of Egypt),
The place is beyond the Jordan.
- 50:12 Thus his sons did for him
as he had commanded them.
- 50:13 His sons carried him to the land of Canaan,
and they buried him in the cave in the field of Makpelah,
the one that Abraham bought with the field for a burial property
from Ephron the Hittite, near Mamre.
- 50:14 So Joseph returned to Egypt
with his brothers and all the others
who had gone up with him to bury his father.
- 50:15 Now when Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead,
they said, "What if Joseph still carries a grudge
and pays us back in full
for all the evil that we did to him?"
- 50:16 So they sent this charge to Joseph,
saying, "Your father sent this charge
before he died, saying:
- 50:17 "Tell this to Joseph:
Lift the offense of your brothers
and their sin, because they did evil to you.'
So now, lift the offense
of the servants of the God of your father."
Joseph wept when this was said to him.
- 50:18 Then his brothers went themselves
and fell down before him;
they said, "Here we are, your servants."

- 50:19 Joseph said to them,
“Do not be afraid;
am I in the place of God?”
- 50:20 “Now you meant to bring evil/harm on me,
but God meant it for good,
to do as he has this day,
to preserve a great number of people.
- 50:21 “So now, do not be afraid;
I myself will provide for you and your little ones.”
Thus he comforted them, speaking tenderly to their hearts.
- 50:22 Joseph settled in Egypt,
he and his father’s house,
and Joseph lived one hundred and ten years.
- 50:23 Joseph lived to see Ephraim’s children,
[born] to the third generation;
likewise the children of Machir son of Manasseh—
they were born upon Joseph’s knees.
- 50:24 Then Joseph said to his brothers,
“I am about to die,
but God will surely come to help you
and bring you up from this land,
the land that he promised with an oath
to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”
- 50:25 So Joseph made the sons of Israel promise with an oath,
saying, “God will surely come to help you,
and then you must bring up my bones from this place.”
- 50:26 Joseph died at the age of one hundred ten years;
after they embalmed him with spices,
he was placed in a sarcophagus in Egypt.