

**Series "In The Beginning...God"**  
**"Resisting Temptation"**  
**Genesis 39:1-23**  
**Study-68**

**Genesis 39:1-3,6-14,19-23**

**1 Corinthians 10:13** (Contrast of temptation, **Genesis 38** Judah, **Genesis 39** Joseph)

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "Dedication To The Calling Of God Will Enable The Servant Of God To Resist Temptation."

- 1. Verses 1-6 Blessings:**
- 2. Verses 7-19 Temptations:**
- 3. Verses 20-23 Injustice:**

**1. Verses 1-6 Blessings:**

**Genesis 39:1 Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt;**  
**Context – Genesis 38** This is in contrast of **Judah**. We see Joseph's brother falling to temptation, lusting after a Canaanite—prostitution—and Joseph's resistance to temptation. **Genesis 37:36** (age 17)

**Egypt** – in Scripture, is a picture of the World. Egypt had over 2,000 gods

**and Potiphar, an Egyptian officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the bodyguard,**

He was the overseer of Pharaoh's personal bodyguard in charge of the official executions.

**Genesis 39:2 LORD was with Joseph,**  
Notice this phrase is used **four times**

**2 LORD was with Joseph,**  
**3 LORD was with him**  
**21 LORD was with Joseph**  
**23 LORD was with him;**

**so he became a successful man. And he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian.**

Joseph is now in his mid-twenties. Successful because God was with him

**Genesis 39:3 master saw that the LORD was with him**  
This would mean that Joseph had to have shared, or given a witness, that he loved the Lord.

**and how the LORD caused all that he did to prosper in his hand.**

**Genesis 39:4 So Joseph found favor in his sight,**  
Serving God and trusting Him.

**all that he owned he put in his charge.**

Joseph the Trusted man. Personal Assistant.

**Genesis 39:5** The blessing of God had been promised by God on Abraham's descendants. (**Genesis 12:1-3**)

**the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house on account of Joseph;**

Joseph was the blessed man. **Psalm 1:1-3**

**Genesis 39:6** So he left everything he owned in Joseph's charge;

**God causes growth by giving us a job to do and people to obey.  
Before we can lead, we need to follow.**

**Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance.**

Next difficulty in Joseph's life.

## **2. Verses 7-19 Temptations:**

**Genesis 39:7** It came about after these events

That Joseph is in God's favor. He is a blessing to his master and has been elevated to oversight over his master's property.

**Temptation often follows great blessings!**

**that his master's wife looked with desire at Joseph,**  
*"look up and carry away"*

**and she said, "Lie with me."**  
*"come to bed with me"*

**"Lie with me." "Sin lies not in being tempted, but in yielding to it!"**

**Unnatural Temptation** – would be murder, God never intended man to kill

**Natural Temptations** – Eating is natural, overeating is not, sleep is natural

**Proverbs 23:27 an adulterous woman is a narrow well.**

**She was degrading Joseph to a thing instead of a person.**

People call it "Love"

**1 Thessalonians 4:6** that no man transgress and defraud

**NLT Proverbs 5:15-18** Fornication and adultery change a pure river into a sewer

**Genesis 39:8** But he refused

Decision that we must make before the temptation.

### **Five Reasons Why Joseph Would Not Give In To Temptation:**

- 1. Joseph Was Trusted By His Master: and he has put all that he owns in my charge. Don't violate a person's trust:**

## **Genesis 39:9**

**2. Master's Wife Was The Master's Wife: and he has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife.**  
That she was off limits because she belonged to another.  
**Proverbs 6:27-33**

**3. Joseph Knew He Was A Man Of God: How then could I**  
How can I, who have been called by God, blessed by God

**How then could I, see ourselves as sons and daughters of God, property of Jesus Christ.**

**4. Adultery Is Great Evil: How then could I do this great evil,**  
"wickedness, depravity"

**5. Adultery Is A Sin Against God: and sin against God?"**

**The greatest deterrent to sexual sin or any sin is to see sin as being sin against God. Exodus 20:14; Hebrews 13:4**

**Genesis 39:10 As she spoke to Joseph day after day,**  
This temptation was daily

**he did not listen to her**  
Flirting with the opposite sex, dialoging.

**to lie beside her or be with her.**  
This was a compromise to just lie beside her. There is nothing to it.  
**Job 31:1; James 1:13-16** God does not tempt us!

**Couples Living Together Is Wrong: lie beside her or be with her.**  
**1 Thessalonians 5:22 abstain from every form (appearance) of evil.**

**or be with her.**  
Just spending time with her. Not being accountable with the time.

**Genesis 39:11 he went into the house to do his work**  
The temptation came

**none of the men of the household was there inside.**  
Satan knows when to strike!

**Genesis 39:12 "Lie with me!" Proverbs 7:6-27**

**And he left his garment (cloak, robe) in her hand and fled, and went outside.**

Was this the cowardly thing to do? NO! it was the wise thing to do.

Paul told young Timothy a young Pastor:

**2 Timothy 2:22 Now flee from youthful lusts,** That means "Fly away!"

**Joseph exhibited "Self-control." Proverbs 25:28**

**Genesis 39:13** Talk about having wounded pride and being humiliated!

**Genesis 39:14**

**"See, he has brought in a Hebrew to us to make sport of us;**  
husbands' fault!

**and I screamed.**

What you need to do if you get into a real-life situation.

**Genesis 39:15-16**

Circumstantial evidence of his garment next to her. (Interpret 2 ways)

**Genesis 39:17-19** Potiphar was angry because of how he trusted Joseph

### **3. Verses 20-23 Injustice:**

**Genesis 39:20 master took him and put him into the jail,**

But God was with Joseph.

**king's prisoners were confined;**

Joseph will then meet the butler and the baker.

**and he was there in the jail.**

There is no promise that if you do everything right you will never have difficulties!

(Joseph did not defend himself – **Isaiah 53:7; 1 Peter 2:19-23**)

**Genesis 39:21 But the LORD was with Joseph**

This makes the difference in all the world.

**Joseph's Rapid Advancements Assured Him God Was With Him,  
But His Immediate Results Of Obedience Were Unpleasant:**

**Genesis 39:22** Now we have Joseph the jailbird in charge of all the other jailbirds.

**Genesis 39:23** the prisoner was not even supervised. Trustee

### **Application:**

1. Joseph's Life Is A Reminder That Temptation Often Follows Great Blessings. So We Need To Be On Guard.
2. Being A Child Of God Is A Commitment To Being Pure. Decide Now Before Temptation Comes.
3. We Live In A World That Is Consistently Redefining What God Has Called Sin. Joseph Called Adultery **"sin against God"**.
4. We Read Four Times **LORD was with Joseph**, Joseph's Rapid Advancements Assured Him God Was With Him, But His Immediate Results Of Obedience Were Unpleasant.