

**A. Practice (13-20)**

**1. Commonness**

This was not the first time he had suffered injustice (37:18-36)

**2Tim 3:12** - "Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted"

**2. Cruelness**

**He lost his reputation**

-Once the charge by Potiphar's wife was leveled against him, his reputation suffered greatly. But note, it was not his character.

**He lost his job**

-Joseph served Potiphar for roughly 11 years

\*37:2 - 17 years old  
\*41:1 - 2 years in prison  
\*41:46 - 30 years old

**He lost his comforts**

-From his master's house to prison (20)

**C. Perceiving (39:17-40:4)**

**1. The Clemency Given**

"his anger was kindled" (19)

-The text is ambiguous as to who Potiphar was angry with, Joseph or his wife.

-Many conclude that if he had really believed his wife, Joseph would have been tortured to death.

**2. The Charge Given**

-The king's butler and baker had in some way offended the king...Such important prisoners required special attention.

-Potiphar placed Joseph in charge of their care.

(12) "...he left his garment in her hand and fled and got out of the house."

<sup>13</sup> And as soon as she saw that he had left his **garment in her hand** and had fled out of the house, <sup>14</sup> she **called to the men of her household** and said to them, "See, **he has brought** among us a **Hebrew** to laugh at us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice. <sup>15</sup> And as soon as he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried out, he **left his garment** beside me and fled and got out of the house." <sup>16</sup> Then she **laid up his garment by her** until **his master** came home, <sup>17</sup> and she told him the same story, saying, "The **Hebrew servant, whom you have brought among us**, came in to me to laugh at me. <sup>18</sup> But as soon as I lifted up my voice and cried, **he left his garment beside me** and fled out of the house."

<sup>19</sup> As soon as **his master** heard the words that his wife spoke to him, "This is the way your servant treated me," **his anger was kindled.** <sup>20</sup> And **Joseph's master** took him and **put him into the prison**, the place where the king's prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison. <sup>21</sup> But **the LORD was with Joseph** and **showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.** <sup>22</sup> And the **keeper of the prison** put **Joseph in charge of all the prisoners** who were in the prison. Whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. <sup>23</sup> The **keeper of the prison** paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge, because **the LORD was with him.** And whatever he did, **the LORD made it succeed.**

<sup>1</sup> Some time after this, **the cupbearer of the king of Egypt** and **his baker** committed an offense against their lord **the king of Egypt.** <sup>2</sup> And **Pharaoh** was angry with his **two officers**, the **chief cupbearer** and the **chief baker,** <sup>3</sup> and he put them in custody in the house of the **captain of the guard, in the prison where Joseph was confined.** <sup>4</sup> The **captain of the guard appointed Joseph to be with them**, and he attended them. They continued for some time in custody.

**B. Perpetrator (13-18)**

**1. Contempt in Her Tongue**

**The evidence of it**

"he has brought..." (14)

"you have brought..." (17)

-She wouldn't use Potiphar's name

-She blamed him for what she claimed had happened

-She did this in front of the servants

**The enlightenment of it**

-If we did not know about the conduct of Potiphar's wife, the contempt for shown here would enlighten us that she did not love her husband and was not true to him.

**2. Calumny in Her Tongue**

-What Potiphar's wife said of Joseph was a bold-faced lie, and it was an act of revenge.

-Both major injustices suffered by Joseph involved a coat / cloak (37:31-33)

**D. Perspective (39:21-40:4)**

**1. Consolations of God's Presence (39:2,3,21,23)**

"The LORD was with Joseph"  
- This is the theme of Joseph's story.

**2. Commitment of Prison Duties (39:22)**

"put Joseph in charge"  
-Joseph handled this situation the same way he had being sold into slavery (39:1-6)

**3. Company of Pharaoh's Prisoners (40:1-4)**

Joseph had close contact with two officers of the king of Egypt.

## Practice

### Genesis 37:18–36 (ESV)

<sup>18</sup> They saw him from afar, and before he came near to them they conspired against him to kill him. <sup>19</sup> They said to one another, “Here comes this dreamer. <sup>20</sup> Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see what will become of his dreams.” <sup>21</sup> But when Reuben heard it, he rescued him out of their hands, saying, “Let us not take his life.” <sup>22</sup> And Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but do not lay a hand on him”—that he might rescue him out of their hand to restore him to his father. <sup>23</sup> So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the robe of many colors that he wore. <sup>24</sup> And they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

<sup>25</sup> Then they sat down to eat. And looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels bearing gum, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. <sup>26</sup> Then Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? <sup>27</sup> Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.” And his brothers listened to him. <sup>28</sup> Then Midianite traders passed by. And they drew Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. They took Joseph to Egypt.

<sup>29</sup> When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was not in the pit, he tore his clothes <sup>30</sup> and returned to his brothers and said, “The boy is gone, and I, where shall I go?” <sup>31</sup> Then they took Joseph’s robe and slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood. <sup>32</sup> And they sent the robe of many colors and brought it to their father and said, “This we have found; please identify whether it is your son’s robe or not.” <sup>33</sup> And he identified it and said, “It is my son’s robe. A fierce animal has devoured him. Joseph is without doubt torn to pieces.” <sup>34</sup> Then Jacob tore his garments and put sackcloth on his loins and mourned for his son many days. <sup>35</sup> All his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted and said, “No, I shall go down to Sheol to my son, mourning.” Thus his father wept for him. <sup>36</sup> Meanwhile the Midianites had sold him in Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard.

### 2 Timothy 3:12 (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,

## Timeline

### Genesis 37:2 (ESV)

<sup>2</sup> These are the generations of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was pasturing the flock with his brothers. He was a boy with the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father’s wives. And Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father.

**Genesis 41:1 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup> After two whole years, Pharaoh dreamed that he was standing by the Nile,

**Genesis 41:46 (ESV)**

<sup>46</sup> Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh and went through all the land of Egypt.

## Perpetrator

**Calumny** [noun](#)

cal·um·ny | \ 'ka-ləm-nē also 'kal-yəm- \  
*plural calumnies*

**Definition of calumny**

**1:** a misrepresentation intended to harm another's reputation denounced his opponent for his defamatory insinuations and *calumny*

**2:** the act of uttering false charges or misrepresentations maliciously calculated to harm another's reputation He was the target of *calumny* for his unpopular beliefs.

## Perception

**Genesis 39:2 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> The LORD was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master.

**Genesis 39:3 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> His master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD caused all that he did to succeed in his hands.