#### **Joseph the Prince**

The inspired history of one of the greatest characters in the Bible as recorded in Genesis chapters 37-50.



#### Behold, we count them happy which endure.

James 5:11

#### Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace. Psalm 37:37

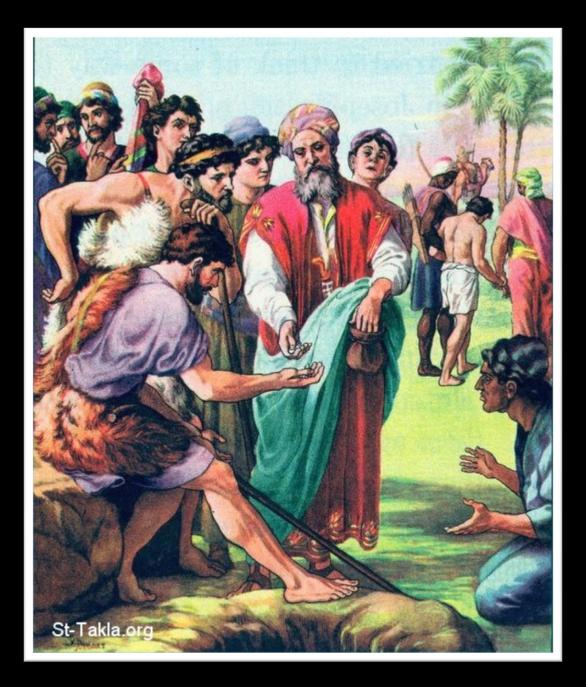
#### **Bible Examples Are the Best Heroes**

- Joseph is in the *Hall of Faith* as a hero of God.
- Joseph was superior to David in some respects.
- Churches have princes, average, and fools ... you?
- Each day has situations for you to be like Joseph.
- To be like Joseph ... you must learn how he lived.

A great study of his character is right here:

http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/character-of-joseph.pdf

# What was he like when he was 17?



He told on his brothers ... with conviction and courage to be godly and help his father.

Though loved most by his father ... it did not cause pride but contented submission.

The colored coat made him conspicuous and hated ... but he honored his father anyway.

His brothers' hatred did not get him down or cause him to compromise – real character!

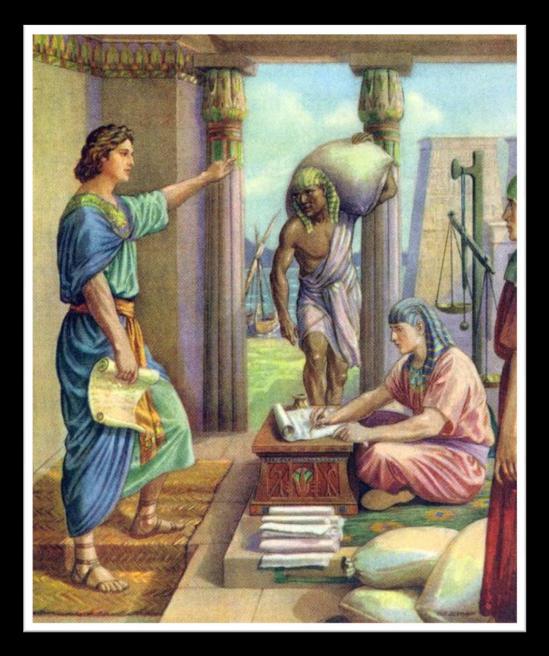
His dreams appeared impossible ... but he believed God against great peer pressure.

When his father sent him to his brothers ... he went 60 miles alone bravely and cheerfully.



Righteous Honored authority **Obeyed** father Brave with peers No compromise Loved truth Faithful

# What was he like when he was 20?



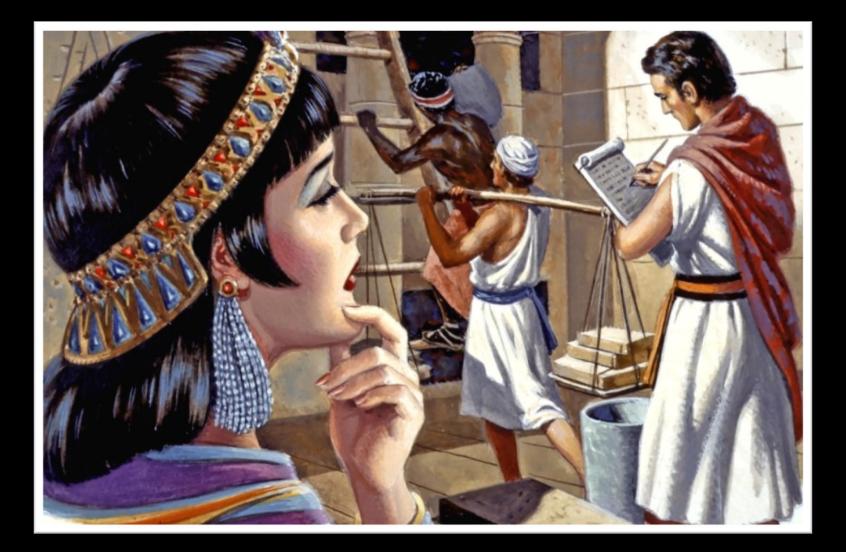
Though only a slave ... his great diligence, honesty, and integrity got him promoted.

Though well favored and successful ... he was humble and served his master well.



Diligent Faithful **Submissive** Honest Integrity Humble Serving

# What was he like when he was 25?



Mrs. Potiphar begged him ... but he rejected her for faithfulness to God and Potiphar.

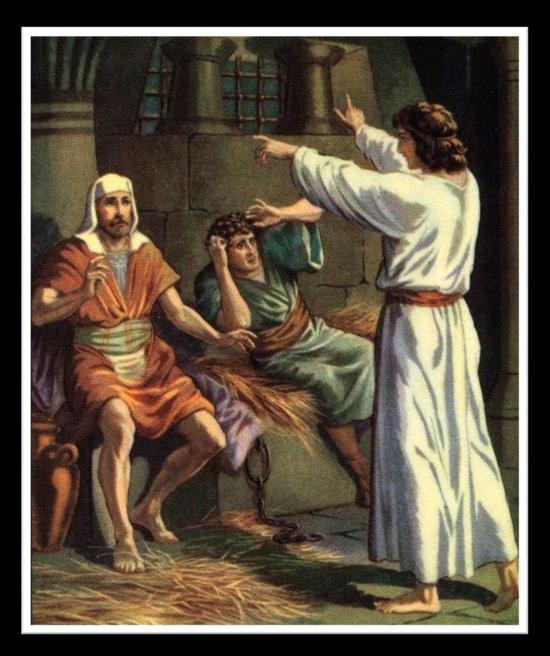
Though she pursued him ... he would not be with her and finally ran from her advances.

Now falsely in prison ... he did not despair by another setback, stop trusting God, or relax.



Virtuous **Self-Denial** Fear of God Temperance Patience Faith Faithful

# What was he like when he was 28?



Two Egyptian prisoners were sad ... but without revenge or spite he was a neighbor.

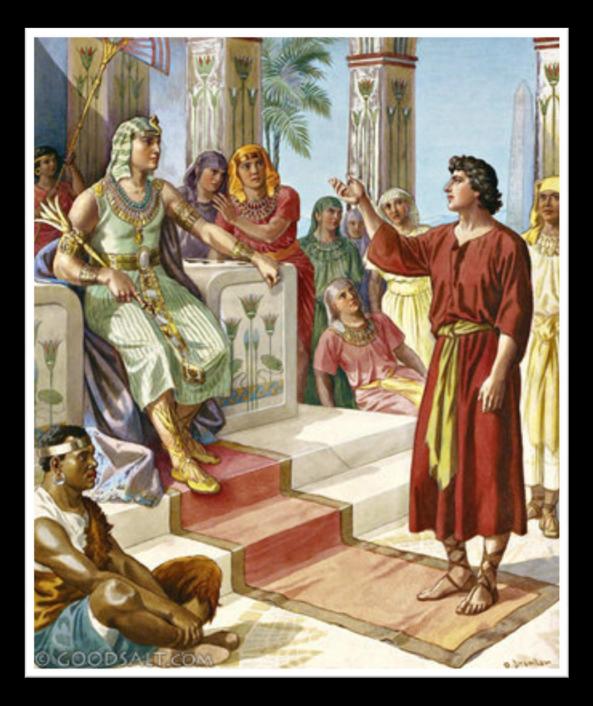
In spite of great differences ... he did not avoid sharing his faith in God Jehovah.

With good and bad news ... he told the truth anyway, and he asked the butler to help him.



Compassion Good neighbor Reverence Confidence Fear of God Love of truth Prudence

# What was he like when he was 30?



Knowing Pharaoh's dreams ... he humbly gave all glory to God without extortion.

Seeing a message of peace ... he did not alter it or resist it for revenge or envy.

Before a pagan king ... he had no fear or shame to speak of his own Jehovah God.

Though being wronged ... he sought Egypt's welfare and used his wisdom to help them.

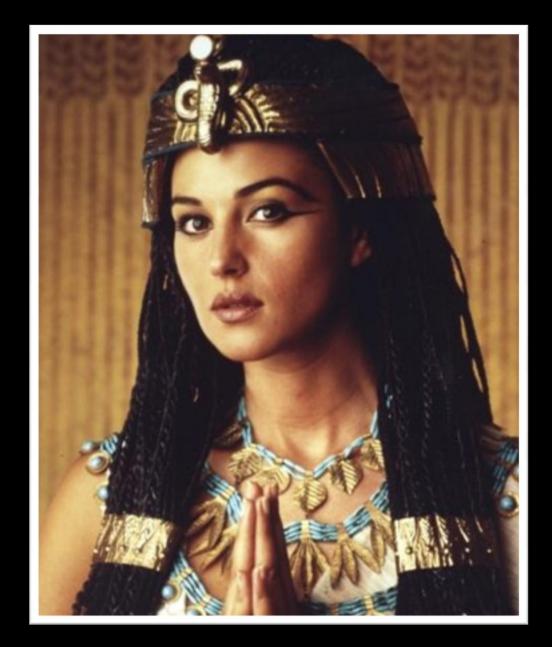
Though before pagans ... the most powerful ruler saw his excellent and religious spirit.

When given a wife... he wisely submitted to Pharaoh and providence for an exception.



Humility Reverent Honor authority Kindness Integrity Gracious Discretion

# What was he like when he was 35?



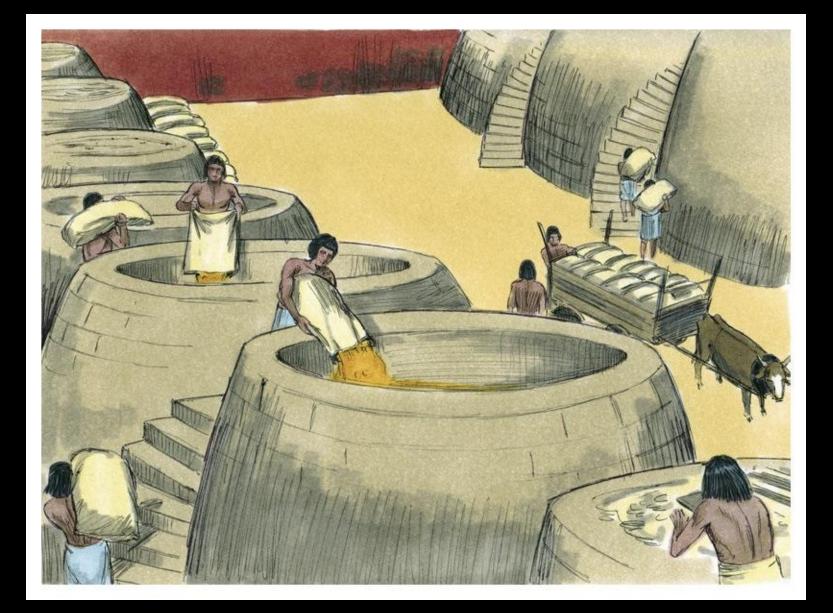
He had two sons by his Egyptian wife ... but he trained her and/or them to fear God.

Though an Egyptian mother ... God gave Joseph two tribes of Israel for his troubles.



#### Faithful Good father Good husband Endured Blessed

# What was he like when he was 37?



Believing God's dreams ... he prudently saved much for the future in spite of plenty.

Prosperity often breeds carelessness ... but he did not relax the discipline of saving.



#### Prudent Foresightful Faithful

# What was he like when he was 38?



In an international calamity ... he took charge and fed Egypt and other nations.

Meeting his brothers ... he fed them freely and forgave them, though they knew not.

Not seeing Benjamin ... he craftily learned about him and forced them to bring him.

Hearing them admit guilt about him ... he still restored their money in their sacks.

Rather than take Reuben who had tried to save him ... he kept the cruel Simeon.



Leader Not bitter Forgiving **Brotherly love** Tenderness Generosity Fair / Just

# What was he like when he was 39?



With his brothers again ... he showed great affection and kindness to all and Benjamin.

He revealed himself to them ... and fully forgave them and exalted God's dominion.

He was emotional and physical ... showing the bowels the Bible connects to love.

Though in service nine years ... Pharaoh highly esteemed Joseph and his family.

Knowing his brothers ... he warned them not to argue guilt and fall out by the way.

Meeting his father after 22 years ... he was very affectionate and emotional with him.

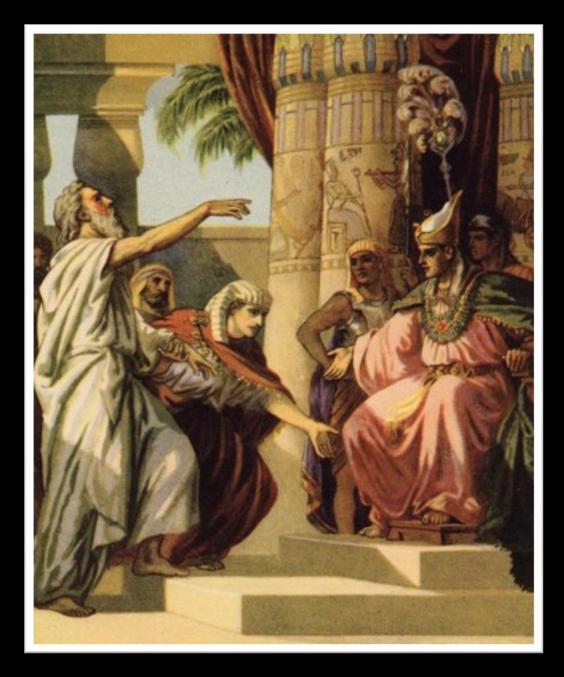
They were despised shepherds ... so he protected them in the best land of Egypt.

Though shepherds ... he was not ashamed but loyal to his family before Pharaoh.



Bowels Generous **Trust in God** Faithful Forgiving Honoring Discrete

# What was he like when he was 40?

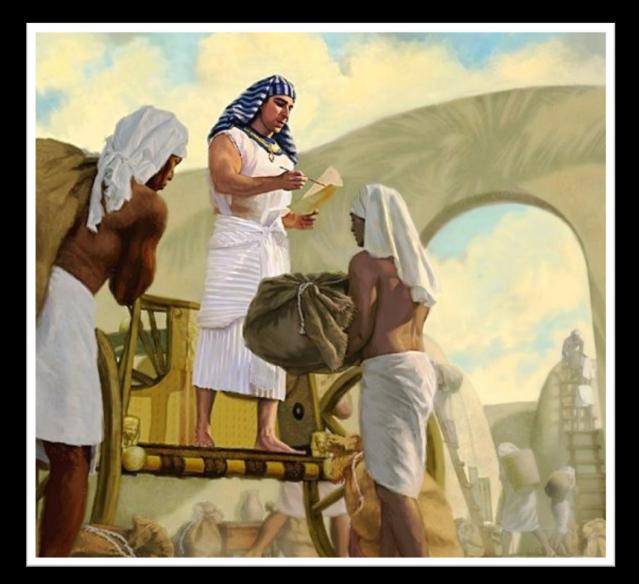


### Though despised shepherds ... Pharaoh honored Jacob for Joseph's reputation.



### Faithful Integrity Productive

# What was he like when he was 42?



When the nation ran out of money ... he bought the people and lands for Pharaoh.

When he bought the people and lands ... he made an exception for Pharaoh's priests.

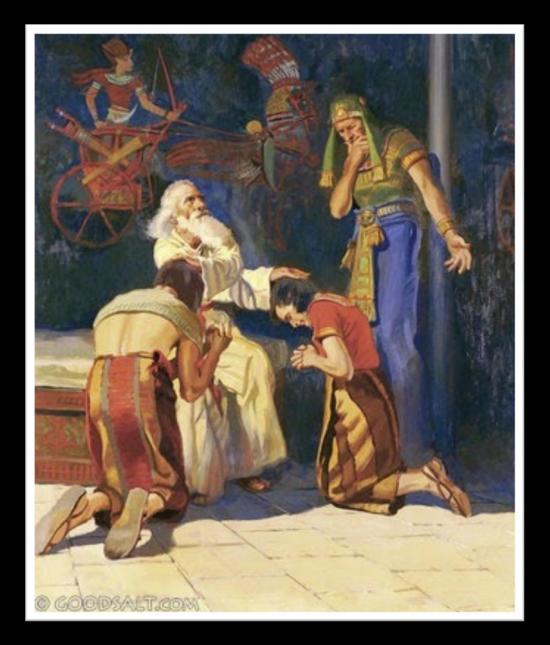


### Prudence

#### Fairness

#### Discretion

# What was he like when he was 56?



Before Jacob died ... Joseph swore to bury his body in Canaan with his fathers.

Before Jacob died ... Joseph had his father bless his two sons with divine favor.

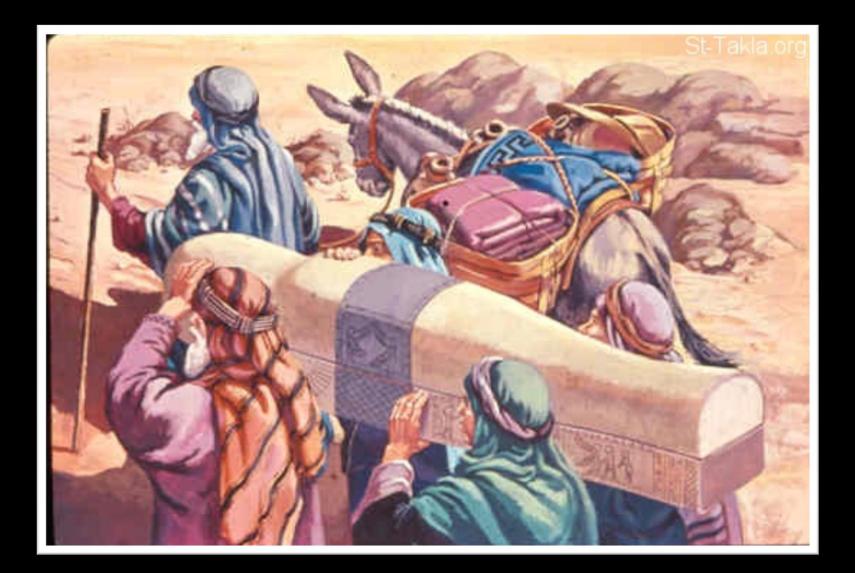
When Jacob died ... Joseph had a great funeral, burial, and mourning for his father.

### With his father dead ... he forgave his brothers again in spite of their lie about it.



Integrity Reverence Reputation Bowels Honor Forgiving Mercy

# What was he like when he was 110?



Before Joseph died ... he showed his faith and hope by asking for burial in Canaan.

Israel was in Egypt 122 more years ... but he believed the promise to Abraham (Gen 15:13-14).



### Believing Confident

#### Dedicated

By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones. Hebrews 11:22

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, **Hebrews 12:1** 

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#### **For Further Study**

- Character of Joseph ... <u>http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/character-of-joseph.pdf</u>
- Character of Bible Youth ... <u>http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/bible-youth-illustrated-character.pdf</u>
- Duty, Honor, Sacrifice ... <u>http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/duty-honor-sacrifice.pdf</u>
- 'C' Character Traits ... <u>http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/practical/c-character-traits/sermon.php#&panel1-1</u>
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