

Joseph's Dreams

Genesis 37:2-11

by Don Falkos

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Jacob loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because Joseph had been born when Jacob was already quite old, and the boy's mother had been his beloved Rachel. Jacob gave Joseph a special gift, a beautiful robe. This favoritism made Joseph's brothers very jealous. They hated Joseph and refused to show him even the most common courtesy.

Joseph didn't help matters; he was seventeen years old; and he helped his brothers care for the sheep. But he often tattled to his father about some of the things his brothers were doing.

Then one day Joseph told his brothers about a dream he had had: "We were in the field binding up bundles of grain when my bundle suddenly stood up, and your bundles all gathered around mine and bowed down to it."

His brothers responded, "So you're going to be king, are you? Do you really think you are going to rule over us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dreams and the way he talked about them.

Then Joseph told his father about another dream: "I dreamed that the sun, the moon, and eleven stars all bowed down to me."

Jacob scolded him. "What kind of dream is that? Will your mother and I and your brothers come and bow down to you?" But while Joseph's brothers despised him and were jealous of him, his father was concerned and wondered what was the meaning of these dreams.