

ANALYSIS:

1. Joseph was 17 in verse 2, his 10 brothers ranged in age from _____ to _____.

2. What factors caused Joseph's brothers to hate him?

3. Which brother first sought to keep the others from killing Joseph?

4. Who suggested selling Joseph _____, and to whom was he sold?

5. How did Joseph's brothers deceive their father concerning Joseph's disappearance? _____

Thing to Think About

Joseph is the focus of eleven chapters (37, 39-48), and a wonderful "type" of Christ. Consider: Joseph and Christ were especially loved by their father (Gen 37:4; Jn 3:35), both were hated and rejected by their brethren (Gen 37:4; Jn 15:25), both made unusual claims which were rejected by their brethren (Gen 37:8; Jn 15:24-25). In both cases brethren conspired to slay them (Gen 27:24; Mt 26:3-4), Joseph was by intent put to death, as Christ actually was (Gen 37:24; Mt 27:35-37), both became a blessing and acquired a Gentile bride (Gen 41:1-50; Acts 15:14; Eph 3:6), as Joseph reconciled his brothers, so Christ hath reconciled us (Gen 45:1-15; Rom 5:10; Eph 2:11, 16). Hallelujah, what a Savior!

When Jacob sent Joseph to check on his brothers, Joseph answered, "Here am I." Are you and I subject and obedient to our earthly father (without breaking God's law) and especially to our Heavenly Father.

HELP:

1. The brothers' ages ranged from 17 to 23 (See Gen 29:20, 27, 31-32; 30:19-21, 22-26).
2. The coat of many colors his father made him, his father loved him more than his brothers, his dream of the sheaves, and his dream of the sun, moon and stars (vs 3-9).
3. Reuben (v 21).
4. Judah, Midianites and Ishmeelites merchantmen (vs 26-28).
5. The brothers dipped Joseph's coat in blood to make it appear a wild beast had killed Joseph, they claimed they had found the coat, they asked Jacob if he knew the coat was Joseph's, they all pretended to comfort Jacob in his deep grief (vs 31-35).