

## STUDY THIRTY FOUR

# YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

## Genesis 39

### Introduction

In this chapter we return to Joseph's story. Joseph is sold as a slave in Egypt where he is employed by a high ranking official. Everything seems to be going well until this official's wife notices how handsome Joseph is. In this story we see Joseph going through another trial. Behind it all, however, God is at work making sure his plans are fulfilled.

### Questions for Discussion

1.a) Who bought Joseph from the Ishmaelites (v.1)?

b) What effect did Joseph have on Potiphar's household?

c) How can we be a blessing to those we serve? (See Col. 3:22-25)

2. Contrast Joseph in this story with Judah in the previous chapter.

a) How did Joseph view adultery (v.9)?

b) Why is adultery a sin against God? (See 1Cor. 6:15-20)

c) Why did Joseph run out of the house and not even stay to talk with Potiphar's wife?

d) Should we also run away when we are tempted? (See 2Tim. 2:22)

3. Read Matthew 5:27-30.

a) What is lust?

b) Should we literally gouge out our right eye?

c) How can we tell Jesus is not speaking literally here? (Note: if we gouge out our right eye we can still lust with our left eye!)

d) So what is Jesus telling us to do if we have a sinful habit?

4.a) If a believer is following God faithfully will he have a life without troubles?

b) What are some of the reasons that troubles come into the life of the believer? (See Job 1 & 2, Ro. 5:3-5 & Jn. 9:1-3)

5.a) What was the 'secret' of Joseph's success (vv.2, 3, 21 & 23)?

b) In what areas of Joseph's life had God been with him?

### **For Further Thought And Action**

Have you ever been wrongfully accused? What is your attitude towards people who believe the accusation?

### **Memory Verses**

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16