

5. The story of Joseph - Part 1

Jacob had 12 sons, but he liked his son Joseph more than his other sons. When Joseph was 17 years old, Jacob gave him a beautiful robe. This made his brothers very jealous.

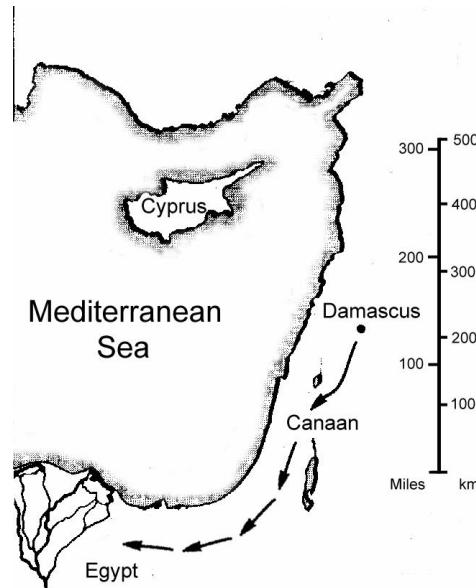
One day, when the brothers were far away from home watching their father's sheep, they decided to kill Joseph. "Let's kill Joseph and throw him in a hole", they said. But one brother said: "No, let's sell him to the slave traders that go down to Egypt. No-one will know about it."

So they sold Joseph as a slave. They tore his beautiful robe, put some animal blood on it and then they took it home to show Jacob. Jacob was very shocked when he saw the robe. He thought a wild animal killed his son. He did not know that his son was still alive. The slave traders sold Joseph in Egypt to an important official, named Potiphar.

Everything that Potiphar had was entrusted to Joseph's care, because God was with Joseph and he was successful and faithful in everything he did. Joseph was well-built and very handsome. Potiphar's wife became interested in Joseph.

Potiphar's wife said to Joseph: "Come to bed with me! We are all alone in the house. No-one will know about it." But Joseph refused. He said: "How can I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" Potiphar's wife kept on inviting Joseph day after day.

How does this story end? You will have to wait for part two!



Vocabulary

robe	เสื้อคลุม	Monks in Thailand wear orange robes.
jealous	อิจฉา	I am jealous <i>of</i> your new watch.
hole	หลุม, รู	Please dig a hole in the ground so I can plant my mango tree.
slave	ทาส	He treats his wife like a slave.
trader	พ่อค้า	She is a trader <i>in</i> clothing.
shocked	ใจหายใจว่ำ	We were all shocked <i>by</i> the news of Diana's death.
official	เจ้าหน้าที่	One of the royal officials reported that...
to entrust	มอบหมาย	It is not wise to entrust your money <i>to</i> a stranger.
handsome	หล่อ	President Bill Clinton is quite handsome.
to refuse	ปฏิเสธ	It is better to refuse their offer.
to invite	ชวน	They invited me to join their club.

Comprehension

- What does the first letter of every paragraph in the story spell?
- Who said "No-one will know about it."
- Why did Joseph refuse to go to bed with his master's wife?

The Bible says

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. - Hebrews 4:13

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