

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Luke 8, 5-15



Joseph in Egypt

Jacob settled in Canaan with his wives and their families. He had many children, but his favorites were Joseph and his baby brother, Benjamin. They were the sons of Rachel, the wife Jacob loved more.

Joseph's coat

To show how much he loved him, Jacob gave Joseph a special coat of many colors. When Joseph's older brothers saw how much Jacob favored Joseph, they were very jealous and hated him.

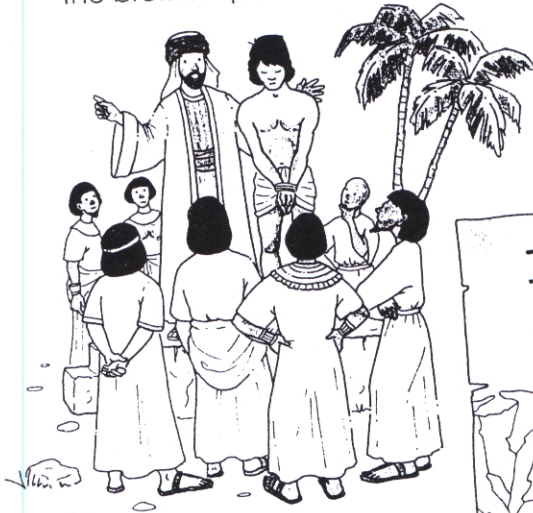


Joseph is sold into slavery

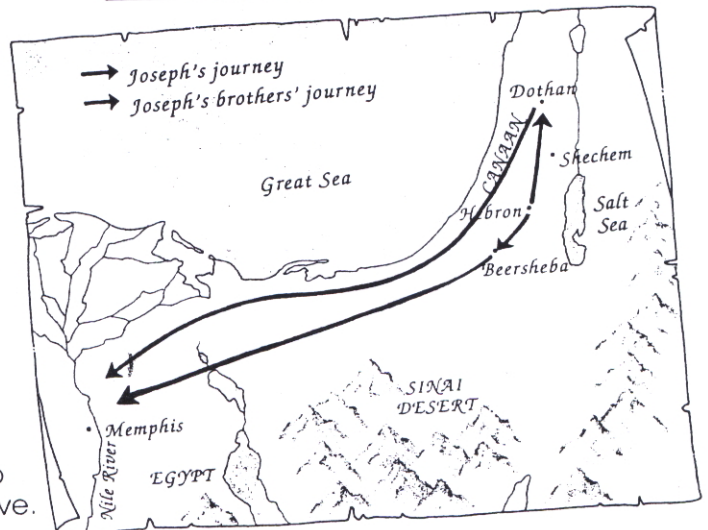
One day Joseph visited his brothers, who were looking after the flocks of sheep at Dothan. When they saw Joseph coming, the brothers plotted to kill him.

The spice trade

The spice trade was an important trade in Bible times. People used spices for food, incense, and makeup. The trade route from Damascus, in Syria, to Egypt ran past Dothan where Joseph's brothers sold him. The Ishmaelite spice traders were desert people descended from Abraham.

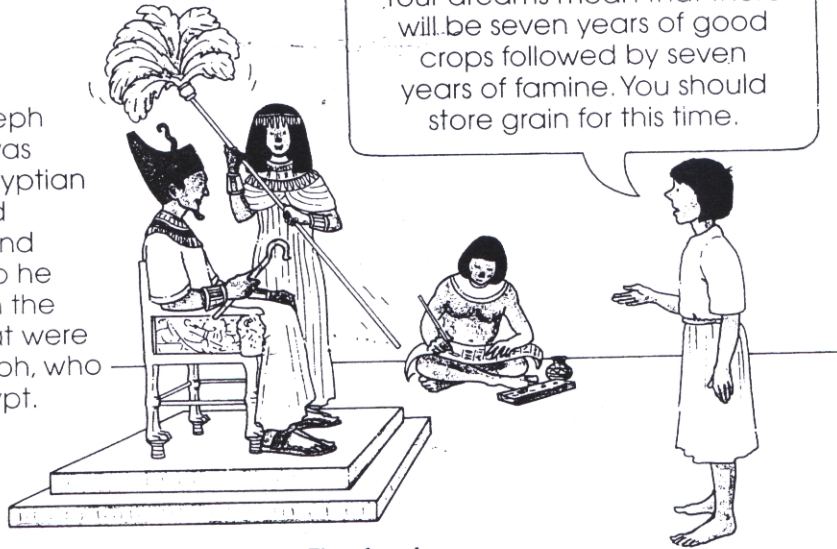


However, some Ishmaelite spice traders passed by on their way to Egypt, so the brothers sold Joseph to the traders. They took Joseph to Egypt and sold him as a slave.



Pharaoh's dreams

For many years Joseph worked hard and was respected by his Egyptian master. God helped Joseph to understand people's dreams, so he was able to explain the strange dreams that were worrying the Pharaoh, who was the King of Egypt.



The famine

The Pharaoh was so impressed with Joseph's advice that he put him in charge of all Egypt. When the famine arrived, people came to Egypt from far and wide to buy grain. Joseph's brothers came from Canaan, but they didn't recognize Joseph in his smart Egyptian clothes.

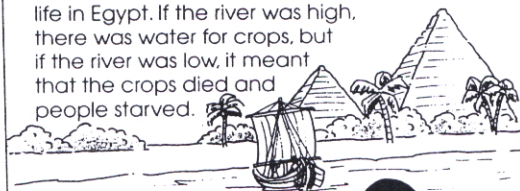
The Children of Israel

Finally, Joseph showed his brothers who he was and forgave them. They brought their old father, Jacob, and their families to live in Egypt. They were known as the Children of Israel.

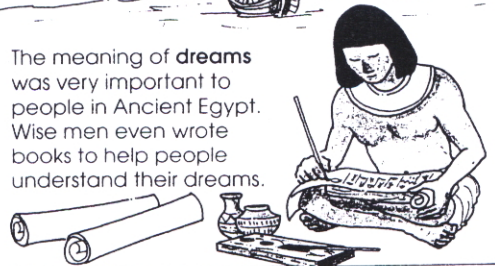


Ancient Egypt

The **Nile River** was the main source of life in Egypt. If the river was high, there was water for crops, but if the river was low, it meant that the crops died and people starved.



The meaning of **dreams** was very important to people in Ancient Egypt. Wise men even wrote books to help people understand their dreams.



THE DIRTIEST MAN IN THE WORLD

Oh I'm Dirty Dan, the world's dirtiest man,
I never have taken a shower.
I can't see my shirt—it's so covered with dirt,
And my ears have enough to grow flowers.

But the water is either a little too hot,
Or else it's a little too cold.
I'm musty and dusty and patchy and scratchy
And mangy and covered with mold.
But the water is always a little too hot,
Or else it's a little too cold.

