

Introduction

1. Joseph was the first son of Jacob and Rachel ([Gen. 30:22-24](#))
 - a. Jacob worked hard for Rachel ([Gen. 29:18-30](#))
 - i. Fourteen years for her (and Leah) and six years for Laban's flock ([Gen. 31:41](#))
 - b. Joseph was the son of Jacob's old age and was shown favoritism ([Gen. 37:3](#))
 - i. This bred resentment with his brothers ([Gen. 37:4](#))
 - ii. Joseph also contributed to the resentment ([Gen. 37:5-11](#))
 - c. Joseph was sold into Egyptian slavery by his brothers due to their envy ([Gen. 37:12-36](#))
2. Joseph will serve as our next example of reverence
 - a. Joseph's prosperity
 - b. Joseph's purity
 - c. Joseph's power
 - d. Preservation of Jacob's posterity through providence

I. Joseph's Prosperity

1. God prospered Joseph on multiple occasions
 - a. With Potiphar ([Gen. 39:1-6](#))
 - b. With the keeper of Pharaoh's prison ([Gen. 39:23](#))
2. Stephen confirms the Old Testament record ([Acts 7:9-10](#))

II. Joseph's Purity

1. Joseph fled from fornication maintaining his purity ([Gen. 39:6-15](#))
 - a. Fleeing fornication is what we all must do ([1 Cor. 6:15-20](#); [1 Th. 4:3-5](#))

- i. Fornication should not be named among us as saints ([Eph. 5:3](#); [Col. 3:5](#))
 - ii. Fornication is a work of the flesh ([Gal. 5:19](#))
 - iii. Begins with looking and lusting ([Mt. 5:28](#))
 - iv. The sexual relationship is reserved for marriage only ([Heb. 13:4](#))
2. Look at Joseph's reverence ([Gen. 39:9](#))
 - a. God sees all ([Pr. 5:15-23](#))

III. Joseph's Power

1. After Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dream, he rose to power in Egypt ([Gen. 41:37-44](#))
2. Before honor is humility ([Pr. 15:33](#))
 - a. Let us humble ourselves and let God do the exalting in due time ([1 Pt. 5:6](#))

IV. Preservation of Jacob's Posterity through Providence

1. God's providence preserved a posterity for the children of Israel ([Gen. 45:1-8](#))
 - a. This was necessary to fulfill the promise made to Abram ([Gen. 12:1-3](#))
2. God's providence ultimately brought about the Messiah ([Gen. 49:8-12](#))
 - a. God, through providence, brought about good ([Gen. 50:15-21](#); [Rm. 8:28-30](#))

Conclusion

1. Joseph is an excellent example of reverence
 - a. The LORD greatly prospered him as he was with the LORD
 - b. He maintained his purity during temptation
 - c. God caused him to rise to power which was used to preserve his family
2. God is with the reverent ([Heb. 13:5-6](#))