

THE JOSEPH CHRONICLES

The Test of the Pot

Genesis 39:3-

The Joseph Chronicles

There are some things that God has to change in us before He can do what He plans to do for us!

1) The Test of the Pit - the need to take responsibility for our character

2) The Test of the Pot -

When Joseph was taken to Egypt by the Ishmaelite traders, he was **purchased** by Potiphar, an Egyptian officer. Potiphar was captain of the guard for Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. The LORD was with Joseph, so he **succeeded** in everything he did as he served in the home of his Egyptian master... This **pleased** Potiphar, so he soon made Joseph his personal attendant. He put him in charge of his entire household and everything he owned. From the day Joseph was put in charge of his master's household and property, the LORD began to **bless** Potiphar's household for Joseph's sake. All his household affairs ran smoothly, and his crops and livestock flourished. (Genesis 39:1-5, NLT)

The Issue that the test reveals

So Potiphar gave Joseph complete administrative **responsibility** over everything he owned. With Joseph there, he didn't worry about a thing—except what kind of food to eat! Joseph was a very handsome and well-built young man, and Potiphar's wife soon began to look at him **lustfully**. "Come and sleep with me," she demanded. (Genesis 39:6–7, NLT)

*The character issue is the temptation to **compromise** your character.*

Material temptation - *the lust for things*

Personal temptation - *the lust for fame*

Relational temptation - *the lust for control*

Sensual temptation - *the lust for pleasure*

*Whenever we **compromise** with temptation, we **compromise** our character.*

The Change that Must be Made

But Joseph **refused**. (Genesis 39:8, NLT)

1) Decide what you want your **story** to be.

"Look," he told her, "my master trusts me with **everything** in his entire household. No one here has more authority than I do. He has held back nothing from me except **you**, because you are his **wife**. How could I do such a wicked thing? It would be a great **sin against God**." (Genesis 39:8-9, NLT)

2) Determine daily to **trust** in the Lord.

She kept putting pressure on Joseph **day after day**, but he refused to sleep with her... (Genesis 39:10, NLT)

3) Always have a plan to **walk** away... **run** if necessary.

... and he **kept out of her way** as much as possible. One day, however, no one else was around when he went in to do his work. She came and grabbed him by his cloak, **demanding**, "Come on, sleep with me!" Joseph tore himself away, but he left his cloak in her hand as he **ran** from the house. (Genesis 39:10–12, NLT)

4) Never forget that the Lord is **with** you and **loves** you.

When she saw that she was holding his **cloak** and he had fled, she called out to her servants. Soon all the men came running. "Look!" she said. "My husband has brought this Hebrew slave here to make fools of us! He came into my room to **rape** me, but I screamed. When he heard me scream, he ran outside and got away, but he left his cloak behind with me." She kept the cloak with her until her husband came home. Then she **told him her story**. "That Hebrew slave you've brought into our house tried to come in and fool around with me," she said. "But when I screamed, he **ran** outside, leaving his cloak with me!" ... So he took Joseph and threw him into the **prison** where the king's prisoners were held, and there he remained. But the LORD was **with** Joseph in the prison and showed him his faithful **love**. (Genesis 39:13-21, NLT)

Don't run from the Lord when you are tempted, run to the Lord!