

SOLID

RESISTING TEMPTATION

GENESIS 39

Perhaps nothing so persistently plagues Christians like temptation. Abraham was tempted to lie and fear. David fell prey to sexual immorality. Paul wrestled with pride. Even Jesus faced innumerable temptations.

In Genesis 39, we observe one man's struggle and victory over temptation. Joseph was the favoured eleventh son of Jacob. His jealous brothers sold him into slavery. In Egypt, he was again sold, this time to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's officials. This passage recounts the first test for Joseph as God prepared him for the crucial role he would play in Israel's history.

Read Genesis 39

1. In a few words, how would you describe each of the main characters in this text – Joseph, Potiphar and Potiphar's wife?
2. How did Joseph come to be in charge of Potiphar's household (v1-4)?
3. What were the results of Joseph being placed in this position (v5-6)?
4. How might this position of authority, wealth and power have affected Joseph?
5. What do we learn about Joseph's character from verses 7-9?

