

Needing G-d's Favor ©

By Dr. Akiva Gamliel Belk

Bereisheit / Genesis 39

This Zerah Torah Limood is in the loving memory of Revi's Grandmother Gladys Ethel and father and step father, my mother and my father, Carrie bat Brachah Rivkah, Stephen ben Martha, Sharon bat Vivian, Florence Youman bat Chavah, Jeanne C. W. Pierre, Joseph Adam Pierre, Louella P. Bienvenu, Barbara Pierre, Terrill B. Thomas, Joyce Duff bat Na'amah and Michael and Channah Sakash may they rest in peace.

וְיֹסֵף, הַיְוֹסֵף, הַיְוֹסֵף; וַיִּקְנֵהוּ פוֹטִיפָר סָרִיס
פְּרֹעֵה שֶׁר הַטַּבָּחִים, אִישׁ מִצְרִי, מִיַּד
הַיִּשְׁמְעֵאלִים, אֲשֶׁר הוֹרְדָהוּ שָׁמָּה.

And Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the hands of the Ishmaelites, who had brought him down there, Genesis 39.1.

YOSEIF'S BROTHERS HUMBLLED & REJECTED HIM...

Yoseif was was stripped of his tunic [of many colors] his fine woolen tunic that was on him, Genesis 37.23

Yoseif was cast [down] into a pit, Genesis 37.23

YOSEIF WAS SOLD INTO SLAVERY...

Yoseif was sold to Midianite Traders who sold him to Yishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver Genesis 37.27,28

Yoseif was brought down to Mitzrim / Egypt... Genesis 39.1

Yoseif was sold to Potiphar, Genesis 37,36

וַיְהִי יְהוָה אֶת-יוֹסֵף, וַיְהִי אִישׁ מַצְלִיחַ; וַיְהִי,
בְּבַיִת אֲדֹנָיו הַמִּצְרִי.

HASHEM IS WITH YOSEIF

And HaShem / The Lord was with everything from Aleph to Tav of Yoseif, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian, Genesis 39.2

וַיֵּרָא אֲדֹנָיו, כִּי יְהוָה אִתּוֹ; וְכֹל אֲשֶׁר-הוּא
עֹשֶׂה, יְהוָה מַצְלִיחַ בְּיָדוֹ.

And his master saw, For the LORD was with him, and all that he made, LORD Prospered with his hand. Genesis 39.3

וַיִּמְצָא יוֹסֵף חֵן בְּעֵינָיו, וַיִּשְׁרֶת אֹתוֹ;
וַיִּפְקְדֵהוּ, עַל-בֵּיתוֹ, וְכֹל-יֵשׁ-לוֹ, נָתַן בְּיָדוֹ.

And he, Yoseif found favor in his eyes, and he Minister to him, and [Potiphar] appointed [Yoseif] over his house and all substance was given into his hand, Genesis 39.4

וַיְהִי מֵאֵז הַפְּקִיד אֹתוֹ בְּבֵיתוֹ, וְעַל כָּל-אֲשֶׁר
יֵשׁ-לוֹ, וַיִּבְרָךְ יְהוָה אֶת-בַּיִת הַמִּצְרִי, בְּגִלְלַת
יוֹסֵף; וַיְהִי בְרַכְתּוֹ יְהוָה, בְּכֹל-אֲשֶׁר יֵשׁ-לוֹ--
בְּבַיִת, וּבִשְׂדֵה.

And it happened from the time [Yoseif] was appointed over [Potiphar's] house and all his substance that HaShem Blessed everything from Aleph to Tav of the Egyptian's house on account of Yoseif. And it happened that the Blessing of HaShem was on all [Potiphar's] substance and in his house and in his field, Genesis 39.5.

Yosief is a beautiful man, Genesis 39.6

The Master's wife wants a physical relationship with Yoseif, Genesis 39.7

Yoseif refuses, Genesis 39.8

The Master's wife was persistent, Genesis 39.9-11

The Master's wife lies about Yoseif, Genesis 39.12-18

The Master heard and was angry, Genesis 39.19

Yoseif is placed in prison, Genesis 39.20

HASHEM IS WITH YOSEIF

וַיְהִי יְהוָה אֶת-יוֹסֵף, וַיֵּט אֵלָיו חֶסֶד; וַיִּתֵּן
חַנוּ, בְּעֵינָיו שֵׁר בַּיִת-הַסֵּהר.

And HaShem / The Lord was with everything from Aleph to Tav of Yoseif, and Extended Kindness to him and he was given favor in the eyes of the officer of the prison house, Genesis 39.21.

וַיִּתֵּן שֵׁר בַּיִת-הַסֵּהר, בְּיַד-יוֹסֵף, אֵת כָּל-
הָאֲסִירִים, אֲשֶׁר בְּבַיִת הַסֵּהר; וְאֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר
עֲשִׂים שָׂם, הוּא הָיָה עֹשֶׂה.

And he, the officer of the prison house gave into Yoseif's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison house and all that was done their [Yoseif] was the doer, Genesis 39.22.

אֵין שׁוֹר בֵּית-הַסֵּהֶר, רָאָה אֶת-כָּל-מְאוֹמָה
בְּיָדוֹ, בְּאֲשֶׁר יְהוָה, אֶתּוֹ; וְאֲשֶׁר-הוּא עֹשֶׂה,
יְהוָה מְצַלִּיחַ.

The Officer of the prison house, saw everything from Aleph to Tav of all , anything in [Yoseif's] hands in that HaShem was with him and his doings HaShem Made to prosper, Genesis 39.23.

Our Creator Allows some people to get in our way. Our Creator Allows some people to make things difficult for us. Yet our Creator is with us. Our Creator Blesses our Works. Our Creator Blesses our hands. Our Creator blesses things under our direction. Others see the Creator's Blessing upon us. Potiphar's and the Officer of the prison house each realized HaShem's Blessing on Yoseif. Yet where was Yoseif? He was deserted by his brothers. He was forsaken by his brothers. He was sold into slavery. He was placed in prison because of lies. Yet our Creator blessed him.

Was it easy for Yoseif? No! Did Yoseif like his situation? No, not entirely... Did everything go in Yoseif's direction? No! Did Yoseif have struggles? Yes! It is important to focus on the facts. It's OK to dream yet we need to be realistic! Our Creator does send us challenges amidst His Blessings.

You can look into your life no matter how difficult it maybe and see the hand of our Creator 'IF' you want to... May we see His Blessings... May we be thankful for His Blessing upon us!

Blessings and peace,

Dr. Akiva Gamliel and Rebbetzin Revi Belk