

**JOSEPH: A PROTOTYPE
OF JESUS**
Genesis 37-50

INTRODUCTION

Sceptics write Christians off as people who have left all rational thought to believe myths and fables – that they have no reasonable basis for their faith. And actually, we should be wary, investigating claims and teachings instead of blindly accepting whatever is said as true. Many Christians began as doubters, checked things out, discovered truth, and have now rearranged their life and thinking as a result. The Bible invites this honest investigation. *Isaiah 1:18-20, 2 Peter 1:19-21, John 5:39.* Become a Berean, *Acts 17:11.*

DIGGING DEEPER

Scripture is more certain than philosophies, experiences or feelings. We have a more sure word of prophesy. A careful Bible study will bring us to a well thought out conclusion. The evidence is overwhelming. Jesus said, *“You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life, and these are they which testify of Me.”* Having the advantage of hindsight, Jesus is seen throughout our study of Genesis. We discover God’s plan of salvation through many events and lives. Joseph’s life and actions demonstrate many similarities to Jesus Christ. In this study, we will discover **Joseph : A Prototype Of Jesus.** Dig in, beloved. *Selah*

Pray for wisdom and understanding, and let’s begin.

I. Thus far in Genesis, we have seen Jesus in many ways: in the gospel *Genesis 3:15*, the sacrificial death of an innocent animal *Genesis 3:21*, salvation pictured in the dark to save Noah and his family, the priest Melchizedek himself, Isaac on Mount Moriah, Jacob wrestling with the per-incarnate Jesus. Jesus is everywhere for the careful student to discover!

II. From Genesis 37-50, many similarities to Jesus are found in Joseph’s life. Enjoy reviewing Joseph’s life, as this rich Scripture reveals **Joseph: A Prototype of Jesus.** Listed below are some Scriptures that connect Joseph to Jesus. *Selah*

Genesis 37:3	Joseph’s father loved him. Joseph wanted to please him.	<i>John 8:29, Matthew 3:17</i>
Genesis 37:5-7	Dreams – Joseph would rise to be his brothers’ superior.	<i>Mark 14:61-62</i>
Genesis 37:18	Joseph’s brother conspired a plot against him.	<i>Matthew 12:14</i>
Genesis 37:27-28	Joseph was sold as a slave.	<i>Matthew 26:15</i>
Genesis 39:1-3	Joseph was a servant in Potiphar’s house.	<i>Mark 10:45, Philippians 2:7</i>
Genesis 39:14-15	Joseph was slandered and falsely accused by Potiphar’s wife.	<i>Matthew 26:59</i>
Genesis 39:20	Innocent, Joseph was tried and found guilty.	<i>Matthew 26:59</i>
Genesis 40:23	Joseph reappears and is raised to highest place of authority.	<i>Philippians 2:9-10</i>
Genesis 41:54-56	Joseph becomes the one who provides sustenance for his family.	<i>John 6:48</i>
Genesis 45:1-2, 15	Joseph longed for reconciliation with his brothers.	<i>Zechariah 12:10</i>

III. Genesis 50:20. Let us not miss the prophetic message in Joseph’s words. *“But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.”* *Genesis 50:20*

CONSIDER Evil intended against him, but God’s intention was to bring good.

o The cross	A demonstration of evil human intention.	Failed!	<i>Colossians 2:13-15</i>
o The murder plot	Trying to eliminate God.	Failed!	<i>Acts 2:23-24, Psalm 118:22</i>
o The Good News	Forgiveness is found at the cross.	Praise Jesus!	<i>Luke 23:34</i>

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” *Romans 5:8*

“But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more...” *Romans 5:20*

PRAY

- o for a greater desire to search the scriptures and find Jesus in the Old Testament as well as the new!
- o the truths of scripture to guide your life in thought, word and deed.
- o for a passion to share the truth of the Word with those who do not know.
- o for our missionaries to have a renewed revelation of the Lord’s love for them through their daily devotions.
- o that the Holy Spirit would have free reign in our lives, individually and as a body of believers.