

Joseph: Trusting God Through Trials and Triumph

Facing Temptation

Genesis 39:7-12

1. The prevalence of temptation

“And it came to pass after these things that his master’s wife cast longing eyes on Joseph, and she said, ‘Lie with me.’” (Genesis 39:7, NKJV)

- A. It is common as to who it targets

“But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.” (James 1:14, NKJV)

- B. It is common as to how it targets

“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.” (1 Corinthians 10:13, NKJV)

2. The persistence of temptation

“So it was, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not heed her, to lie with her or to be with her.” (Genesis 39:10, NKJV)

- A. It probes like an adversary looking for a weakness

- B. It persuades like an attorney arguing before a jury

3. The power over temptation

“But he refused and said to his master’s wife, ‘Look, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand. There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?’” (Genesis 39:8–9, NKJV)

“But it happened about this time, when Joseph went into the house to do his work, and none of the men of the house was inside, that she caught him by his garment, saying, ‘Lie with me.’ But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside.” (Genesis 39:11–12, NKJV)

- A. Recognize it

“How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?” (Genesis 39:9, NKJV)

- B. Refuse it

“But he refused” (Genesis 39:8, NKJV)

- C. Run from it

“But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside” (Genesis 39:12, NKJV)