

More BS

(Just another distraction!)

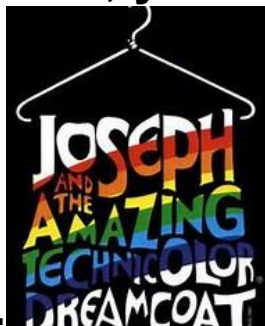
(10 pages at a time!)

So, when we left off – we were talkin’ Clan leader’s: Abram, Isaac and Jacob. We saved the best for the last...you know the guy with “THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT!” Ah, Joseph me boy!

Jacob’s name was changed from Jacob to Israel, he was the father of the twelve tribes...and thus, “The 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL!”

I learned them alphabetically so, there were ASHER, BENJAMIN, DAN, GAD, ISSACHAR, JUDAH, JOSEPH, LEVI, NAPHTALI, REUBEN (like the sandwich!) SIMEON and ZEBULUN.

JOE was a dreamer. He remembered his dreams and he shared his dreams with others. His brothers hated hearing about them all the time. They gave him “pink bellies” and “wedgies” whenever possible! They also stuck his hand in warm water as he slept, in another attempt to “get even” with him! Joey had another dream, yadda, yadda, yadda...throw him down a dry



well... we’ll see if joey-boy likes it!

Joseph was an important biblical figure in the history of the Jewish people. God used his life to preserving the Israelites from a devastating famine that had spread throughout the land of Israel. Joseph was an important Egyptian official who was given the responsibility of storing and distributing food to people who were in need.

But first, remember his brothers, yeah, they ended up selling him into slavery and took his “fancy threads” back to daddy and said, “wild animals had killed daddy’s favored-one!”

The Ishmaelite merchants sold Joseph to a caravan of Midianites, who brought him to Egypt.

There they sold him to Potiphar, who was the chief officer of King Pharaoh’s guard.

Potiphar recognized the unusual abilities of Joseph and knew that he was no common slave.

He elevated him above all other servants, and soon put him in charge of the entire household.

Potiphar’s house blossomed under Joseph’s able care and loyal management, for G-d was with Joseph and blessed with success everything he did.

That is, until “the Mrs.” ...started wondering “what it would be like to “KNOW” a Hebrew! Yep, tossed into the “hoosegow” for an extended VACA...three hots and a cot...for our main-man, Joey.

While there, he did what he did best, he interpreted dreams...

Old Pharaoh had a few unnerving nights, restless, sleepless, watching the hourglass all night long...when he finally drifted off - it turned bizarre. Seven cows, skinny and fat had a party and sat around eating fat grain and skinny grain or something like that, and then, he abruptly awoke!

No one could tell him what his dreams meant. Joey could! And, as a result, Joe became – “number 2” in all of Egypt.

Pharaoh himself immediately appointed Joseph to be the governor of all of Egypt.

Joseph was dressed in royal apparel, and the Pharaoh gave him the royal “magic decoder and authentication ring and a golden chain that had a big number TWO on it, as tokens of his position.

In the royal chariot, Joseph, now given an Egyptian name, **Tzophenath Paneach, was led through the land, accompanied by a royal suite and**

messengers, who hailed the new governor and proclaimed his authority.

The entire country paid homage to Tzophenath Paneach and he soon became “very popular” among the people of Egypt.

In accordance with his own advice, Joseph instituted a strict control over the entire food production of Egypt. The seven years of abundance began immediately, and Joseph had large storehouses erected all over the country. Then he bought up most of the surplus that had flooded the markets and stored it away in warehouses. The people too, followed his example and **stocked up, for they believed in the truth of Joseph’s and PHARAOH’S prediction. You think we hoard toilet paper now? You should have seen what a nation of scared EGYPTIANS hoarded! There was no ply, not a piece to be found anywhere in all of Egypt-land.**

But since the people did not take all the necessary precautions to preserve the food over the long period, their stores were spoiled by the time the years of hunger arrived.

The seven years of plenty passed...and the years of famine began; now the entire country found itself dependent upon the provisions stored away by the state, under “the wise administration” of our boy, Joey!

In exchange for food, the people sold their livestock and land, and by the end of the famine, Pharaoh was “in complete control of the entire country,” and all the people were his assistants, working for him and depending on him for their needs. Not only was Egypt hit by the famine, but also all the neighboring countries, Canaan among them.

Many people from **near and far** came to Egypt to buy provisions, since only in the land of Egypt had the famine been anticipated and prepared for.

Naturally Joseph expected to see his brothers any day, coming to purchase food for Jacob's household. In order to make sure that he would not miss them, he ordered all purchasers of food to register as soon as they entered Egypt.

Thus, Joseph knew immediately when his ten **older** brothers arrived in Egypt to buy corn for their father's house.

Only Benjamin did not come. Joseph had his brothers brought before him. Joseph recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him, for when they had last seen him, he was but a **youngster**, and it would have been difficult for them to imagine that "this

powerful royal personage” was their own brother.

Joseph thought of his dreams and of their

“**jealous**” attitude towards him and decided to test

them. Through an interpreter, so that they might not

guess his identity, Joseph addressed them kind-of-

harshly

“Where do you come from?” And they said, “From the

land of **Canaan** to purchase food!” You are spies!”

Joseph accused them.

“No, sir,” they replied, “your servants have but come

to purchase food. We are twelve brothers and our

father is in Canaan; the youngest is at home with our

father, and one brother **disappeared** many years

ago.” **DISAPPEARED, YOU SAY???** Hmmm...

Joseph pretended that he was not convinced and told his brothers that he would not let them go away till one of them went to fetch their youngest brother, to prove “the truth of their words.” Then he had them put into prison.

After a lot of back and forth...and a whole lot of game-playing and drama in between they go back to Canaan...and return to the land of Egypt and in the end the whole family comes with, included old ISRAEL, himself! Yep, the old dad is still kickin’ it and this side of the dirt.

THIS IS THE BIG NEWS...we NOW have HEBREWS (JEWS-ISRAELITES) living and breathing and having some of the best of land in all of EGYPT-land. Thank God they had an “IN” with their-boy, Joey! He took care of his own!

Did I mention that Joey married? Yep a sweet little thing named ASENATH and they ended up having two sons, named EPHRAIM (just like up north, there) and Manasseh.

And now, they are all reunited and together again...reunited and it feels so good (are you singing the song?) 1992 was the year and Peaches & Herb were the group!

“Reunited, and it feels so good

Reunited 'cause we understood

There's one perfect fit

And, sugar, this one is it

We both are so excited 'cause we're reunited, hey,

hey” (You were singing, weren't you?)

Not bad, and on-key, too!

ANY WHO, we must GET INTO EGYPT, so that in the

NEXT BOOK, we can GET OUT!

70 went in! How many come out? It will knock your socks off you! Honest!

The original group of Israelites—Jacob’s family who went to Egypt—numbered just seventy people (Genesis 46:27).

They were there for a few years...

430 years to be more precise!

In 430 years the “vigorous and healthy Hebrew race” increased to more than a million and some even estimate the population to be as high as 2.4 million.

Talk about “taking care of business (TCB)!”

That was one major “ROAD TRIP!” that they were about to engage upon! I wonder who called, “SHOTGUN?”

