

“How then could I do this great evil and sin against God?”

Gen. 39:9

Joseph unwilling to find a “good” reason to sin

Society Endorses Reasons To Sin

1. We have right to do as we feel
2. We can do anything if all agree and no one gets hurt
3. We are born sinners
4. Youth are naturally sinful
5. Justified grudge against God – source of suffering

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Joseph Found No Valid Reason To Sin

Gen 39:9 "There is no one greater in this house than I, and he has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great evil and sin against God?"

3

Thankful For God's Goodness And Providence

Gen 37:4 His brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers; and so they hated him and could not speak to him on friendly terms.

Gen 37:28 Then some Midianite traders passed by, so they pulled *him* up and lifted Joseph out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty *shekels* of silver. Thus they brought Joseph into Egypt.

4

Thankful For God's Goodness And Providence

Gen 39:1 Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an Egyptian officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the bodyguard, bought him from the Ishmaelites, who had taken him down there.

Gen 39:2 The LORD was with Joseph, so he became a successful man. And he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian.

5

Thankful For God's Goodness And Providence

Gen 39:5 It came about that from the time he made him overseer in his house and over all that he owned, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house on account of Joseph; thus the LORD'S blessing was upon all that he owned, in the house and in the field.

6

Thankful For God's Goodness And Providence

Rom 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.

Rom 8:32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?

7

Ingratitude – Root of Idolatry And Immorality

Rom 1:21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Rom 1:24 Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.

8

Ingratitude – Root of Idolatry And Immorality

Rom 1:25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

9

Willingly Obeyed God's Absolute Continual Authority

- Joseph believed that only God had the right to define right and wrong
- Committing sin ultimately an act against God
- Whether by free consent or submitting to unlawful authority, sin cannot be made right without God's consent
- Filled with God's word, Joseph made a free choice to serve God at all times

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Willingly Obeyed God's Absolute Continual Authority

Gen 39:7 It came about after these events that his master's wife looked with desire at Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me."

Gen 39:8 But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, with me *here*, my master does not concern himself with anything in the house, and he has put all that he owns in my charge.

11

Willingly Obeyed God's Absolute Continual Authority

Gen 39:9 "There is no one greater in this house than I, and he has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great evil and sin against God?"

Gen 39:10 As she spoke to Joseph day after day, he did not listen to her to lie beside her *or* be with her.

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Only God Defines Right and Wrong

1Jn 3:4 Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness.

1Jn 3:7 Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous;

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Sin – Direct Offence Against God – The Lawgiver

Psa 51:4 Against You, You only, I have sinned And done what is evil in Your sight, So that You are justified when You speak And blameless when You judge.

14

Doing Right or Wrong Is Our Choice

Jos 24:15 "If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

15

Must Be Filled With His Word To Conform To His Will

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

16

Choosing To Obey God At All Times

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Col 3:17 Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

17

Choosing To Obey God At All Times

Col 3:22 Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who *merely* please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

Col 3:23 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men,
Col 3:24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

18

Willingly Chose God's Way Of Escape

Gen 39:11 Now it happened one day that he went into the house to do his work, and none of the men of the household was there inside.

Gen 39:12 She caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me!" And he left his garment in her hand and fled, and went outside.

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Willingly Chose God's Way Of Escape

1Co 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

1Co 10:14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

20

Did What Was Right When He Was Young

Gen 37:2 These are *the records of* the generations of Jacob. Joseph, when seventeen years of age, was pasturing the flock with his brothers while he was *still* a youth, along with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives. And Joseph brought back a bad report about them to their father.

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Did What Was Right When He Was Young

Gen 41:46 Now Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh, king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh and went through all the land of Egypt.

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Did What Was Right When He Was Young

1Ti 4:12 Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but *rather* in speech, conduct, love, faith *and* purity, show yourself an example of those who believe.

2Ti 2:20 Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor.

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Did What Was Right When He Was Young

2Ti 2:21 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these *things*, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.

2Ti 2:22 Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love *and* peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

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Willing To Suffer For Serving God

Gen 39:13 When she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled outside,

Gen 39:14 she called to the men of her household and said to them, "See, he has brought in a Hebrew to us to make sport of us; he came in to me to lie with me, and I screamed.

25

Willing To Suffer For Serving God

Gen 39:16 So she left his garment beside her until his master came home.

Gen 39:17 Then she spoke to him with these words, "The Hebrew slave, whom you brought to us, came in to me to make sport of me;

Gen 39:18 and as I raised my voice and screamed, he left his garment beside me and fled outside."

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Willing To Suffer For Serving God

Gen 39:19 Now when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spoke to him, saying, "This is what your slave did to me," his anger burned.

Gen 39:20 So Joseph's master took him and put him into the jail, the place where the king's prisoners were confined; and he was there in the jail.

27

Willing To Suffer For Serving God

Gen 39:21 But the LORD was with Joseph and extended kindness to him, and gave him favor in the sight of the chief jailer.

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Willing To Suffer For Serving God

1Pe 4:14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

1Pe 4:15 Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler;

1Pe 4:16 but if *anyone suffers* as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.

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"How then could I do this great evil and sin against God?"

1. Thankful for God's goodness and providence
2. Willingly obeyed God's absolute continual authority
3. Willingly chose God's way of escape
4. Did what was right when he was young
5. Willing to suffer for serving God

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