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“THE FAVORITE SON”
GENESIS 37:1-11



“ONE OF THE STRANGE DYNAMICS IN FAMILY LIFE IS THAT WHEN CHILDREN GROW UP THEY OFTEN REPEAT THE MISTAKES OF THEIR PARENTS. DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILIES CAN CREATE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILIES – OFTEN FOR GENERATIONS” (GENE GETZ).



**Obedient Son Of Favorite Wife
(Deceased)**

Vs.

Bad Behavior Of Older Ten Brothers

**PARENTS WILL PLAY FAVORITES WITH THE
CHILD WHO GIVES THEM THE LEAST
TROUBLE.**

PRIOR TO GENESIS 37

1. HIS BIRTH (30:22-24)
2. REAR OF CAMP TO MEET ESAU (33:2)
3. RACHEL & JOSEPH BOW TO ESAU (33:7)
4. LISTING OF FAMILY TREE (35:24)

I. Privileges To A Sibling

1. JOSEPH BORN IN HIS OLD AGE

2. JOSEPH FIRSTBORN OF FAVORITE WIFE

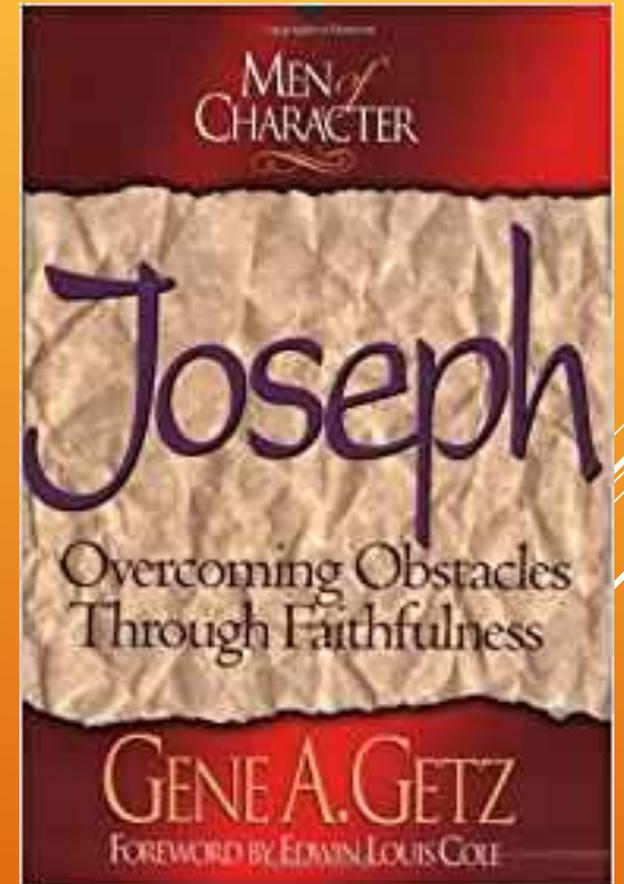
3. GOOD BEHAVIOR COMPARED TO BROTHERS

A. Jacob Loved Him More (4)

1. Leah – Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar & Zebulun
2. Rachel – Joseph & Benjamin
3. Bilhah – Dan & Naphtali
4. Zilpah – Gad & Asher

BLENDED FAMILY

“As parents, we may become vulnerable in the specific areas where our parents have demonstrated lack of wisdom. Our area of vulnerability suddenly becomes our Achilles heel. This certainly could have contributed to Jacob’s favoritism toward Joseph. He was repeating his mother’s favoritism toward him.”



1. Position – Firstborn Heir
2. Priest – Family Representative
3. Privilege – Foreman At Seventeen
4. Purity - Innocence

B. RICHLY ORNAMENTED ROBE (3)

Firstborns, Middle Born, & Last Born

**“Be easiest on the oldest and
toughest on the youngest.”
(Kevin Lehman)**

C. SON OF OLD AGE (3)

A. Tattling (2)

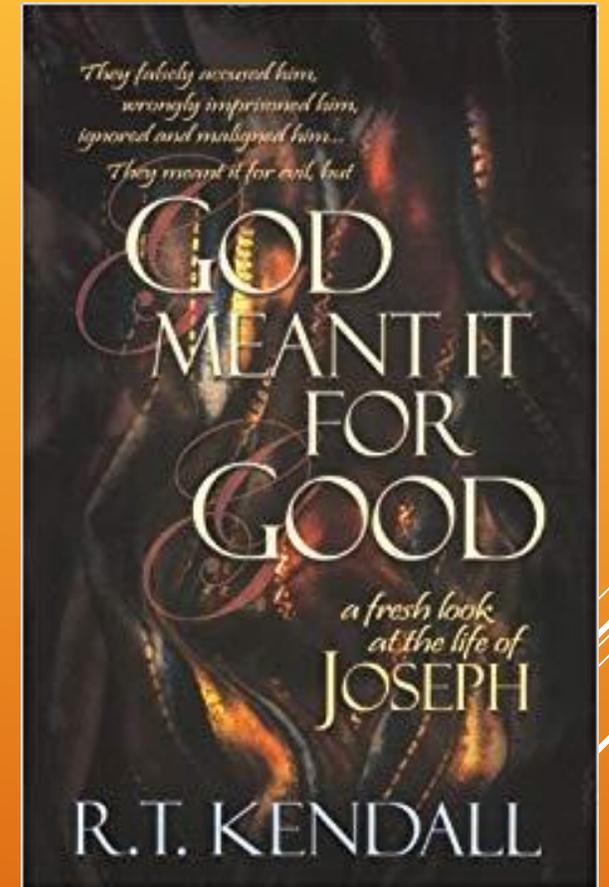
To Handmaids' Sons

Defamation

Self-Righteousness

II. PROVOKING BY A SIBLING

“Nobody likes a tattletale, so this only makes his brothers angry and caused jealousy. Two things make a person a tattletale: their self-righteousness and their pursuit of self-vindication. We should be encouraged to learn that God can use a self-righteous person, for by nature we are all like Joseph.”



1. **Agricultural Dream (5-8)**

2. **Celestial Dream (9-11)**

B. BRAGGING (5-11)

A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted upwards from left to right, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

“He Was A Boy”

A Lad Or Servant

C. NAÏVE (2)

A. Hatred

They Hated Him (4)

They Hated Him All The More (5, 8)

Could Not Speak Peacefully To Him (4)

III. PASSIONS FROM THE SIBLINGS

B. Jealousy (11)

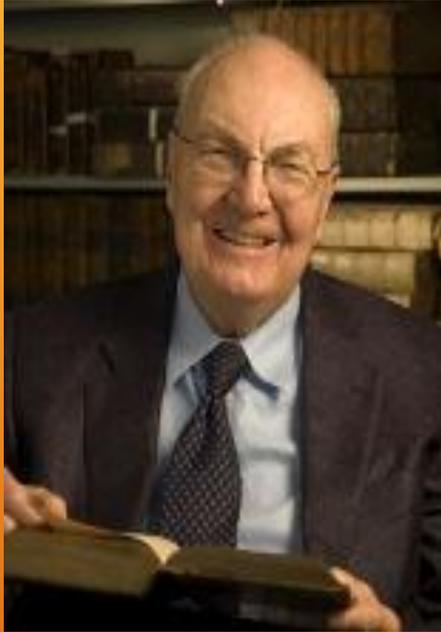
Proverbs 14:30 & James 3:16

III. PASSIONS FROM THE SIBLINGS

“But His Father Kept The Saying In Mind” (11)

IV. PASSIVITY TOWARD SIBLINGS





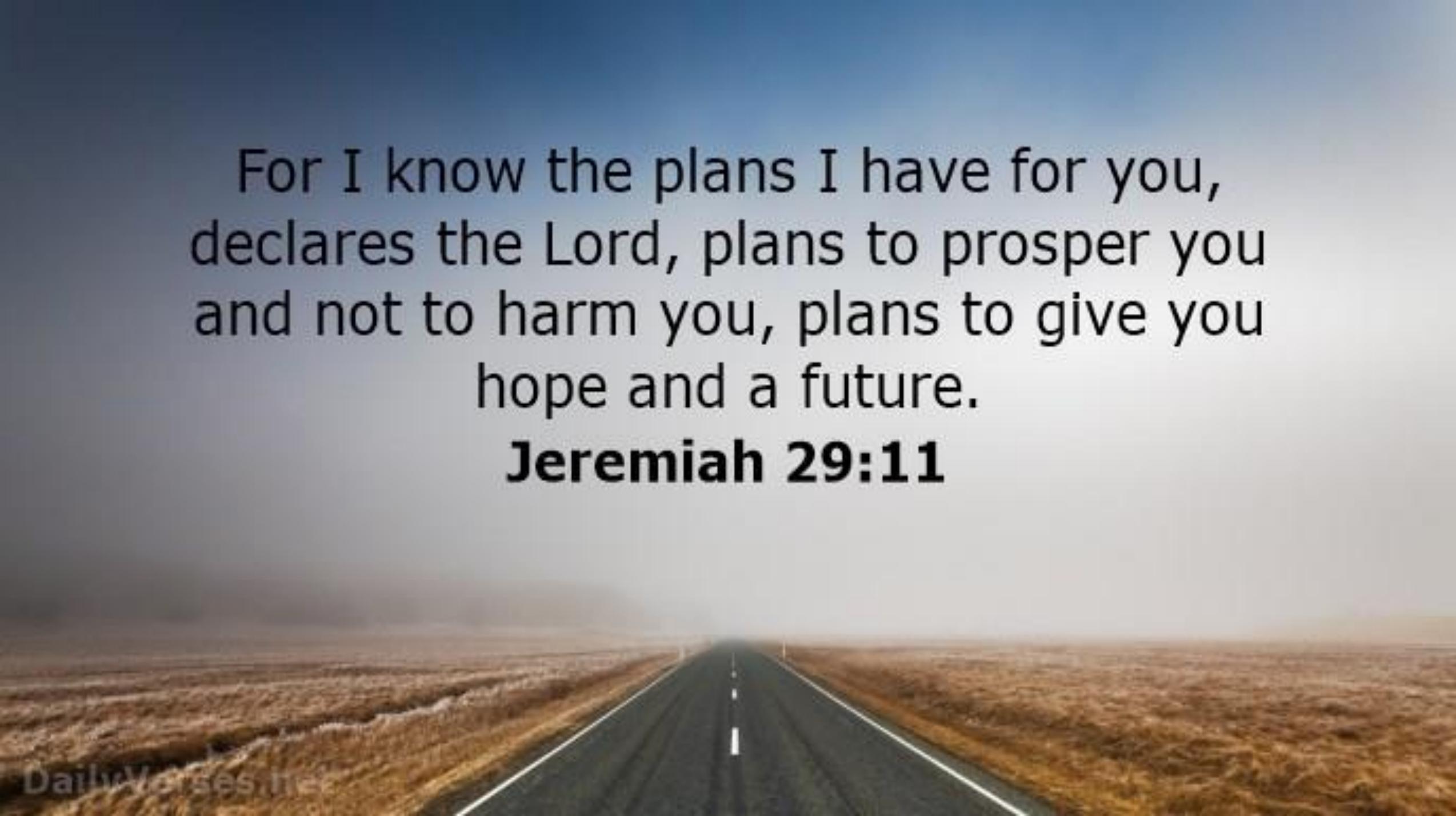
“Joseph is depicted as morally good but immature and bratty. His tattling, boasting, and robe parading inflames his brothers’ hatred against him.”

BRUCE WALTKE

Favoritism alienated Joseph but God used it providentially to prepare His servant.

“And the patriarchs, jealous of Joseph, sold him into Egypt, but God was with him”
(Acts 7:9).

COMFORTING THOUGHTS

A long, straight road stretches into the distance under a clear blue sky, with a hazy horizon. The road is flanked by dry, brownish vegetation. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

For I know the plans I have for you,
declares the Lord, plans to prosper you
and not to harm you, plans to give you
hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11