

Genesis 39:6-23

▶ **Personal Purity
In A Culture Of
Sexual Malice**


Genesis 39:6-7

I. How To Prepare For Temptation

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A. Temptation Pulls Us From A Wholesome Appreciation Of A Capable And Attractive Person/Thing To A Covetousness Of Him/Her/It

- *6 So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge, and because of him he had no concern about anything but the food he ate. Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance. 7a And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph*

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- **Proverbs 22:3** The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it.
 - **Proverbs 7:7-8** 7 and I have seen among the simple, I have perceived among the youths,

▶ **B. Sin Crosses The Line From
Tempting Considerations To Sinful
Action (7b)**

- *7b and said, “Lie with me.”*

The Analysis Of The Affair

(summarized from Tom Eisenman's *Temptation Men Face*, pp. 88-93)

- **Readiness**
- **Alertness**
- **Innocent Meeting**
- **Intentional Meeting**
- **Public Linger**
- **Private Linger**
- **Purposeful Isolating**
- **Pleasurable Isolating**
- **Affectionate Embracing**
- **Passionate Embracing**
- **Capitulation**
- **Acceptance**

Genesis 39:8-9

II. How To Think Through Temptation

A. Refusal: How Can I Act Unrighteously?

- *8a But he refused*
- **1 Peter 5:8-9** 8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 9 Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

▶ **B. Respect: How Can I Hurt Someone Who Has Been Good To Me?**

- *8b and said to his master's wife, "Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge. 9a He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me*

C. Relationships: How Can I Sin With Someone Else's Spouse?

- *9b except you, because you are his wife.*

▶ **D. Righteousness: How Can I Sin
Against The God Who Saved Me?**

- *9c How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"*

Genesis 39:10-26

III. How To Respond To Temptation

A. Persistently: Don't Let Your Resistance Wear Down

- *10 And as she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not listen to her, to lie beside her or to be with her.*
- Didn't listen to her/him
- Didn't lie near her/him
- Didn't be with her/him

B. Attentively: Be Aware Of Your Vulnerable Circumstances

- *11 But one day, when he went into the house to do his work and none of the men of the house was there in the house,*
- **Proverbs 22:3** The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it.


▶ “If you plan to resist temptation, you must meet four requirements:

1. You must not be weakened by your situation
2. You must not be deceived by the persuasion
3. You must not be gentle with your emotions
4. You must not be confused with the immediate results”

(Chuck Swindoll - *Joseph: A Man of Integrity and Forgiveness*, p. 34)

C. Evasively: Flee Sexual Temptation

- *12 she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand and fled and got out of the house.*

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- **2 Timothy 2:22** So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

- ■ **James 4:7-8** 7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Genesis 39:13-15

IV. How To Manage The Price For Resisting Temptation

▶ **A. Our Possessions/Finances May
Take A Hit**

- 13 And as soon as she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled out of the house,

B. Our Reputation May Take A Hit

- *14 she called to the men of her household and said to them, “See, he has brought among us a Hebrew to laugh at us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice.*

▶ C. Our Comfort-Zone Will Take A Hit

- *15 And as soon as he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried out, he left his garment beside me and fled and got out of the house.”*

V. How To Prepare For The Rejected Tempter's Response (16-23)

- **Proverbs 7:4-5** 4 Say to wisdom, “You are my sister,” and call insight your intimate friend, 5 to keep you from the forbidden woman, from the adulteress with her smooth words.

A. They May Blame-shift Responsibility Away From Themselves

- *16 Then she laid up his garment by her until his master came home, 17 and she told him the same story, saying, “The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought among us, came in to me to laugh at me.*

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B. They May Emotionally Manipulate Anyone They Can Convince

- *18 But as soon as I lifted up my voice and cried, he left his garment beside me and fled out of the house.”*

C. They May Sway The “He Said, She Said” Debate Because Of Their Influence

- *19 As soon as his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him, “This is the way your servant treated me,” his anger was kindled.*

▶ **D. They May Take Away Our
Freedom To Grant Them A Temporary
Reprieve**

- *20 And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison.*

Genesis 39:21-23

▶ **VI. How To Find Comfort
In Obedience When Your
World Turns Upside Down**

A. God's Presence And Steadfast Love Is All We Need

- *21a But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love*

B. Not Everyone Will Appreciate Your Integrity, But Some Will

- *21b and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. 22 And the keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners who were in the prison. Whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. 23 The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge, because the Lord was with him. And whatever he did, the Lord made it succeed.*

Conclusion

- **Our salvation gives us way more than sin will.**
- **Flee sexual temptation (1 Pet 2:11; Gal 5:16-17)**
 - **1 Peter 2:11** Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul,
 - **Galatians 5:16-17** ¹⁶I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. ¹⁷For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.
- **Temptation is a test that can strengthen us.**