

English Corner: Suggested Article of Discussion

1. Article 10 - 1: The Blessed life of Joseph

Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending (牧养) the flocks (牲畜) with his brothers. His father loved him more than his eleven elder brothers. His brothers hated him out of jealous (妒忌) and wanted to get rid (除掉) of him. They sold him to a merchant he took Joseph to Egypt and sold him to Potiphar, the captain (长官) of the palace (皇宫) guard (警卫). Joseph trusted (信靠) God. God was with him and made him successful (顺利) in every thing he did. While he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. Potiphar was pleased with him and made him his personal servant (个人佣人); so he put him in charge of (管理) his house and everything he owned. From then on, because of Joseph God blessed the household (家庭) of the Egyptian and everything that he had in his house and in his fields (田地). Joseph was well-built and good-looking (健美), and after a while his master's wife began to desire (情欲) Joseph and asked him to go to bed with her. He refused (拒绝) and said to her, "Look, my master does not have to concern (担心) himself with anything in the house. I have as much authority (权力) in this house as he has, and he has not kept back anything from me except you. How then could I do such an immoral (不道德) thing and sin (犯罪) against God?" Although she asked Joseph day after day, he would not go to bed with her. But one day when Joseph went into the house to do his work, none of the house servants was there. She caught him by his robe (外衣) and said, "Come to bed with me." But he escaped (逃跑) and ran outside, leaving his robe in her hand. When she saw that he had left his robe and had run out of the house, she called to her house servants and said, "Look at this! This Hebrew (希伯来人) that my husband brought to the house is insulting (侮辱) us. He came into my room and tried to rape (强奸) me, but I screamed (大叫) as loud as I could. When he heard me scream, he ran outside, leaving his robe beside me." She kept his robe with her

until Joseph's master came home. Then she told him the same story.

Joseph's master was furious (暴怒) and had Joseph arrested (逮捕) and put in the prison (监牢). But God was with Joseph and blessed him, so that the jailer (监看守) was pleased with him. He put Joseph in charge of all the other prisoners and made him responsible for everything that was done in the prison. The jailer did not have to look after anything for which Joseph was responsible, because God was with (神同在) Joseph and made him succeed in everything he did.

Years later the king of Egypt had a dream. He saw seven fat cows () and seven other ugly cows. The seven ugly cows ate up the seven fat cows. Nobody in the nation could interpret the king's dream except Joseph, because his God was with him. Joseph was later put in charge of the entire land of Egypt. (Genesis 37:2 – 36, 39:1 – 41:39):

2. Discussion:

1. What reason is given for Joseph's successfulness?
2. Describe the incident that showed his loyalty to his God?
3. What can we learn from Joseph's life?

3. Remember Seven Phrases a Week:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| 386. She rented a car by the hour. | 她按钟点租了一辆车。 |
| 387. Someone is ringing the bell. | 有人在按门铃。 |
| 388. The Smiths are my neighbors. | 史密斯家是我邻居。 |
| 389. These shoes don't fit right. | 这双鞋不太合适。 |
| 390. This is only the first half. | 这才是上半场呢。 |
| 391. This pen doesn't write well. | 这钢笔不好写。 |
| 392. Would you like a cup of tea? | 你想喝杯茶吗? |