

Hey! That's Not Fair: Genesis 39

07/20/2025 - Andy Deane

We live in a world where sexual sin is celebrated and self-control is mocked. Our culture treats purity like a punchline and temptation like a game, but God takes it seriously. In Genesis 39, Joseph finds himself in a situation that's unfair, relentless, and deeply tempting. Yet instead of giving in, he gives us a blueprint for what it looks like to stay faithful when no one's watching and when nothing seems fair.

It's Not Fair When Temptations Comes Knocking When You Aren't Looking For It!

Let's Discuss HOW TO FLEE FROM SEXUAL IMMORALITY:

Genesis 39:1-6, *1 Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there. 2 The Lord was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. 3 When his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did, 4 Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. 5 From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the Lord blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the Lord was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field. 6 So Potiphar left everything he had in Joseph's care; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate.*

Stay busy building something great & we won't have time for it.

- Let's focus on building godly habits in peace before we are tested in times of pressure.
- 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5, *It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God;*

Genesis 39:7, *And after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"*

Don't expect others to support our goals for purity.

- You can't count on someone else to protect your purity. It must be your daily choice.
- Not everyone values faithfulness—stay faithful anyway!

Genesis 39:8a, *But he refused...*

Refuse quickly. Resist loudly. Repeat as often as necessary.

- Leave no room for confusion that you are not interested. A weak no is an open door to compromise. Shut it down!
- James 4:7, *Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

Genesis 39:8b-9a, *...“With me in charge,” he told her, “my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care.” “No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife...”*

Practice faithfulness when no one else is watching.

- Remember that who you are in private reveals who you are and who you serve.
- Your Private purity will also protect your public legacy! So value your public legacy so much it matters in private.

- Matthew 5:27–29, “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.”

Genesis 39:9b, ...”How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?”

Never forget that our sin offends God before it ever hurts others.

- Do not downplay what God calls wicked.
- Joseph’s ability to resist temptation flows from his awareness that God is with him in all situations.

Genesis 39:10, And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.

Stay physically far from what we're fighting to resist.

- If you flirt with sin, don’t be surprised when it grabs you.
- 1 Corinthians 6:18, Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.

Genesis 39:11–12, One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside. She caught him by his cloak and said, “Come to bed with me!” But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.

Escape isn’t always pretty, but it’s always possible.

- Just because you're cornered doesn’t mean you're stuck! It’s always worth it flee from sin.
- 1 Corinthians 10:13, No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.
- 2 Timothy 2:22, Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
- Text “X3” to (951)425-4425 for tools to help you with pornography. Today’s the day you start to fight it!

Genesis 39:13–18, When she saw that he had left his cloak in her hand and had run out of the house, she called her household servants. “Look,” she said to them, “this Hebrew has been brought to us to make sport of us! He came in here to sleep with me, but I screamed. When he heard me scream for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house.” She kept his cloak beside her until his master came home. Then she told him this story: “That Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to make sport of me. But as soon as I screamed for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house.”

Let’s not kid ourselves about who we are dealing with.

- If they are willing to cheat with a married person then they are a tool of the devil, not “cute” or “better”. Stop it.
- Proverbs 2:16–19, Wisdom will save you also from the adulterous woman, from the wayward woman with her seductive words, who has left the partner of her youth and ignored the covenant she made before God. Surely her house leads down to death and her paths to the spirits of the dead. None who go to her return or attain the paths of life.

Genesis 39:19-20, *When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, “This is how your slave treated me,” he burned with anger. Joseph’s master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined.*

Remember: sin offers pleasure but delivers us to prison.

- Please know the high from sin never lasts, but the fallout sure does!
- Proverbs 5:3–5, *For the lips of the adulterous woman drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil; but in the end she is bitter as gall, sharp as a double-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps lead straight to the grave.*
- Proverbs 6:27–29, *Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned? Can a man walk on hot coals without his feet being scorched? So is he who sleeps with another man’s wife; no one who touches her will go unpunished.*
- Hebrews 13:4, *Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.*
- Galatians 5:19–21, *The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

Genesis 39:21-23, *But while Joseph was there in the prison, the Lord was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden. So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there. The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph’s care, because the Lord was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.*

God's presence remains in failure & unfairness.

- Let’s do the right thing even if the cost of doing it is high.
- God will reward your faithfulness, even in unfair situations.

Please text “GARDEN” to (951)425-4425 for summer gardening tips (ok, it’s actually for practical tips on fleeing sexual immorality...but it’s too awkward to say text ‘sexual-immorality’)