

¹Jacob lived in the land of his father's sojournings, in the land of Canaan.

²These are the generations of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was pasturing the flock with his brothers. He was a boy with the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives. And Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. ³Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a robe of many colours. ⁴But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him.

⁵Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they hated him even more. ⁶He said to them, "Hear this dream that I have dreamed: ⁷Behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf arose and stood upright. And behold, your sheaves gathered round it and bowed down to my sheaf." ⁸His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Or are you indeed to rule over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.

⁹Then he dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers and said, "Behold, I have dreamed another dream. Behold, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me." ¹⁰But when he told it to his father and to his brothers, his father rebuked him and said to him, "What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall I and your mother and your brothers indeed come to bow ourselves to the ground before you?" ¹¹And his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the saying in mind.

¹²Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. ¹³And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." And he said to him, "Here I am."

? After the talk today, there will be a short Q&A session, time permitting

'Where is God in a messed up world?' '...in a dysfunctional family?'

Genesis 37:1-13

Has "Plan A" been derailed?

1. God has chosen a Second Adam who will rule¹

2. ...who is hated by his brothers

for exposing their wrong-doing (v2)²

for being favoured by his father (v3-4)³

for being chosen to rule (v5-11)⁴

3. ...and yet who willingly goes after them (v12-13)⁵

"But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you...If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them...But love your enemies..." (Luke 6:27-35)

¹ 1 Corinthians 15:45.

² Luke 16:13-14.

³ Mark 12:6-7.

⁴ Luke 19:14.

⁵ Genesis 34:26-27; Hebrews 10:5-7; Romans 5:7-8.

Next Week:

Series: Where is God in a messed up world?

Talk: ...in a brutal crime

Speaker: Andrew Latimer