

One Step Forward, Two Steps Back: Joseph Imprisoned in Egypt (Gen 39–40)

Grace Chapel April 7, 2010 Dr. John Niemelä

INTRODUCTION

(39:1–6) Joseph was purchased by Potiphar and the Lord prospered Potiphar through whatever Joseph did

(39:1) Potiphar bought Joseph from the Ishmaelites

(39:2) The Lord caused Joseph to prosper in whatever he did

(39:3–6) Potiphar promoted the handsome Joseph to oversee everything that was his

(39:7–20) Joseph refused Potiphar's wife's advances, who then falsely accused him to the servants and to her husband

(39:7–10) Joseph refused Potiphar's wife's repeated advances, because it would be sin against God who promoted him

(39:11–12) One day Potiphar's wife grabbed him by his cloak; he fled, leaving the cloak in her hand

(39:13–20) Potiphar's wife falsely accused Joseph to the servants and to her husband, who had him imprisoned

(39:21–23) While Joseph was in prison, the Lord caused him to prosper, so the warden put him in charge of everything

(40:1–19) Joseph interpreted dreams for Pharaoh’s imprisoned cupbearer and baker: foretelling that the cupbearer would return to his duties, but the baker would be executed

(40:1–4) Pharaoh’s cupbearer and baker were also imprisoned with Joseph

(40:5–8) Pharaoh’s cupbearer and baker were sad, because no one could interpret their dreams, so Joseph volunteered to interpret them

(40:9–15) Joseph interpreted the cupbearer’s dream and asked him to remember him when he was released

(40:16–19) Joseph interpreted the baker’s dream

(40:20–23) Three days later, Pharaoh lifted the head of the cupbearer (to freedom) and lifted up the head of the baker (execution), but the cupbearer did not remember Joseph

SUMMARY