

Genesis 39:6

Thus he left all that he had in Joseph's hand, and he did not know what he had except for the bread which he ate. Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance.

If you think about it, in the world's eyes, Joseph had it made. Sure, he was sold into slavery by his brothers, but still he had it made. He was young, very likely 17 - 20 at this time. He was good looking and was probably buffed (***Joseph was handsome in form and appearance***) He had a great job working for Potiphar, who was the Capitan of the Guard in Egypt, and had control over Potiphar's entire house and all that he had (***Thus he left all that he had in Joseph's hand, and he did not know what he had except for the bread which he ate.***) Also, being so good looking and having a great job under a big named employer, he was probably a babe magnet as well. We know this because his boss, Potiphar who had such a high job in Egypt would have had a hot looking wife, and this hot looking wife wanted Joseph.

Great looks, great job, and women after you, what more could a 17 – 20 year old want, and all he had to do was give into this one woman, and he would have been set for life. All the sex he wanted, the run of the master's house, and in charge of all the servants, and he would had been able to boast about his job. But that's how the world would think about this story and how they would had instructed a young, good looking, resourceful man like Joseph to pursue his career and prepare for his future.

If this same type of scenario were to happen today, don't you think the world would tell him to go for it? If you don't know, then you haven't watched TV or been to the movies in years. lol

But it didn't happened that way, even though others, like Joseph's Egyptian buddies, may have told Joseph to follow the world's path to success. Or he could have done so, just by observing the Egyptian lifestyle and following the pattern of the Egyptians.

But Joseph didn't, he refused to give into the ways of the culture that he lived in, and even more so, he refused to sin against God, which was his sole reason for not giving into Potiphar's wife.

† **Genesis 39:9b** *How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"*

And what was his reward for his obedience to God? Some would say, that he was thrown into prison and that was his reward. But I beg to differ. Sure he was thrown into prison for a time, but honestly, what Joseph was rewarded with was a better job, which was being second next to Pharaoh (think Vice President), which I would say is a much better job then being a house boy.

† **Genesis 41:44** *Pharaoh also said to Joseph, "I am Pharaoh, and without your consent no man may lift his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt."*

And he got a gorgeous wife of his own.

† **Genesis 41:45** *And Pharaoh called Joseph's name Zaphnath-Paaneah. And he gave him as a wife Asenath, the daughter of Poti-Pherah priest of On. So Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt.*

Along with that, Joseph had two sons as well, which we know as part of the twelve tribes of Israel, who are the half tribe of Manasseh and the half tribe of Ephraim.

† **Genesis 41:50-52** *And to Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, whom Asenath, the daughter of Poti-Pherah priest of On, bore to him. Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: "For God has made me forget all my toil and all my father's house." And the name of the second he called Ephraim: "For God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction."*

So, once again, in the world's eyes, Joseph had it made as a young, good looking man with a great job and a hot babe after him. But if he had given in to her, he would have died right then and there, because the Bible says that your sin will find you out, and if he got caught sleeping with Potiphar's (the Captain of the Guard in Egypt) wife, he would have been executed immediately.

† **Numbers 32:23** *But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the LORD; and be sure your sin will find you out.*

So, you can choose to listen to the world and take the wrong path and be miserable and lose your soul, or you can wait on the Lord and be blessed, because there are no shortcuts in God's plan on getting to Heaven or prospering on this earth.

† **Matthew 7:13-14 (MSG)** *Don't look for shortcuts to God. The market is flooded with surefire, easygoing formulas for a successful life that can be practiced in your spare time. Don't fall for that stuff, even though crowds of people do. The way to life—to God!—is vigorous and requires total attention.*