

# Reuven Saves Yosef

Source Sheet by סימי פיטרס

## Genesis 37:1-30

(1) Now Jacob was settled in the land where his father had sojourned, the land of Canaan. (2) This, then, is the line of Jacob: At seventeen years of age, Joseph tended the flocks with his brothers, as a helper to the sons of his father's wives Bilhah and Zilpah. And Joseph brought bad reports of them to their father. (3) Now Israel loved Joseph best of all his sons, for he was the child of his old age; and he had made him an ornamented tunic. (4) And when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of his brothers, they hated him so that they could not speak a friendly word to him. (5) Once Joseph had a dream which he told to his brothers; and they hated him even more. (6) He said to them, "Hear this dream which I have dreamed: (7) There we were binding sheaves in the field, when suddenly my sheaf stood up and remained upright; then your sheaves gathered around and bowed low to my sheaf." (8) His brothers answered, "Do you mean to reign over us? Do you mean to rule over us?" And they hated him even more

בראשית ל"ז:א'-ל'

(א) וַיָּשָׁב יַעֲקֹב בְּאֶרֶץ מִגְוָרֵי אָבִיו  
בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן: (ב) אֵלֶּה הַיְלָדִים  
יֹסֵף בֶּן־שִׁבְעֵ-עָשָׂר שָׁנָה הָיָה רֹעֵה  
אֶת־אֶחָיו בְּצֹאן וְהוּא נָעַר אֶת־בְּנֵי  
בְּלֵהָה וְאֶת־בְּנֵי זִלְפָּה נְשֵׂי אָבִיו וַיָּבֵא  
יֹסֵף אֶת־דְּבָרֵתָם רָעָה אֶל־אָבִיהֶם: (ג)  
וַיִּשְׂרָאֵל אֶהָב אֶת־יֹסֵף מִכָּל־בְּנָיו כִּי־  
בְּוִזְמָנִים הוּא לוֹ וַעֲשָׂה לוֹ כְּתֹנֶת  
פָּסִים: (ד) וַיַּרְאוּ אֶחָיו כִּי־אֹתוֹ אֶהָב  
אָבִיהֶם מִכָּל־אֶחָיו וַיִּשְׁנְאוּ אֹתוֹ וְלֹא  
יָכְלוּ דַבְּרוֹ לְשָׁלָם: (ה) וַיַּחְלֵם יֹסֵף  
חֲלוֹם וַיַּגִּד לְאֶחָיו וַיֹּסְפוּ עוֹד שָׁנֵא  
אֹתוֹ: (ו) וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם שְׁמַעוּ־נָא  
הַחֲלוֹם הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר חֲלַמְתִּי: (ז) וְהִנֵּה  
אֲנִיחֲנוּ מֵאֲלֵמִים אֲלֵמִים בְּתוֹךְ הַשָּׂדֶה  
וְהִנֵּה קָמָה אֲלַמְתִּי וְגַם־נִצְבָה וְהִנֵּה  
תִּסְבִּינָה אֲלַמְתֵיכֶם וַתִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶינּוּ  
לְאֲלַמְתִּי: (ח) וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ אֶחָיו הַמֶּלֶךְ  
תִּמְלֹךְ עָלֵינוּ אִם־מְשׁוֹל תִּמְשָׁל בָּנוּ  
וַיֹּסְפוּ עוֹד שָׁנֵא אֹתוֹ עַל־חֲלַמְתּוֹ  
וְעַל־דְּבָרָיו: (ט) וַיַּחְלֵם עוֹד חֲלוֹם  
אַחַר וַיִּסְפֹּר אֹתוֹ לְאֶחָיו וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה  
חֲלַמְתִּי חֲלוֹם עוֹד וְהִנֵּה הַשָּׁמֶשׁ וְהַיָּרֵחַ  
וְאַחַד עָשָׂר כּוֹכָבִים מִשְׁתַּחֲוִים לִי: (י)  
וַיִּסְפֹּר אֶל־אָבִיו וְאֶל־אֶחָיו וַיַּגְעֲרֻבּוּ

for his talk about his dreams. (9) He dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers, saying, “Look, I have had another dream: And this time, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me.” (10) And when he told it to his father and brothers, his father berated him. “What,” he said to him, “is this dream you have dreamed? Are we to come, I and your mother and your brothers, and bow low to you to the ground?” (11) So his brothers were wrought up at him, and his father kept the matter in mind. (12) One time, when his brothers had gone to pasture their father’s flock at Shechem, (13) Israel said to Joseph, “Your brothers are pasturing at Shechem. Come, I will send you to them.” He answered, “I am ready.” (14) And he said to him, “Go and see how your brothers are and how the flocks are faring, and bring me back word.” So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. When he reached Shechem, (15) a man came upon him wandering in the fields. The man asked him, “What are you looking for?” (16) He answered, “I am looking for my brothers. Could you tell me where they are pasturing?” (17) The man said, “They have gone from here, for I heard them say: Let us go to Dothan.” So Joseph followed his

אָבִיו וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ מָה הַחֲלוֹם הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר  
חִלְמָתְךָ הַבּוֹא נִבּוֹא אֲנִי וְאַמְךָ וְאַחֶיךָ  
לְהִשְׁתַּחֲוֹת לְךָ אַרְצָה: (יא) וַיִּקְנְאוּ-בּוֹ  
אָחָיו וְאַבְיוֹ שָׁמַר אֶת-הַדְּבָר: (יב)  
וַיֵּלְכוּ אָחָיו לְרַעוּת אֶת-צֹאן אֲבֵיהֶם  
בְּשֶׁכֶם: (יג) וַיֹּאמֶר יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶל-יְהוֹסֵף  
הֲלוֹא אַחֶיךָ רַעִים בְּשֶׁכֶם לָכֵה  
וְאַשְׁלַחְךָ אֲלֵיהֶם וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ הַגִּנֵּי: (יד)  
וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ לֹד-נָא רְאֵה אֶת-שְׁלוֹם  
אַחֶיךָ וְאֶת-שְׁלוֹם הַצֹּאן וְהִשְׁבִּנִי דְבָר  
וַיִּשְׁלַחְהוּ מֵעֵמֶק חֶבְרוֹן וַיָּבֹא שְׁכֶמָה:  
(טו) וַיִּמְצְאוּהוּ אִישׁ וְהִגִּיהָ תַעֲזָה בְּשׂוֹדָה  
וַיִּשְׁאַלְהוּ הָאִישׁ לֵאמֹר מַה-תְּבַקֵּשׁ:  
(טז) וַיֹּאמֶר אֶת-אֲחֵי אֲנֹכִי מִבְּקֵשׁ  
הַגִּידָה-נָא לִי אֵיפֹה הֵם רַעִים: (יז)  
וַיֹּאמֶר הָאִישׁ נִסְעוּ מִזֶּה כִּי שְׁמַעְתִּי  
אֲמָרִים נִלְכָה דַתִּינָה וַיִּלְוֵהוּ יוֹסֵף אַחֵר  
אָחָיו וַיִּמְצְאוּם בְּדוֹתָן: (יח) וַיִּרְאוּ אֹתוֹ  
מִרְחֹק וַיִּבְטְרוּם יִקְרַב אֲלֵיהֶם וַיִּתְנַפְּלוּ  
אֹתוֹ לְהַמִּיתוֹ: (יט) וַיֹּאמְרוּ אִישׁ אֶל-  
אָחָיו הֲנִה בָּעַל הַחֲלוֹמוֹת הַלְזָה בָּא:  
(כ) וְעַתָּה | לָכוּ וְגַהֲרָהוּ וְנִשְׁלַחְהוּ  
בְּאֶתֶד הַבְּרוֹת וְאַמְרָנוּ תִּיְהִי רַעַה  
אֲכַלְתָּהוּ וְנִרְאָה מִה-יְהִיו חֲלוֹמְתָיו:  
(כא) וַיִּשְׁמַע רְאוּבֵן וַיִּצְלָהוּ מִיָּדָם  
וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא נִפְּנוּ נִפְּשׁ: (כב) וַיֹּאמֶר  
אֲלֵיהֶם | רְאוּבֵן אֶל-תְּשַׁכְּחוּ-דָם  
הַשְּׁלִיכוּ אֹתוֹ אֶל-הַבּוֹר הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר  
בַּמִּדְבָּר וַיֵּד אֶל-תְּשַׁלְּחוּ-בּוֹ לְמַעַן  
הַצִּיל אֹתוֹ מִיָּדָם לְהַשִּׁיבּוֹ אֶל-אָבִיו:

brothers and found them at Dothan. (18) They saw him from afar, and before he came close to them they conspired to kill him. (19) They said to one another, “Here comes that dreamer! (20) Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; and we can say, ‘A savage beast devoured him.’ We shall see what comes of his dreams!” (21) But when Reuben heard it, he tried to save him from them. He said, “Let us not take his life.” (22) And Reuben went on, “Shed no blood! Cast him into that pit out in the wilderness, but do not touch him yourselves”—intending to save him from them and restore him to his father. (23) When Joseph came up to his brothers, they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the ornamented tunic that he was wearing, (24) and took him and cast him into the pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. (25) Then they sat down to a meal. Looking up, they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, their camels bearing gum, balm, and ladanum to be taken to Egypt. (26) Then Judah said to his brothers, “What do we gain by killing our brother and covering up his blood? (27) Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, but let us not do away with him ourselves. After all, he is our brother, our own flesh.” His brothers agreed. (28)

(כג) וַיְהִי בְּאֶשְׁר־בָּא יוֹסֵף אֶל־אֶחָיו  
וַיִּפְנְשׂוּ אֶת־יוֹסֵף אֶת־כַּתְּנֹתָיו אֶת־  
כַּתְּנֹת הַפְּטִים אֲשֶׁר עָלָיו: (כד)  
וַיִּקְחֵהוּ וַיִּשְׁלְכוּ אֹתוֹ הַבְּרָה וְהַבּוֹר רָק  
אֵין בּוֹ מַיִם: (כה) וַיָּשֻׁבוּ לְאַכְל־לֶחֶם  
וַיִּשְׂאוּ עֵינֵיהֶם וַיִּרְאוּ וְהִנֵּה אַרְחַת  
יִשְׁמְעֵאלִים בָּאָה מִגְּלָעָד וּגְמָלֵיהֶם  
נֹשְׂאִים נֹכָאת וְצָרִי וְלֹט הוֹלְכִים  
לְהוֹרִיד מִצְרַיִמָּה: (כו) וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוֹדָה  
אֶל־אֶחָיו מַה־כָּבֵד כִּי נִהְרַגְתֶּם אֶת־אֶחָיו  
וְכִסִּינוּ אֶת־דָּמּוֹ: (כז) לָכוּ וְנִמְכְּרוּ  
לְיִשְׁמְעֵאלִים וַיִּדְּנוּ אֶל־תְּהִי־בֹ כִּי־  
אֶחָיו בְּשָׂרֵנוּ הוּא וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ אֶחָיו:  
(כח) וַיַּעֲבְרוּ אַנְשֵׁים מִדִּינָיִם סְחָרִים  
וַיִּמְשְׁכוּ וַיַּעֲלוּ אֶת־יוֹסֵף מִן־הַבּוֹר  
וַיִּמְכְּרוּ אֶת־יוֹסֵף לְיִשְׁמְעֵאלִים  
בְּעֶשְׂרִים כֶּסֶף וַיָּבִיאוּ אֶת־יוֹסֵף  
מִצְרַיִמָּה: (כט) וַיָּשָׁב רְאוּבֵן אֶל־הַבּוֹר  
וְהִנֵּה אֵין־יוֹסֵף בַּבּוֹר וַיִּקְרַע אֶת־  
בְּגָדָיו: (ל) וַיָּשָׁב אֶל־אֶחָיו וַיֹּאמֶר  
הֲיִלָּד אֵינָנו וְאֲנִי אָנֹכִי אֲנִי־בָא:

When Midianite traders passed by, they pulled Joseph up out of the pit. They sold Joseph for twenty pieces of silver to the Ishmaelites, who brought Joseph to Egypt. (29) When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was not in the pit, he rent his clothes. (30) Returning to his brothers, he said, "The boy is gone! Now, what am I to do?"

**Bereishit Rabbah 84:15**

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בראשית רבה פ"ד:ט"ו

(טו) וַיִּשְׁמַע רְאוּבֵן וַיִּצְלֵהוּ (בראשית  
לז, כא), וְהֵיכֵן הָיָה, רַבִּי יוֹסֵי וְרַבִּי  
נְחֻמְיָה וְרַבְּנָן, רַבִּי יוֹסֵי אָמַר כָּל אֶחָד  
וְאֶחָד מֵהֶם הָיָה מְשַׁמֵּשׂ אֶת אָבִיו יוֹמוֹ,  
וְאוֹתוֹ הַיּוֹם שָׁל רְאוּבֵן הָיָה. רַבִּי  
נְחֻמְיָה אָמַר, אָמַר רְאוּבֵן אֲנִי בְּכוֹר  
וְאִין הַסְּרַחוֹן תְּלוּי אֱלָא בִּי, רַבְּנָן  
אָמְרִי אָמַר רְאוּבֵן הוּא מוֹנֶה אוֹתִי עִם  
אָחִי וְאִינִי מִצִּילוֹ, אֲנִי הָיִיתִי סְבוּר  
שְׁנַדְחָתִי מִכַּח אוֹתוֹ מַעֲשָׂה, וְהוּא מוֹנֶה  
אוֹתִי עִם אָחִי, שְׁנַאָמַר (בראשית לז,  
ט): וְאֶחָד עֶשֶׂר כּוֹכָבִים מְשַׁתְּחִימִים לִי,  
וְאִינִי מִצִּילוֹ. אָמַר לוֹ הַקְּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ  
הוּא אַתָּה פְּתַחְתָּ תַּחֲלָה בְּהַצֵּלְתָּ  
נַפְשׁוֹתַי, תִּיְיָדָּ שְׁאִין מִפְּרִישִׁין עָרִי  
מִקְלָט תַּחֲלָה אֱלָא בְּתַחוּמָּךְ, הֲדָא הוּא  
דְּכַתִּיב (דברים ז, מג): אֶת בְּצָר  
בַּמְדָּבָר.

**Genesis 35:16-26**

(16) They set out from Bethel; but when they were still some distance short of Ephrath, Rachel was in childbirth, and she had hard labor. (17) When her labor was at its hardest, the midwife said to her, “Have no fear, for it is another boy for you.” (18) But as she breathed her last—for she was dying—she named him Ben-oni; but his father called him Benjamin. (19) Thus Rachel died. She was buried on the road to Ephrath—now Bethlehem. (20) Over her grave Jacob set up a pillar; it is the pillar at Rachel’s grave to this day. (21) Israel journeyed on, and pitched his tent beyond Migdal-eder. (22) While Israel stayed in that land, Reuben went and lay with Bilhah, his father’s concubine; and Israel found out. Now the sons of Jacob were twelve in number. (23) The sons of Leah: Reuben—Jacob’s first-born—Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun. (24) The sons of Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin. (25) The sons of Bilhah, Rachel’s maid: Dan and Naphtali. (26) And the sons of Zilpah, Leah’s maid: Gad and Asher. These are the sons of Jacob who were born to him in Paddan-aram.

בראשית ל"ה:ט"ז-כ"ו

(טז) וַיִּסְעוּ מִבֵּית אֵל וַיְהִי-עוֹד כַּבְּרַת-הָאָרֶץ לָבוֹא אֶפְרַתָּה וַתֵּלֶד רָחֵל וַתִּקְשׁ בְּלִדְתָּהּ: (יז) וַיְהִי בְהִקְשָׁתָהּ בְּלִדְתָּהּ וַתֹּאמֶר לָהּ הַמִּיֹּלֶדֶת אֶל-תִּירְאִי כִּי-גַם-זֶה לְךָ בֵּן: (יח) וַיְהִי בְצָאת נַפְשָׁהּ כִּי מָתָה וַתִּקְרָא שְׁמוֹ בֶן-אוֹנִי וְאָבִיו קָרָא-לוֹ בְּנִימִין: (יט) וַתָּמָת רָחֵל וַתִּקְבֹּר בְּדֶרֶךְ אֶפְרַתָּה הוּא בֵּית לָחֶם: (כ) וַיֵּצֵב יַעֲקֹב מַצֵּבָה עַל-קִבְרֹתָהּ הוּא מַצֵּבַת קִבְרַת-רָחֵל עַד-הַיּוֹם: (כא) וַיִּסַּע יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיֵּט אֹהֶלָה מִהַלְאָה לְמִגְדַל-עֵדֶר: (כב) וַיְהִי בַשָּׂכָן יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּאָרֶץ הַהוּא וַיִּלֶךְ רְאוּבֵן וַיִּשְׁכַּב אֶת-בְּלֵהָהּ פִּילְגָשׁ אָבִיו וַיִּשְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל לְבָנָיו בְּנֵי-יַעֲקֹב שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר: (כג) בְּנֵי לֵאָה בְּכוֹר יַעֲקֹב רְאוּבֵן וְשִׁמְעוֹן וְלֵוִי וַיְהוּדָה וַיִּשְׁשֹׁנָר וַזְּבוּלֹן: (כד) בְּנֵי רָחֵל יוֹסֵף וּבְנִימִין: (כה) וּבְנֵי בְלֵהָהּ שְׁפֹתָת רָחֵל דָּן וְנַפְתָּלִי: (כו) וּבְנֵי זִלְפָּה שְׁפֹתָת לֵאָה גָד וְאַשֶׁר אֵלֶּהּ בְּנֵי יַעֲקֹב אֲשֶׁר יָלְדוּ-לוֹ בְּפָדָן אַרָּם:

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