



Gen 37:1-40:23 Vayeshev Expanded Chiasm

1A) 37:1-4 The history of Jacob: **JACOB** loved Joseph and **HONORED HIM**;

1a) 37:1-2 And Jacob dwelt in the land of his father's sojournings, in the land of Canaan.
2 These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers, being still a lad, even with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives; and **Joseph brought an evil report of them** to their father;

1b) 37:3a Now **Israel loved Joseph more than all his children**, because he was the son of his old age;

central axis) 37:3b And he made him a coat of many colors;

2b) 37:4a And when his brothers saw that **their father loved him more than all his brothers**;

2a) 37:4b **They** hated him, and **could not speak peaceably to him**;

1B) 37:5-11 Joseph dreamed **TWO DREAMS**;

1a) 37:5 And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and **they hated him** all the more;

1b) 37:6-8a **Joseph's first dream**;

1a) 37:6 And **he said to them**: Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed;

1b) 37:7a For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, **my sheaf arose**, and also stood upright;

2b) 37:7b And, behold, **your sheaves** came round about, and **bowed down** to my sheaf;

2a) 37:8a And **his brothers said to him**: Shall you indeed reign over us? Or shall you indeed have dominion over us?

central axis) 37:8b And they hated him all the more for his dreams, and for his words;

2b) 37:9-10 **Joseph's second dream**;

1a.1) 37:9a And he **dreamed yet another dream**, and told it to his brothers, and said: Behold, I have dreamed yet a dream;

1a.2) 37:9b And, behold, the sun and the moon and eleven stars **bowed down to me**;

central axis) 37:10a And he told it to his father, and to his brothers; and his father rebuked him, and said to him;

2a.1) 37:10b What is this **dream that you have dreamed**?

2a.2) 37:10c Shall I and your mother and your brothers indeed come to **bow down to you** to the earth?

2a) 37:11 And **his brothers envied him**; but his father kept the saying in mind;

1C.1) 37:12-17 Jacob sent **JOSEPH** to his brothers **AS HIS OVERSEER**;

1a) 37:12-17 **Joseph sent to his brothers in Shechem**;

1a) 37:12-13a And his brothers went to feed their father's flock in **Shechem**.

13 And Israel said to Joseph: Do not your brothers feed the flock in **Shechem**?

1b) 37:13b Come, and **I will send you to them**;

central axis) 37:13c And he said to him: Here I am;

*2b) 37:14a And he said to him: **Go now**, see whether it is well with your brothers, and well with the flock; and bring me back word;*

*2a) 37:14b So he sent him out of the valley of Hebron, and he came to **Shechem**;*

1b) 37:15a And a certain man found him, and, behold, **he was wandering in the field**;

central axis) 37:15b-16a And the man asked him, saying: What do you seek? **16 And he said: I seek my brothers**;

2b) 37:16b Tell me, I pray you, **where they are feeding the flock**.;

2a) 37:17 And the man said: They are departed from here; for I heard them say: Let us go to Dothan. And **Joseph went after his brothers**, and found them **in Dothan**;

1C.2) 37:18-23 Joseph's brothers **CONSPIRED AGAINST HIM**;

1a) 37:18a And they saw him afar off, and **before he came near to them**;

1b) 37:18b-20 They conspired to slay him, **taking him from his father**;

1a) 37:18b-20a They conspired against him to slay him. **19** And they said one to another: Behold, **this dreamer comes**. **20** Come now therefore, and let us slay him;

central axis) 37:20b And **cast him into one of the pits**;

2a) 37:20c And we will say: An evil beast has devoured him; and we shall see **what will become of his dreams**;

1c) 37:21a And Reuben heard it, and **delivered him out of their hand**;

1d) 37:21b-22a And said: **Let us not take his life**. **22** And Reuben said to them: Shed no blood;

central axis) 37:22b Cast him into this pit that is in the wilderness;

2d) 37:22c But **lay no hand on him**;

2c) 37:22d That he might **deliver him out of their hand**;

2b) 37:22e To **restore him to his father**;

2a) 37:23a And it came to pass, **when Joseph had come to his brothers**;

1C.3) 37:23B-24 That they stripped Joseph of his coat, the coat of many colors that was on him; **24** and they took him, and **CAST HIM INTO THE PIT**—and the pit was empty, there was no water in it;

ID) 37:25-36 The Ishmaelites took Joseph to Egypt and **SOLD HIM TO POTIPHER, AN OFFICER OF PHARAOH**; {p}

1a) 37:25-28 They sold Joseph to the **Midianites** for twenty shekels of silver;

1a) 37:25 And they sat down to eat bread; and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a caravan of Ishmaelites came from Gilead, with their camels bearing spices and balm and ladanum, going to carry it **down to Egypt**;

1b) 37:26-27a And Judah said to his brothers: What profit is it if we slay our brother and conceal his blood? **27** Come, and **let us sell him to the Ishmaelites**;

central axis) 37:27b And let not our hand be on him; for he is our brother, our flesh. And his brothers heeded him;

*2b) 37:28a And there passed by Midianites, merchantmen; and they drew and lifted Joseph up out of the pit, and **sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites** for twenty shekels of silver;*

*2a) 37:28b And they brought Joseph **into Egypt**;*

*1b) 37:29-30 And **Reuben** returned to the pit; and, behold, Joseph was not in the pit; and he **rent his clothes**. **30** And he returned to his brothers, and said: The child is not; **and as for me, where shall I go?***

*1c) 37:31-32 And they took **Joseph's coat**, and killed a male goat, and dipped the coat in the blood; **32** and they sent the coat of many colors, and they brought it to their father; and said: We have found this;*

*central axis) 37:32b-33a **Do you know now whether it is your son's coat or not? 33** And he knew it;*

*2c) 37:33b And said: It is **my son's coat**; an evil beast has devoured him; Joseph is without doubt torn in pieces;*

*2b) 37:34-35 And **Jacob rent his garments**, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days. **35** And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said: No, but **I will go down to the grave to my son mourning**. And his father wept for him;*

*2a) 37:36 And **the Midianites sold him** into Egypt **to Potiphar**, an officer of Pharaoh's, the captain of the guard; {p}*

CENTRAL AXIS) 38:1-30 JUDAH AMONG THE CANAANITES; {s}

*1a) 38:1-10 **Two sons of Judah** by the Canaanite woman;*

*1a) 38:1-7 Judah's firstborn Er was **wicked in the sight of YHVH**, and **YHVH slew him**;*

*1A) 38:1-3 And it came to pass at that time, that Judah went down from his brothers, and turned in to a certain Adullamite, whose name was Hirah. **2** And Judah saw there a daughter of a certain Canaanite whose name was Shua; and he took her, and went in to her. **3** And she conceived, and bore a son; and **HE CALLED HIS NAME ER**;*

*1B) 38:4 And she conceived again, and **BORE A SON; AND SHE CALLED HIS NAME ONAN**;*

*2B) 38:5 And she yet again **BORE A SON, AND CALLED HIS NAME SHELAH**; and he was at Chezib, when she bore him;*

*2A) 38:6 And Judah took a wife for **ER HIS FIRSTBORN**, and her name was Tamar. **7** And **ER, JUDAH'S FIRSTBORN**, was wicked in the sight of YHVH; and YHVH slew him;*

*central axis) 38:8-9 **And Judah said to Onan: Go in to your brother's wife, and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her, and raise up seed to your brother. 9** And Onan knew that the seed would not be his; and it came to pass when he went in to his brother's wife, that he spilled it on the ground, lest he should give seed to his brother;*

- 2a) 38:10* And the thing which he did was *evil in the sight of YHVH*; and *He slew him* also;
- 1b) 38:11** Tamar to remain a widow in her father's house **until she is given to Shelah, Judah's son**;
- 1a) 38:11a* Then said Judah to Tamar his daughter-in-law: Remain a widow *in your father's house*;
- central axis) 38:11b* *Till Shelah my son is grown up; for he said: Lest he also die, like his brothers*;
- 2a) 38:11c* And Tamar went and dwelt *in her father's house*;
- 1c) 38:12-19**
- 1a) 38:12-14a* And in process of time Shua's daughter, the wife of Judah, died; and Judah was comforted, and went up to his sheep-shearers to Timnah, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite. **13** And it was told Tamar, saying: Behold, your father-in-law goes up to Timnah to shear his sheep. **14** And *she put off from her the garments of her widowhood*;
- 1b) 38:14b* And *covered herself with her veil*, and wrapped herself;
- 1c) 38:14c* And *sat in the entrance of Enaim*, which is by the way to Timnah;
- central axis) 38:14d* *For she saw that Shelah was grown up, and she was not given to him to wife*;
- 2c) 38:15a* When Judah saw her, *he thought her to be a harlot*;
- 2b) 38:15b-19a* Tamar *covered her face* and conceive by harlotry;
- 1A) 38:15B** For SHE HAD COVERED HER FACE;
- 1B) 38:16A** And he turned to her by the way, and said: Come, I pray you, LET ME COME IN TO YOU; for he knew not that she was his daughter-in-law;
- 1C) 38:16B** And she said: **WHAT WILL YOU GIVE ME**, that you may come in to me?
- CENTRAL AXIS) 38:17-18A** **AND HE SAID: I WILL SEND YOU A KID OF THE GOATS FROM THE FLOCK. AND SHE SAID: WILL YOU GIVE ME A PLEDGE, TILL YOU SEND IT? 18 AND HE SAID: WHAT PLEDGE SHALL I GIVE YOU? AND SHE SAID: YOUR SIGNET AND YOUR CORD, AND YOUR STAFF THAT IS IN YOUR HAND;**
- 2C) 38:18B** And HE GAVE THEM TO HER;
- 2B) 38:18C** And CAME IN TO HER, and she conceived by him;
- 2A) 38:19A** And she arose, and went away, and **PUT OFF HER VEIL** from her;
- 2a) 38:19b* And *put on the garments of her widowhood*;
- 1d) 38:20** And Judah sent the kid of the goats by the hand of his friend the Adullamite, to receive the pledge from the woman's hand; but **he found her not**;
- central axis) 38:21** Then he asked the men of her place, saying: Where is the harlot, that was at Enaim by the wayside? And they said: There has been no harlot here;

2d) **38:22-23** And he returned to Judah, and said: **I have not found her**; and also the men of the place said: There has been no harlot here. **23** And Judah said: Let her take it, lest we be put to shame; behold, I sent this kid, and you have not found her;

2c) **38:24-25**

1a) 38:24a And it came to pass about three months after, that it was told Judah, saying: Tamar your daughter- in-law has played the harlot; and moreover, behold, **she is with child** by harlotry;

1b) 38:24b And Judah said: **Bring her forth**;

central axis) 38:24c **And let her be burnt**;

2b) 38:25a When **she was brought forth**;

2a) 38:25b She sent to her father-in-law, saying: By the man whose these are, **I am with child**; and she said: Discern, I pray you, whose are these, the signet, and the cords, and the staff;

2b) **38:26** And Judah acknowledged them, and said: She is more righteous than I; since **I did not give her to Shelah my son**. And he knew her again no more;

2a) **38:27-30** **Two sons of Judah** by Tamar;

1a) 38:27-29a And it came to pass in the time of her travail, that, behold, twins were in her womb. **28** And it came to pass, when she travailed, that one put out a hand; and the midwife took and **bound on his hand a scarlet thread**, saying: This came out first. **29** And it came to pass, as he drew back his hand;

1b) 38:29b That, behold **his brother came out**;

central axis) 38:29c **And she said: How have you made a breach for yourself? Therefore his name was called Perez**;

2b) 38:30a And afterward **his brother came out**;

2a) 38:30b That had **the scarlet thread on his hand**; and his name was called Zerah; {s}

2D) **39:1** Joseph taken down to Egypt, and **POTIPHER, AN OFFICER OF PHARAOH, BOUGHT HIM** of the Ishmaelites;

1a) 39:1a And **Joseph was brought down to Egypt**;

central axis) 39:1b And Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian;

2a) 39:1c Bought him of the hand of the Ishmaelites, that had **brought him down** there;

2C.1) **39:2-6A** Potipher **PUT JOSEPH OVER ALL HIS HOUSE**;

1a) 39:2-4 And YHVH was with Joseph, and he was a successful man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. **3** And his master saw that YHVH was with him, and that YHVH made all that he did to prosper in his hand. **4** And Joseph found favor in his sight, and ministered to him. And **his master appointed him overseer** over his house, and **all that he had, he put into his hand**;

1b) 39:5a And it came to pass from the time that he appointed him overseer in his house, and over **all that he had**;

- 1c) 39:5b That YHVH blessed the Egyptian's house;
 central axis) 39:5c For Joseph's sake;
 2c) 39:5d And the blessing of YHVH;
 2b) 39:5e Was on **all that he had**, in the house and in the field;
 2a) 39:6a And **he left all that he had in Joseph's hand**; and, having him, he knew nothing save the bread which he ate;

2C.2) 39:6B-19 Potiphar's wife **CONSPIRED AGAINST JOSEPH**;

1a) 39:6b-7 And Joseph was of beautiful form, and fair to look upon. 7 And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph; and she said: **Lie with me**;

1b) 39:8a But **he refused**;

central axis) 39:8b-9 And said to his master's wife: Behold, my master, having me, knows nothing that is in the house, and he has put all that he has into my hand; 9 he is not greater in this house than I; neither has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?

2b) 39:10 And it came to pass, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that **he did not listen to her**, to lie with her, or to be with her;

2a) 39:11-19 When **Joseph refused to lie with her**, she lied about him;

1a) 39:11 And it came to pass on a certain day, when he went into the house to do his work, and there were none of *the men of the house* there within it;

1b) 39:12a That *she caught him by his garment*, saying: Lie with me;
 central axis) 39:12b **And he left his garment in her hand, and fled outside**;

2b) 39:13 And it came to pass, when she saw that *he had left his garment in her hand*, and had fled;

2a) 39:14-19 She called *the men of her house*, to lie about Joseph;

1A) 39:14-15 That she called to the men of her house, and spoke to them, saying: See, **HE HAS BROUGHT IN A HEBREW TO US TO MOCK US**; he came in to me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice. 15 And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that **HE LEFT HIS GARMENT BY ME**, and fled outside;

CENTRAL AXIS) 39:16 **AND SHE KEPT HIS GARMENT BY HER, UNTIL HIS MASTER CAME HOME**;

2A) 39:17-19 And she spoke to him according to these words, saying: **THE HEBREW** servant, **WHOM YOU HAVE BROUGHT TO US, CAME IN TO ME TO MOCK ME**. 18 And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that **HE LEFT HIS GARMENT BY ME**, and fled outside. 19 And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spoke to him, saying: After this manner did your servant do to me; that his wrath was kindled;

2C.3) 39:20-23 Joseph **CAST DOWN INTO PRISON**; {p}

1a) 39:20-21 And Joseph's master took him, and put him in the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were bound; and he was there in the prison. 21 But

YHVH was with Joseph, and showed kindness to him, and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison;

1b) 39:22a And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison;

central axis) 39:22b And whatever they did there, it was his doing;

2b) 39:23a The keeper of the prison did not look into anything that was under Joseph's hand;

2a) 39:23b Because YHVH was with him; and that which he did, YHVH made it to prosper; {p}

2B) 40:1-22 Joseph interpreted TWO DREAMS;

1a) 40:1-4 And it came to pass after these things, that the butler of the king of Egypt and his baker offended their lord the king of Egypt. 2 And Pharaoh was angry with his two officers, with the chief of the butlers, and with the chief of the bakers. 3 And he put them in ward in the house of the captain of the guard, into the prison, the place where Joseph was bound. 4 And the captain of the guard charged Joseph to be with them, and he ministered to them; and they continued a season in ward;

1b) 40:5-8 Interpretations belong to God; therefore tell me your dreams;

1a) 40:5 And they dreamed a dream both of them, each man his dream, in one night, each man according to the interpretation of his dream, the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were bound in the prison;

1b) 40:6 And Joseph came in to them in the morning, and saw them, and, behold, they were sad;

central axis) 40:7a And he asked Pharaoh's officers that were with him in the ward of his master's house;

2b) 40:7b Saying: Why do you look so sad today?

2a) 40:8 And they said to him: We have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it. And Joseph said to them: Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell it to me, I pray you;

1c) 40:9-13 And the chief butler told his dream to Joseph, and said to him: In my dream, behold, a vine was before me; 10 and in the vine were three branches; and as it was budding, its blossoms shot forth, and the its clusters brought forth ripe grapes, 11 and Pharaoh's cup was in my hand; and I took the grapes, and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and I gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand. 12 And Joseph said to him: This is the interpretation of it: the three branches are three days; 13 within yet three days shall Pharaoh lift up your head, and restore you to your office; and you shall give Pharaoh's cup into his hand, after the former manner when you were his butler;

1d) 40:14 But keep me in your remembrance when it shall be well with you, and show kindness, I pray you, to me, and make mention of me to Pharaoh, and bring me out of this house;

central axis) 40:15a For indeed I was stolen away out of the land of the Hebrews;

2d) 40:15b And here also have I done nothing that they should put me into the dungeon;

2c) 40:16-19 When **the chief baker** saw that the interpretation was good, he **said to Joseph**: I also saw in my dream, and, behold, three baskets of white bread were on my head; **17** and in the uppermost basket there was of all manner of baked food for Pharaoh; and the birds did eat them out of the basket upon my head. **18 And Joseph answered and said: This is the interpretation of it**: the three baskets are three days; **19** within yet three days shall Pharaoh lift up your head from off of you, and shall hang you on a tree; and the birds shall eat your flesh from off of you;

2b) 40:20a And it came to pass on the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, that he made a feast for all his servants [i.e., The third day was **according to the interpretation**];

2a) 40:20b-23 And he lifted up the head of the **chief butler** and the head of the **chief baker** among his servants. **21** And he restored the chief butler back to his butlership; and he gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand. **22** But he hanged the chief baker, as Joseph had interpreted to them;

2A) 40:23 Yet **THE CHIEF BUTLER** did not remember Joseph, but **FORGOT HIM**. {p}