

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Exodus 20; Genesis 37:18-36; Matthew 11:20-30

**SINGING:** 394:1-3 – 141:1, 3 – 419:1, 2, 3 – 3:1, 4 – 261:1-3

**THE STORY OF JOSEPH'S BROTHERS' SIN**

**I. What their actions are to teach us II. How their actions are repeated**

**I. WHAT THEIR ACTIONS ARE TO TEACH US?**

A. Rarely have such evil been done as what they did to their brother

1. Not every sin we do is marked as black as others: vs. 18-36

a. done consciously: vs. 18

b. done in mockery: vs. 19

c. done despite pleading: vs. 21-22

d. done callously: vs. 23-24 (Gen. 42:21-22)

e. done selfishly: vs. 25-28

f. done hypocritically: vs. 34-35

B. Sin is like a slippery road: *sin always multiplies*

1. Brothers began with rejecting Joseph's example and rebuke (vs. 2)

a. sin rebuke rejected is first step onto Cain's road (Gen. 4:5-8)

b. worst sins are religious murder (Matt. 23:34-39)

2. If you detect this sin, heed God's call to Cain: Gen. 4:7

C. The brother's rejection of Joseph was *rejection of Jacob's love*

1. Joseph would have shared *why he came* to them (Gen. 37:13-14)

2. Their response points to the blackest sin in our life: Matt. 11:20-24

**II. HOW THEIR ACTIONS ARE REPEATED AMONG HEARERS OF THE GOSPEL?**

A. Jesus' preached *Law and Gospel mixed with prayer* (Matt. 11:7-30)

1. Note His increasing sharpness in His preaching

a. He clearly singles out 'three groups of people among audience'  
as an example of 'separating the precious from the vile'

b. The message Jesus brings is striking hard and deep: 21, 23

- His ministry left clear evidences of His power and glory

- yet His ministry did nothing to most of them

c. The Lord makes it clear what sins are blackest to Him: 21-24

d. The Lord Jesus always preached viewing the judgment: 22, 24

**EXAMINATION & REFLECTION:** Who are the worst sinners in this world?

A. The one we think off are not the ones Jesus sees before Him!

B. What are we to then about this awful reality?

1. It is a call for all God's people to pray like Jesus did (vs. 25)

2. It is a call to confess God right in all He does (vs. 26-27)

3. It is a call to all who are unsaved to hasten to Christ (vs. 28-30)

a. believe that Joseph's brethren/Chorazin etc. is your picture

b. believe that despite all our wrong, Christ truly invites us who live unconverted – unsaved – burdened with all aspect of God's curse

- what a terrible reality it is to be unconverted!

- what a sweet tiding it is that He is a complete Savior even to those who are like Bethsaida, Chorazin, Capernaum and Joseph's brethren

**THIS IS A FAITHFUL SAYING AND WORTHY OF ALL ACCEPTATION, THAT CHRIST JESUS  
CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS; OF WHOM I AM CHIEF.**

1 Tim. 1:15