

all for good  
the story of Joseph in Genesis



Genesis 39-40

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# Introduction

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- Potiphar threw Joseph into prison, but God was with Joseph and blessed him, even in prison.
- Just as Potiphar had done, the keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of the prison and trusted him completely.
- God made everything that Joseph did succeed.
- God orchestrated an unusual plan to get Joseph out of prison and into the Pharaoh's house, by having Joseph interpret the dreams of two of Pharaoh's chief servants.

# Genesis 39:21-23

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# Joseph in Prison

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- Even in the pits of our lives, God is with us and blesses us.
- The Lord showed Joseph “steadfast love” (verse 21).
- The Hebrew word is translated as “steadfast love” or “lovingkindness,” *chesed*, includes both unconditional love and mercy.
- This word is used of God’s covenant love for His people: His commitment and loyalty to them, His faithfulness to them even when they are unfaithful to them, His unconditional grace and compassion for His people (Isaiah 63:7; Psalm 145:8; Exodus 34:6–7).

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# Joseph in Prison

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- In our marriage covenant vows we say, “in sickness and in health.”
- The word, *chesed*, is a love that stays strong through everything and anything.
- “‘For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed,’ says the LORD, who has compassion on you” (Isaiah 54:10).
- God has His hand on Joseph and will not let go, no matter what.

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# Joseph in Prison

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- From his father's house to Potiphar's house, to the prison (verses 22-23) to Pharaoh's house, this seems to be the recurring steps of Joseph's life:
  - God made all that Joseph did succeed
  - People saw God's favor on Joseph
  - He was given more responsibility

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# Joseph in Prison

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- This doesn't necessarily mean that we will "succeed" in a physical way if we are faithful to God.
- This is the way that God blessed Joseph, but God's blessing can come in different forms. Sometimes, "success" doesn't look like being made second in command to the most powerful leader in the world.
- Success isn't about how much money you have in the bank or how big your house or car is or what job you have.
- True success is living a life that is pleasing to God.

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# Joseph in Prison

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- In the New Testament, Jesus challenged the idea that success is the accumulation of worldly wealth when He asked, “For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul?” (Matthew 16:24–26).
- He chastised the rich fool who spent his life accumulating wealth on earth but did not store up treasures in heaven (Luke 12:13–21).
- For “where your treasure is, there also is your heart” (Matthew 6:21).

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# Joseph in Prison

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- God loves to provide good gifts for His children (Matthew 6:25–33), but those focused on worldly success focus on the gifts rather than the giver.
- A life that remains faithful to God no matter what is going on in life finds contentment and peace and joy in all circumstances, whether “brought low ... or abounding ... facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need” (Philippians 4:12).
- A person who is successful in God’s eyes will find joy in all circumstances because his treasure is found in the giver Himself, not the gifts.

# Genesis 40:1-4

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# Joseph: Waiting and Faithful

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- If you find yourself in the pit, that doesn't mean your story is over.
- We're not exactly sure how long Joseph was in prison before this story, but it was long enough for the prison keeper to notice him and give him more and more responsibility until he trusted him to run the whole prison.
- He spent 13 years in Potiphar's house and in prison before he was made overseer of Pharaoh's house. Then, the seven years of plenty before the famine (41:53), then a few more years before he saved his brothers and they all moved to Egypt to be with him. Joseph stayed faithful and trusted in God through every peak and valley.

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# Joseph: Waiting and Faithful

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- If you are in a place where you can't see a life beyond your circumstances, if you can't ever imagine that things will ever be good again , don't quit.
- Don't stay stuck. Keep moving forward and focus on the Lord.
- One day, things will be good again. A different good, but they will be good.
- Then you can some day look back and be amazed at how God brought you through that to a new good you never thought would ever be possible.

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# Joseph: Waiting and Faithful

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- But because walking with the Lord means we have learned how to be content in whatever circumstances we find ourselves in (Philippians 4:6–7).
- When we walk with the Lord, our definition of what is “good” changes.
- We aren’t looking for the happy movie ending.
- We are looking for God’s supernatural peace in whatever we are going through in life, which we can receive when we give our anxieties to the Lord in prayer (Philippians 4:6–7).

# Genesis 40:5-23

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# Cupbearer and Baker

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- You never know how God is orchestrating your future in the here and now.
- Pharaoh's chief cupbearer and the chief baker were thrown into the same prison as Joseph (verses 1–4).
- We know from earlier that this prison was “the place where the king's prisoners were confined” (39:20).
- This fits with the title for Potiphar, “chief of the slaughterers” or chief executioner. He was in charge of the prisons of the king.

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# Cupbearer and Baker

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- The chief cupbearer and chief baker were officers of high rank in the ancient Near East.
- They were the ones Pharaoh trusted to be sure that the wine he drank and the food he ate were safe.
- They were overseers of hundreds of people who prepared food and ran the vineyards and the kitchens.
- These were the people the king trusted with his life, some of his greatest confidantes and men of great influence.

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# Cupbearer and Baker

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- These men knew their dreams were significant but they did not know what they meant (verse 7).
- Their comment “there is no one to interpret them” refers to Pharaoh’s magicians and wise men whose job it was to interpret dreams (41:8).
- Had they still been in Pharaoh’s household, the men would have sought their council.
- Now they are forced to look to Joseph: one more thing God orchestrated.

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# Cupbearer and Baker

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- So Joseph interpreted their dreams. He did not claim to have this ability himself, but gave credit to God for it (verse 8).
- God gave Joseph the ability to do what Pharaoh's magicians and wise men could not.
- Joseph's interpretations are that in three days, the cupbearer will be restored to his position, but the baker will be executed (verses 9–19).
- Of course, the dreams came true (verses 20–22).

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# Cupbearer and Baker

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- As awful as Joseph's being thrown into prison was, especially because he was falsely accused, had he not been in that prison, he would never have been there to interpret the dreams of the cupbearer and the baker.
- If he had not been thrown into the pit by his brothers, he would never have been in Potiphar's house or even in Egypt at all.
- You never know what God is doing with you today to prepare you for what is coming tomorrow.

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# Cupbearer and Baker

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- Joseph did this amazing thing, and we have renewed hope that he will get out of prison and things will finally end well for him.
- But the chapter ends on another negative: another pit (verse 23).
- When Joseph interpreted the cupbearer's dream, he asked him to mention him to Pharaoh, to get him out of prison (verse 14).
- Joseph pleaded his innocence. He did not blame Potiphar's wife or accuse her of lying or blame Potiphar, he only asserted his own innocence (verse 15).

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# Cupbearer and Baker

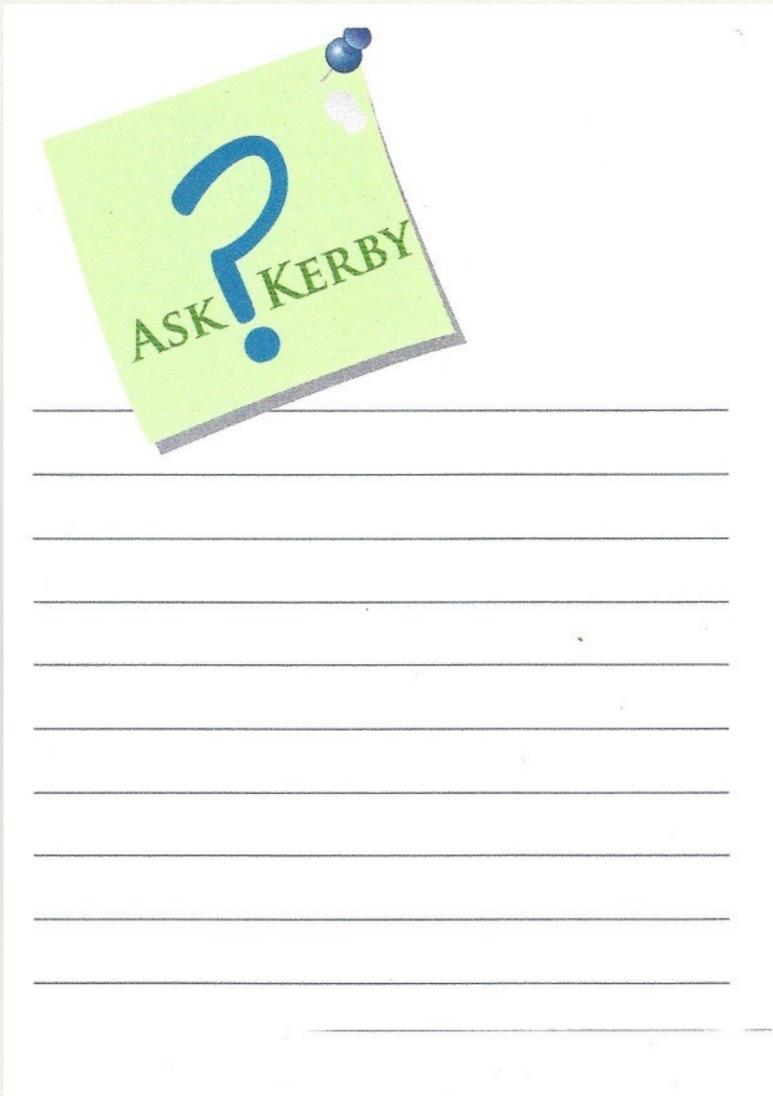
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- But the cupbearer forgot about Joseph (verse 23), so Joseph stayed in the dungeon. Again, a false start. A hope that things were getting better and then, back to the pit again.
- Joseph would be there for two more years until he was given the chance to interpret Pharaoh's dreams (41:1). Yet, Joseph continued to be faithful where he is. Even as a slave, even in prison, even though he is innocent and doesn't even deserve to be there.
- As Paul wrote to the church at Corinth, he lived faithfully in "the life that the Lord has assigned to him" (1 Corinthians 7:17).

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# Ask Kerby

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The Supreme Court heard a case about gender identity and transgender rights.

What should we think about transgenderism?

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# Supreme Court Case

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- This week the Supreme Court heard oral arguments about a case that will determine if LGBTQ are covered by the 1964 Civil Rights Act.
- The law bans employers from discriminating on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, and national origin.
- The case involved a funeral home.



# Transgender

## Johns Hopkins Psychiatrist: Transgender is 'Mental Disorder;' Sex Change 'Biologically Impossible'

By [Michael W. Chapman](#) | June 2, 2015 | 1:34 PM EDT

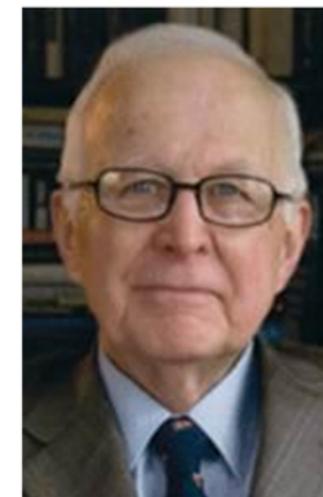
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**(CNSNews.com)** -- Dr. Paul R. McHugh, the former psychiatrist-in-chief for [Johns Hopkins Hospital](#) and its current Distinguished Service Professor of Psychiatry, said that transgenderism is a “mental disorder” that merits treatment, that sex change is “biologically impossible,” and that people who promote sexual reassignment surgery are collaborating with and promoting a mental disorder.

Dr. McHugh, the author of six books and at least 125 peer-reviewed medical articles, made his remarks in a recent [commentary](#) in the *Wall Street Journal*, where he explained that transgender surgery is not the solution for people who suffer a “disorder of ‘assumption’” – the notion that their maleness or femaleness is different than what nature assigned to them biologically.

He also reported on a new study showing that the suicide rate among transgendered people who had reassignment surgery is 20



**Dr. Paul R. McHugh. (Photo: Johns Hopkins Medicine)**

# Survey of Studies

- Dr. Lawrence Mayer and Dr. Paul McHugh surveyed over 200 peer-reviewed studies done in various social science disciplines.



The screenshot shows the website for 'THE NEW ATLANTIS', a journal of technology and society. The header includes social media icons and links for 'BLOGS', 'BOOKS', 'CONTACT', 'SUBSCRIBE', and 'DONATE'. A featured article by Charles T. Rubin, 'ECLIPSE OF MAN: HUMAN EXTINCTION AND THE MEANING OF PROGRESS', is highlighted. Below the header is a navigation bar with links for 'CURRENT ISSUE', 'ARCHIVE', 'SUBSCRIBER SERVICES', and 'ABOUT', along with a search bar and 'BROWSE BY: TOPIC | AUTHOR'. The main content area features a 'Special Report' titled 'Sexuality and Gender: Findings from the Biological, Psychological, and Social Sciences', with a '[ESPAÑOL]' link. A table of contents lists: Preface • Executive Summary • Introduction • 1. Sexual Orientation • 2. Sexuality, Mental Health Outcomes, and Social Stress • 3. Gender Identity • Conclusion.

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# Survey of Studies

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- First, the “belief that sexual orientation is an innate, biologically fixed human property” is not supported.
- In other words, people are not “born that way.”
- Second, the “belief that gender identity is an innate, fixed human property independent of biological sex. The belief that a person might be a man trapped in a woman’s body or a woman trapped in a man’s body is not supported by scientific evidence.”

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# Survey of Studies

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- Third, “only a minority of children who express gender-atypical thoughts or behavior will continue to do so into adolescence or adulthood.”
- Children should not be subjected to hormone treatments or surgery.
- Fourth, people who are homosexual or transgender “have higher rates of mental problems (anxiety, depression, suicide), as well as behavioral and social problems (substance abuse, intimate partner violence), than the general population.”

# Transgender Regret

## British Professor Shows "Sex Change Regret" is Rising, University Takes Away His Funding



Timothy Meads | Posted: Oct 01, 2017 9:10 PM

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[The Telegraph U.K.](#) reports that Bath Spa University initially approved a



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# Transgender Regret



THE HUMAN PERSON

SEXUALITY & FAMILY

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## *The New York Times* Reveals Painful Truths about Transgender Lives

NOVEMBER 25, 2018 | BY RYAN T. ANDERSON

Why should a doctor perform surgery when it won't make the patient happy, it won't accomplish its intended goal, it won't improve the underlying condition, it might make the underlying condition worse, and it might increase the likelihood of suicide? Sound medicine isn't about desire, it's about healing.



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# Transgender Study

## The Alarming Findings of a New Study on Transgender Teens and Suicide

Kelsey Harkness / @kelseyharkness / September 14, 2018 / 179 Comments



# Transgender Athletes

## Study Finds Transgender Athletes Have Advantages In Women's Sports, Even After 12 Months Of Hormone Therapy



(Alexander Hassenstein/Getty Images for IAAF)

# Gender Studies



THE SEXES

## Not Even Trans Apologists Can Keep Their Ideology Straight

*One can learn so much about gender studies ideology by simply listening to and observing its most faithful adherents. Become a student, and it can be quite entertaining.*

# Two Genders?



## There are more than two genders T-Shirt

Non Binary T-Shirt Design by [rileyjaydennis](#)

Gender isn't a binary. There are more than two genders binary identities are real. Let the world know with this awesome galaxy-inspired design! :)

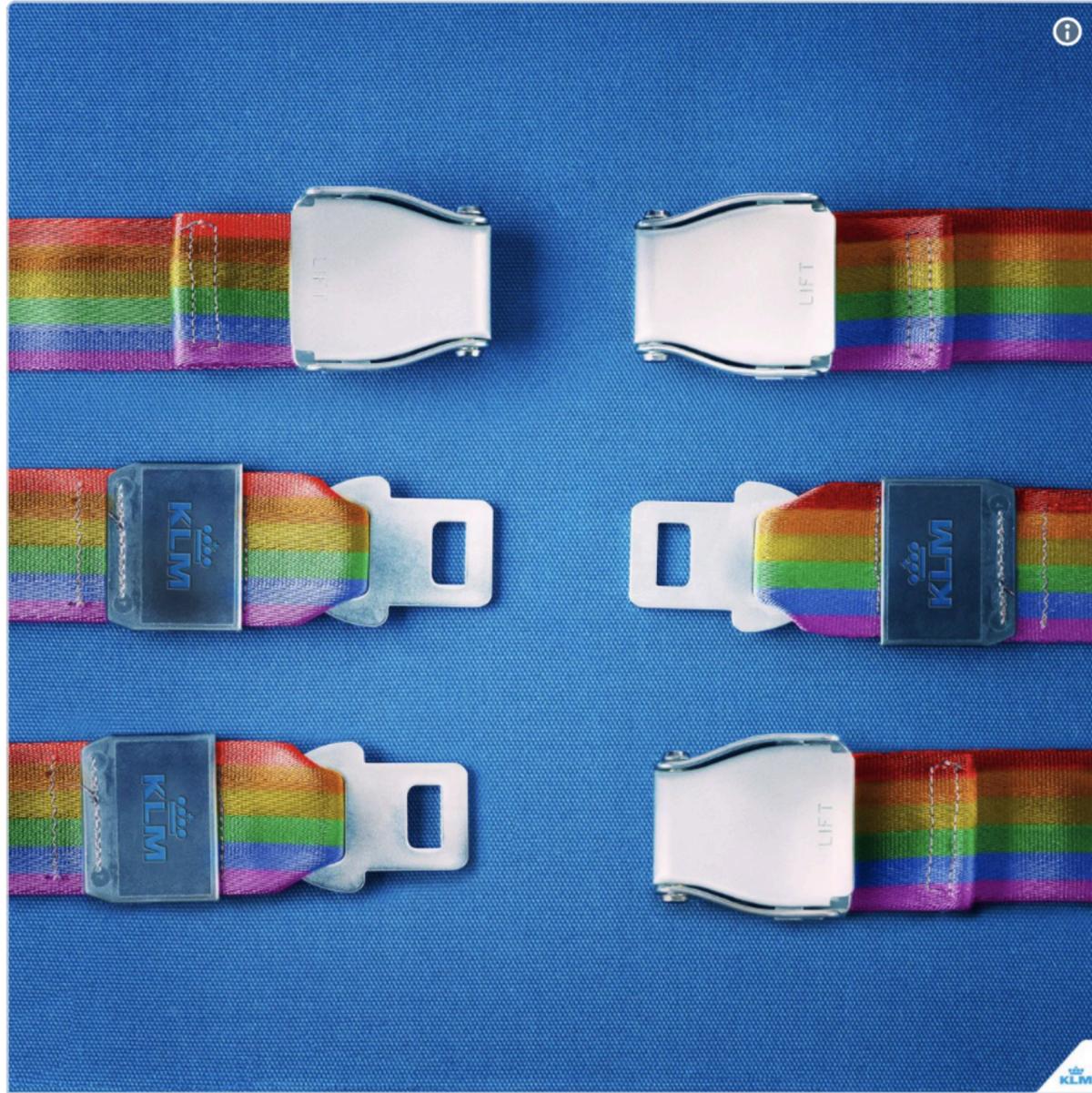


Gender:

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Size



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