

Exchanging Objects

(Gen 37: 3-4) (v3) “Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his sons, because he was the son of his old age; and he made him a varicolored tunic. (v4) And his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers; and so they hated him and could not speak to him on friendly terms.”

- Jacob loved Joseph more than all of his other sons: loved him the most and showed it!
- The brother’s reaction: hatred **sane** (saw-may) qal impf – ongoing state MAS; They despised Joseph so much that they couldn’t say anything kind. Vs 11 – envy – qana - jealous

The brothers wanted / needed an equal share of their father’s love

Father’s Love & Approval

- What a father thinks about and demonstrates to his children, they will believe
- Father’s love & approval is the basis for a child’s self esteem
- Father’s neglect or rejection communicates a lack of worth to the child
- Jacob’s favoritism was interpreted as rejection; i.e. you are not worthy of love
- The boys believed that eliminating Joseph might redirect their father’s love
- Jacob was a failure as a father – the brothers suffered because of his failure
- The boys had an option:
 - a. **react sinfully**: (Gen 37:4) hate; 8 hate more; 11 jealous; 18 conspired to murder; (vs23-28) violence
 - b. **exchange** the object of their trust

(Psa. 27:10) For my father and mother have forsaken me, But the LORD will receive me.

- The whole human race has a trust bond – worship relationship with our fathers
- Best case is to bond with an honorable believing father; worst case is to bond with a dishonorable or absent father who disappoints
- God has empowered the Believer to exchange the objects of trust, dependence, worship, love, desire, etc
- The brother’s solution to Jacob’s fatherhood – **exchange fathers** – stop looking to Jacob to meet their need for approval and replace him with God.
- Redirect their desire for approval from Jacob to Yahweh – grace, unconditional. approval

(Heb 13:5) “be content with what you have for God will never leave you or forsake you”

God’s grace has made provision for every failure of man and strategy of the devil – God had made provision for the brothers to make up for Jacob’s failure as a father

Exchanging Objects

Belief Systems: (Eph 4:22-24; Col 3:9-10)

Old Man Belief System (OM) & New Man Belief System (NM)

- **OM** – belief & behavior system built on human / worldly / satanic viewpoint as a means of protecting self & pursuing +H in the devil’s world. It operates on human genius & human power without God.
- **NM** – belief & behavior system built on the thinking of Christ based on the scriptures that provide a grace means of protecting the soul and providing +H. It operates on the power of GHS.
- Rom 12:2 Transformation by renewing the mind
- 2Cor 3:18 as we focus on the image / Christ / word are transformed into His image
- Spiritual growth is an exchange of beliefs / behaviors – take off OM – put on NM
- Spiritual growth is an exchange of lies for truth – stop believing lies; embrace truth

Desire system: (1 Peter 2:2)

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.

- **Crave** (epipotheo) (A.A.Impv) [command with immediacy – hut to!]
- **Choose** to make the “milk” of the Word of God the object of your desire
 - a. All human motivation, both sinful & virtuous is rooted in desire 2Pt 1:4; Gal 5:16-17
 - b. Both the OSN & GHS use desire as the motivator for thinking & behavior Gal 5:17
 - c. OM B/B system – desire is attached to sinful and/or worldly objects of fulfillment
 - d. NM B/B system – desire is attached to Godly objects of fulfillment
 - e. 1Pt 2:2 – the aor / impv indicates a redirection or exchange of objects of desire
 - f. Redirecting desire from OM to NM motivates spiritual lifestyle and behavior

Inner Strength (Isa 40:31; Rom 4:20; 2Cor 12:10; Heb 11:34)

(Isaiah 40:31) “Yet those who wait for the LORD will exchange their strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run & not get tired, They will walk & not become weary.”

- **Wait** (qavah) [to hope, a confident expectation, to trust in the Lord]
- **Exchange** (chalaph) [change, exchange] (Gen 35:2; 41:14; 2Sam 12:10) [to change garments, to exchange or to replace] (Lev 27:10)
 - a. At birth, because of sp death & OSN, we naturally begin to build the OM belief/behavior system.
 - b. OM system is built on the principle of human power & ability – inner strength based on human mental toughness and stubbornness – pig headedness
 - c. At salvation, we are born again into the family of God and begin to build the NM
 - d. The NM uses God’s power from I/HS to strengthen the human soul enabling bel’s to endure and be faithful under pressure in A/C

(2 Corinthians 12:10) “That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

Unconditional Love (agape) (Mt 22:37)

Agape: The total & unconditional commitment to someone or something

- **(Jn 3:19)** Men loved darkness rather than light – committed to evil lifestyle
- **(Mt 22:37)** Love the Lord with all heart, soul & mind
- **(Lk 11:43)** Pharisees love positions of prominence & respect of others;
- **(Jn 12:43)** Loved praise from man more than praise from God
- **(Eph 6:24)** Grace to al those who love the Lord Jesus Christ

Faith – (Eph 2:8-9)

(1Cor 2:1-5) “we used no trickery so that your faith would not be attached to the wisdom [men] but power [God]”
(Phil 3:3) “we put not trust in our flesh” – trust in God, The Holy Spirit to complete the work which He has started!

Fear – (Mt 10:28)

“And do not fear those who kill the body, but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”

Detach your fear from man and attach it to God