Date: May 31, 2026 **Pastor: Asa Hart**

Title: "Oh, I Just Can't Wait to Be King"

Series: Genesis – Beginnings **Text: Genesis 37**

Main point: *In His wisdom, God will even use our sin to save us.*

I. **Disordered Desires** corrupt, vv. 1-11 *(see also Gen. 3:15; 4:1-7; 17:6; 25:27-28; 35:11; 36:31-39; 2 Sam. 13:18-19; Ps. 35:19; Jer. 17:9; Luke 2:19, 51; Rev. 12:1-6)*

II. **Self-Justification** destroys, vv. 12-35 *(see also Gen. 4:8-12; 27:1-29; Ps. 69:4; 31:9-18; Prov. 16:2; 26:27; Mark 12:1-12; Luke 10:25-29; 18:9-14; Acts 7:9)*

III. Yet the **Sovereign Lord** keeps his promise to restore, vv. 36 *(see also Gen. 3:15; Job 9:1-4, 28-35; Matt. 26:14-16; Luke 24:27, 44-47; Jn. 15:25; Heb. 5:7-10)*

Questions for Reflection

1. Why does the story center on Joseph from here on? What similarities do we see between Joseph and Abel in Genesis 4? How have we seen the serpent striking at the seed of the woman all throughout Genesis? Read Revelation 12:1-6. Why has Satan always struck out at God's People? How does he still do that today? Now read John 15:18-25. How should the Christian respond to hostility from the world? Are you experiencing hostility? How are you responding to it?

2. Read Genesis 17:6 and 35:11. Also, scan 36:31-39. Why is the theme of kingship "picking up pace" at this point in the text? What are the hints of Joseph's kingship in Genesis 37? How do we see this fulfilled in Joseph's life? How do his brother's respond to this? How often do you see the word "hated" in 37:1-11? How do we see a similar pattern unfold in Moses' life? In David's life? How does God use this in each character's life to bring about his purposes? How has he used such suffering in your life?

3. Reuben seems to have a different idea than his brothers in this text, but he ultimately fails. Why is it important for us to see Reuben's limp attempts to lead his brothers, and yet Judah's leading his brothers (even though it is toward evil)? Why do the next two chapters juxtapose Joseph and Judah in similar scenes of temptation? How is Joseph better than Judah? How has Jesus superseded them both? In what ways do we see Joseph functioning as a foreshadow of Jesus? Are there sins and failures in your past that you wonder how God might redeem them? How does this passage give us hope?

5. Christ is speaking so that you might hear and in hearing you might turn to him, and in turning to him, he might heal you. What do you need to bring before him today?

NEXT WEEK: Genesis 38, Andy McClellan

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