

CONFRONTING THE FACE OF WICKEDNESS

"The mouth of a strange woman is a deep pit..."

DISCUSSION OPENERS

- > Can you recall the root of all wickedness? (Hint: I John 2:16) Read the definition for lust on the side column. What type of things do people lust after? How is lust connected to the "pride of life"?
- > What is it like to stare at the face of wickedness? Is it possible to completely avoid it?

"How Can I Do This Great Wickedness and Sin Against God?"



*"Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."
- James 4:4*

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STRONG'S HEBREW/GREEK DEFINITIONS



- 1 POTIPHAR - the Egyptian name meaning "given by Re" (Re = Egyptian sun god)
- 2 OFFICER (H5631) "Caric" - *to castrate; a eunuch; by impl. valet* (espec. Of the female apartments), and thus *a minister of state*. - chamberlain, eunuch, officer.
- 3 CHIEF OF THE GUARD - (H2876) "Tabbach" - *a butcher; a lifeguardsman* (because acting as an executioner) also *a cook* (slaughtering an animal for food).
- 4 LUST - (G1939) "Epithumia" - a longing, especially for what is forbidden; concupiscence; desire, a lust after.

THE STAGE

1. Who was Potiphar? Gen. 39:1
2. What had Potiphar entrusted to Joseph? Gen. 39:5
3. How was Joseph described? Gen. 39:2-3,6
Estimate the age of Joseph at this time. Gen. 37:2; 41:46 Discuss the significance.

THE TEST

4. Read Gen. 39:7-9. What do you find interesting about the question Joseph posed to the wife's request?
 - What is the similarity between the response of Joseph to that of David's in Psalm 51:4.?
 - Why should sinning against God be of a greater concern to you? Matt. 10:28
5. Did Potiphar's wife let it rest? How persistent was she? Gen. 39:10
 - How is this so typical of our interaction with the world? Include Prov. 6:26
6. Why was Joseph able to overcome? Prov. 6:32
 - Recall the time Joseph brought the "evil report" of his brothers to his father (Gen. 37:2). Would this have been the time to bring one to his master concerning the wife? What is the importance of bringing an "evil report"? Eph. 5:11

THE SPIRITUAL TEST

7. Who does the wife of Potiphar represent spiritually?
 - Rev. 19:2
 - Proverbs 22:14
 - II Tim 4:3
 - James 4:4



*"The world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."
- John 2:17*