

his brethren were tending their flocks. When they saw him coming they determined to kill him, hoping thus to prevent the fulfillment of his dreams.

Q. Did they accomplish their evil purpose?

A. No; on the interposition of Reuben, the eldest brother, they threw him into a pit, and, a little while after, Reuben being absent, they sold him to some Egyptian merchants who chanced to pass that way.

Q. How did Joseph's brethren represent the matter to their father?

A. They dipped the boy's coat in the blood of a kid, and, taking it home, told their father that a wild beast had devoured Joseph.

Q. How did the Egyptian merchants dispose of Joseph?

A. They sold him to Potiphar, an officer in the household of Pharaoh, king of Egypt.

Q. What befel Joseph in the house of Potiphar?

A. He was falsely accused of a great crime, and thrown into prison.

Q. What happened to him whilst in prison?

A. It so happened that the king's chief butler and chief baker were both in prison at the same time. Each of them had a remarkable dream, which they asked Joseph to interpret. He did accordingly, and what he predicted from those dreams came to pass exactly as he had foretold. The chief baker was hung, and the chief butler restored to his place in the king's household.