

THE #1

REASON

NOT TO

SIN

GENESIS 39:8-9

1. Joseph's Reasons For Not Sinning

– His Position of Trust:

“But he refused and said to his master's wife, ‘Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge.’” (v. 8)

THE #1 REASON NOT TO SIN

1. Joseph's Reasons For Not Sinning

- His Position of Trust
- His Master and Mistress:

“He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except you, because you are his wife.” (v. 9a)

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1. Joseph's Reasons For Not Sinning

- His Position of Trust
- His Master and Mistress
- His God:

“How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?” (v. 9b)

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**“For all have sinned and fall
short of the glory of God”
(Rom 3.23)**

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We're called to be God-centered in everything, especially in how we view sin. Realizing that all sin is sin against God brings focus and purpose to our resisting temptation.

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2. Sin is a Person-to-God Problem

- Gen 20.6 | God kept Abimelech from sinning against Him
- Psa 51.4 | David says he sinned against God alone
- Pro 14.31 | He who oppress the poor sins against God
- Acts 5.3 | Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Spirit

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3. A God-Centered View of Sin Will...

- Refute the lie: It's not a sin if no one knows or gets hurt (2 Sam 12.12)
- Give us the proper motivation to fight temptation (Heb 10.26-31)
- Provides a framework for working through sin with others (Mat 5.23-24; 18.15-17)

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May our prayer echo that of the Psalmist, “Lord, may we store up Your word in our heart, that we might not Sin against You.”

(Psalm 119.11)

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Even if our sin does not seem to be hurting another person, it is still sin.

If sin was reduced to hurting others, then we could become morally perfect cloistering ourselves away from the world. Sin, however, is not primarily person-to-person but rather it's person-to-God.

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2. Sin as a Person-to-Person and/or Problem

- Gen 39.8-9a | Joseph uses both to resist temptation.
- Mat 18.15-17 | Jesus teaches on Person-to-Person sin
- But to solely see sin in P-t-P terms decreases our motivation to fight temptation.

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