

המוסד למען קדושת חיי אדם



TORAH READING:

Mikeitz Genesis 41:1-44:17

Kislev 30, 5776

December 12, 2015

In this week's Torah portion, Mikeitz Genesis 41:1-44:17, Joseph is summoned from prison to interpret Pharaoh's dreams of feast and famine. He rises to Viceroy of Egypt and marries Asenath, a young lady with a storied past. Joseph had a half sister named Dinah. Asenath was Dinah's daughter, conceived in rape when Dinah was kidnapped by Shechem, son of Hamor.

Jacob's sons wanted to kill the infant in order to extinguish any blemish on the reputation of the house of Jacob. But, Jacob was a pro-life Jew who believed that this infant girl should not be blamed and executed for her circumstance of birth. He saved the baby. Dinah left her on the wall of Egypt, where she was found and raised by Potiphara's wife, who was childless. Joseph and Asenath have two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim, who are later blessed by Jacob and complete the 12 tribes of Israel.

What a neat story! Jacob had wisdom and faith in God's plan for his granddaughter. He prayerfully turned away from the prejudice of his time to save a Jewish life with a divine destiny. We, too, can we turn away from the tendency to blame the innocent victims of sexual sin and protect the lives of these unborn children so that they may fulfill their divine destiny on Earth.