**Abstract for: Who Sold Joseph into Egypt?**

Critical scholars have regularly divided up the Genesis 37 narrative of Joseph being sold as a slave into Egypt. They claim that variations, tensions and contradictions in the story point to an account which has been assembled from at least two divergent sources, J and E. They see here a Reuben story and a Judah story, disagreement on whether the slave traders were Ishmaelites or Midianites, and the use of variant names Israel and Jacob for the father of Joseph and his brothers. Here we suggest -- using discourse analysis -- that these features can be demonstrated to fall within the range of *effective* narrative style by a single author. If the author used sources, these are completely irrecoverable and probably bore no resemblance to the traditional JEDP of source criticism.