

ויסיפו עוד שנא אתו על חלמתיו ועל דבריו (לז:ח)

"And they hated him yet more, for his dreams and for his words." (37:8)

The part of the pasuk "and for his words", according to Rashi, refers to the slander that Yosef spoke about his brothers.

However, the Nachalat Zvi (Rabbi Zvi Hirsch be Yerachmiel Chatash, 17th Century, Lublin) questions this understanding. If "his words" refer to the slander, it should have been mentioned first, before the dreams, in the verse, because Yosef spoke Lashon Harah against his brothers even before his dreams?

He answers that the brothers refrained initially from hating Yosef for his slander, taking into consideration his youth and immaturity, as it states prior, "And he was a lad" (37:2). Nevertheless, once Yosef shared with his brothers the dreams that he would rule over them, the brothers comprehended that this was Yosef's true aspirations of authority and control. The brothers, due to the dreams, accepted the true intentions of Yosef and thereby his slander was seen as a true threat thereby causing them to hate him. Thereby, explaining why "his dreams" are mentioned first in the verse.

Shabbat Shalom