

SALVATION THROUGH SUFFERING

Genesis 37-50

The Life of Joseph

GENESIS 50:20

- "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive." NASB
- "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."
NIV

I) A DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY

- -Jealousy and Partiality had had a devastating effect, Favoritism was so evident
- -The Dreamer gets done in
- -The Lies and Deception as a brother is sold into slavery
- -The Grief of a Deceived Father
- [Genesis 37:35 NASB] Then all his sons and all his daughters arose to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. And he said, "Surely I will go down to Sheol in mourning for my son." So his father wept for him.

2) AN UNJUST PRISON SENTENCE

- -Potiphar, an Egyptian officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the bodyguard Purchased Joseph
- -God was with him and Elevated him with Prosperity and Oversight in his master's house
- -He refused Temptation and was unjustly Accused

3) A PROLONGED SUFFERING

- -The favorable Interpretation of the cupbearers' dream bears no fruit
- -The Purpose of a two-year wait
- -Pharaoh's troubled spirit over his dreams with no Interpretation

4) A SALVATION IN THE NICK-OF-TIME

- -Joseph is hurriedly brought out of the Dungeon, shaved, and given a new set of clothes to stand before the king
- -God was still with him, Pharaoh recognized the Divine Spirit that was in him
- -He is set over all the land of Egypt as an economic administrator
- -He was given a new name “Zaphenath-paneah” (Egyptian for “God speaks, he lives”)
- -He was given a wife, Asenath
- -God gave him two sons, Manasseh (“making to forget”) and Ephraim (“fruitfulness in affliction”)
- -A restoration with the family and a complete forgiveness

APPLICATION

- -What is our sense of suffering today?
- -How can we help others see that salvation comes through suffering?
- -God is with us in our struggles, every single one of them
- -We must trust He is working it all out for a great Kingdom purpose
- -God always has His reasons for the things He allows, learn from Job
- -"God allows us to experience low points of life in order to teach us lessons that we could learn in no other way." C.S. Lewis
- -God's ultimate suffering on the cross for our salvation