

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

WALKING IN FAITH

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JOHN S. TORELL

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PART 7: THE DREAMER

Serving God is not always easy because He doesn't reveal His plans in advance; instead, we have to take one step after the other while having faith in God. It's not easy to maintain faith when everything that can go wrong has done so. Joseph was such a man.

GOD'S PREPARATION

God did not tell Joseph as a young teenager at the age of 17 that someday he would be the prime minister of Egypt, the greatest world power at that time. But God gave Joseph hope that would sustain him in the trials he would face in life. **Genesis 37:3-8**

God really wanted to make an impression on Joseph and gave him a second dream that was more powerful than the first one. **verse 11**

Every believer in Christ has been given gifts from God in order to do His work on the earth. **Romans 12:1-8; Ephesians 2:10**

GOD WORKS OUT ALL THINGS

Joseph's brothers hated him and did not hide it. **Genesis 37:17-20**

God used Reuben to save the life of Joseph. **verses 21-25**

God used the hate of his brothers to move Joseph down to Egypt. **verses 26-28**

God used the dreams to comfort Joseph as he suffered as a slave for the next thirteen years! It was through faith in God that Joseph made the best of the situation he was in. Romans 8:28-31

GETTING A FINANCIAL EDUCATION

Joseph was the son of rich man who had learned to tend sheep when he was sold into slavery. God wanted him to get an education in financial matters and prepared a high officer in the Egyptian army to buy and train him. **Genesis 39:1-6**

But there is always a snake in the garden and in this case it was Potiphar's wife. **verses 7-10**

God used this evil woman to move Joseph to prison where he would learn how to rule men. **verses 11-20**



A PRISON MINISTRY

Joseph didn't sink into a deep depression over unfair events and he again made the best of a poor situation and God was able to bless his faith. **verses 21-23**

In Potiphar's house hold he learned the basics of finances and in the prison he learned finances from a business standpoint. Joseph also learned how to rule people who were full of hate and anger and he also learned to serve and to rule those under him.

BACK TO DREAMS

God started to prepare the stage in Egypt for Joseph to step up to the role for which he had been groomed after eleven years as a slave. **Genesis 40:1-5**

Instead of dreaming dreams, Joseph was now given the gift of interpretation of dreams. **verses 6-13**

We can see that Joseph had a hope that the chief butler would be his ticket out of prison. **verses 14-15**

But it wasn't time for him to get out of prison. **verses 16-23**

KNOWING THAT GOD IS WITH YOU BUT NO DELIVERANCE

It must have been hard for Joseph to sit in prison and see his dreams had been correctly interpreted and fulfilled to the smallest detail. The Bible doesn't tell us what Joseph thought during the next two years but we do know that he did not get depressed and continued his work without giving up hope. He still clung to the hope from the two dreams eleven years earlier. **Galatians 6:7-9**

RESTORATION

God was now ready to bring Joseph out of prison and to make him the prime minister of Egypt, but since Joseph could not deliver himself from the prison, it took a supernatural event from God. **Genesis 41:1-13**

Joseph had learned to be humble and not push himself. Instead of offering his services, he told Pharaoh to find a man that could lead Egypt out of the coming crisis. **verses 25-36**

God lifted up a slave and prisoner to become second-in-command of Egypt. At this time Joseph must have thought about asking Pharaoh to let him go back to his father, but he was asked to serve in the land where he had suffered for the last thirteen years. Joseph accepted his new assignment and again God was with him and blessed him. **verses 37-46**

FAITH IN GOD

Joseph could have avenged himself on his brothers but he knew the promise that God had given to his great-great-grandfather Abraham and he decided to forgive his brothers in faith and to do the will of God so that the children of Israel could be nourished and grow in numbers and become a nation. **Genesis 45:1-11**

It takes faith in God to forgive those who have done you harm. Some will refuse to forgive you, nevertheless you must make the step in faith and forgive if you want God to forgive you and bless you. Matthew 6:14-15

Joseph had faith in God and before he died, he wrote that when the time came for Israel to leave Egypt, his bones were to be dug up and taken to the Promised Land just as God had told Abraham that it would happen. **Genesis 15:13-16**

Joseph's command. **Genesis 50:24-26**

430 years later the Children of Israel left Egypt. **Genesis 12:40-41**

The bones of Joseph taken. **Genesis 13:19**

FAITH TO THE END – Hebrews 11:22

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?