

E2E: Part 25

Genesis 41

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1. Evil is real, an actual tangible presence. God is sovereign and controls everything – yet His ways are not our ways. (Isaiah 55:8-9)
2. When you're in God's 'waiting room' it seems like nothing is happening when in reality God is at work around us all the time. (John 5:17)
3. Pharaoh's dream about the future of Egypt results in Joseph's life taking an immediate turn. This account in scripture reveals the sovereignty of God. (Genesis 41:1-4)
4. Pharaoh's sacred scribes, as wise as they were, couldn't tell Pharaoh the meaning of his dreams. The simplicity of the dreams reveals their depth. (Genesis 41:8)
5. Pharaoh said Joseph was the one with the answers, but Joseph points to God as the source of all truth.
6. The humility that Joseph exhibits is produced solely through turbulence – he has seen God 'proven'.
7. Both of Pharaoh's dreams are the same with one interpretation. All the times of abundance will be forgotten, and famine will affect the 'gods of Egypt'. (Genesis 41:29-31)
8. Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint an economic leader, Pharaoh recognizes the Spirit of God in him and appoints Joseph 2nd in command over all of Egypt. (Genesis 41:39-40)
9. Joseph was not afraid to point people to God regardless of the setting. Also, during times of waiting, he trusted God without panic.
10. In the midst of all your trials God has not abandoned you. He has not forgotten you. He never left. He knows the burdens you carry. (Deuteronomy 31:6, Hebrews 13:5)

HEBREW WORDS

Yapheh (yaw-feh'); beautiful, fair (-est, one), + goodly, pleasant

Shadaph (shaw-daf'); to scorch :- blast

QUOTES

"It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until He has hurt him deeply."

- **A.W. Tozer** [1955 - The Root of the Righteous]

- "The flaming desire to be rid of every unholy thing and to put on the likeness of Christ at any cost is not often found among us. We expect to enter the everlasting kingdom of our Father and to sit down around the table with sages, saints and martyrs; and through the grace of God, maybe we shall; yes, maybe we shall. But for the most of us it could prove at first an embarrassing experience. Ours might be the silence of the untried soldier in the presence of the battle-hardened heroes who have fought the fight and won the victory and who have scars to prove that they were present when the battle was joined."

- **A.W. Tozer** [1955 - The Root of the Righteous]

"Look you to this office of Vizier. Be vigilant over everything that is done in it. Behold, it is the support of the entire land." - **Pharaoh Thutmose III**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What passages or ideas stood out to you from Mark's teaching? Why?
2. What part did Joseph play in the outcome of this story?
What part did God play?
What can we take away from these observations and apply to our lives?
3. How did Pharaoh's goals differ from God's in elevating Joseph to 2nd in command of Egypt?
In what ways do you think human life goals are often out of alignment with God's goals?
Share a time in your life when you struggled to understand what God was doing.
4. What can you do to better prepare yourself for unexpected opportunities to serve God?
How can others in your/our community help you be better prepared?

For Personal Reflection:

Ask yourself - how much do you want your life to be used by God for His goals?