

Passage: Genesis 41

Title: Then It Came to Pass

Summary: After 13 years of slavery and imprisonment, Joseph will not only be free, but be made second in command of all of Egypt. Joseph was seventeen years old when he was lifted from the pit and taken to Egypt. Now he's thirty and he's reached the palace. In between were thirteen long, troubling years. There were many paths God could've used to get Joseph from the pit to the palace, but destination was not the point. By doing it His way, God not only made a way, He made a man. Join us as we are encouraged and strengthened as God does the same in our lives.

Genesis more than history book / It is His-story

It all begins here in Genesis. In chapter 3 we will see the first mention of the Messiah who would be bruised for our iniquities (sin), chapter 5 the gospel laid out before us in the meaning of each name. We will see genealogy after genealogy, but they will all drop off until we come to just one genealogy, the genealogy leading up to the Messiah. This Old Testament, starting with Genesis, is more than the history of the children of Israel and Jewish Nation, this is His-story.

Theme of this Book – for this is why He had to come:

From Paradise to Prison – back to Paradise:

(Genesis 3:15 NKJV) And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

(Genesis 3:15 noted) And I (God) will put enmity (hostility/hatred) Between you (satan) and the woman (mankind), And between your seed (demons) and her Seed (Jesus); He (Jesus) shall bruise your (satan) head, And you (satan) shall bruise His (Jesus) heel."

Outline:

Part 1 – The History of Major World Events (chapters 1-11) (spanning 2000+ years)

- The Creation of the World and Man (1-2)
- The Fall of Man (3-5)
- The Flood of the World (6-9)
- The Tower of Babel: the Dispersion of Man (10-11)

Part 2 – The History of the Major Families (chapters 12-50) (spanning approximately 350 years)

- The Life of Abraham (11-25)
- The Life of Isaac (25-26)
- The Life of Jacob (27-36)
- The Life of Joseph (36-50)

Life of Joseph / 25% of Genesis is Joseph / Creation - Fall - Flood - Fathers

Genesis 37 we now move into a new section, the life of Joseph. We will still see Jacob all the way until the end of the Book of Genesis, but the central person to the end will be Joseph. Joseph is a fascinating study, no doubt intended by God to be. Twenty-five percent of the Book of Genesis deals with Joseph. The book of the beginning of the universe, beginning of man, the fall of man, major world events such as the flood and tower of Babel, patriarch fathers that are the lineage of the Messiah who will bring man back into paradise, yet Joseph gets 25% of the print.

Joseph not Line of Messiah

Now Jesus does not come through the lineage of Joseph, He comes through Joseph's brother Judah.

Studying Joseph - See more Jesus / See Life Devoted to God / All Things Work for Good

Studying Joseph will help us see more of Jesus, for in the Scriptures Joseph is a picture, a type, an illustration of Jesus Christ. We have a wonderful example of a man sold out for God the Father. He will show us that it can be done, and that God will be there with us all along the way. We will see that even in what looks like disaster God is working all things together for good:

(Romans 8:28 NKJV) And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

(Genesis 50:20 NKJV) "But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive."

Shows Us / Lets Cut the Lines - Go for It / Finish Well

Joseph shows us that it can be done, a life sold out for God. Christian, let's go for it, let's cut the lines, put the sails up, and let's live this Christian life to its fullest. Christian we only get one shot at this down here, let's go for it, let's not look back and wish and regret. Let us finish with power, and let us finish well:

(Hebrews 12:1 NKJV) Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

(Hebrews 12:2 NKJV) looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

*(1 Corinthians 9:24 NKJV) Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? **Run in such a way that you may obtain it.***

(1 Corinthians 9:25 NKJV) And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.

Recap

We saw in chapter 39 Potiphar's wife grabbing hold of Joseph, but Joseph flees, and she fabricates the story of lies to have him thrown in prison. And then in chapter 40 Joseph interprets the dreams of the butler and the baker. The baker is set free, Joseph says remember me when you stand before the king again, but he doesn't, and Joseph sits for 2 more years, waiting for the fulfillment of his dreams.

Outline: Genesis 41

- Then it Came to Pass (41:1)
- Pharaoh has a Dream (41:2-8)
- Joseph Called Out of Prison (41:9-16)
- Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dream (41:17-32)
- Joseph Gives Wise Counsel (41:33-37)
- Joseph Chosen by Pharaoh (41:38-44)
- Joseph Serves Pharaoh (41:45-46)
- The 7 Years of Plenty (41:47-52)
- The 7 Years of Famine (41:53-57)

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need

Then it Came to Pass (41:1)

(Genesis 41:1 NKJV) Then it came to pass, at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh had a dream; and behold, he stood by the river.

Full Years / Remember Those who Hurt / Life Flying By / Years – Months - Days

Verse 1 - at the end of two full years - Notice that they were full years. Beloved, remember those around you who are hurting, suffering, in the pits. For most of us life is just flying by, as we are going to work,

taking the kids to sports, looking back on Christmas and looking forward to vacation in Ocean City. When things are good, life is just flying by. But for those who are hurting, the years are full; the year is counted by months, which are counted by days, down to the minute, down to the second. Nothing is flying by, nothing to look back on, nothing to look forward to; just getting by that day; they are full years when you are hurting.

Remember Them – Lift them Up / Dinner – Coffee / Done Unto Me

Remember those that are hurting, lift them up for a day, refresh them for a moment, call them to have dinner, take them out for a coffee. For when you have done it to the least of these, you have done it unto Me:

(Matthew 25:34 NKJV) "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:'

(Matthew 25:35 NKJV) 'for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in;

(Matthew 25:36 NKJV) 'I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

(Matthew 25:37 NKJV) "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink?

(Matthew 25:38 NKJV) 'When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You?

(Matthew 25:39 NKJV) 'Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?'

(Matthew 25:40 NKJV) "And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

My Full Years / Marty & Susan

I remember my full years, lots of well-meaning Christians with their godly interpretation of what was going on in my life; they had plenty of Scriptures to quote to me, lots of Christian-eze. But I'll never forget Marty and Susan and there 5-year old daughter Hannah. He said Ray come over the house for dinner after church today, and I remember sitting in the backyard picking oranges, peeling them and eating them, having fellowship with Marty, talking, and just enjoying conversation. I remember taking a boat ride down the river. I remember taking the boat to shore and then just walking through the water up to our ankles. I remember Marty saying Hannah (who was only five at the time), lets pray for Ray right now right, Ray needs a job lets lift him up to the Lord. I remember holding hands, just the three of us, praying right with the water up to our ankles and the sun beating down upon us. Then we went back in eat supper together. It was a wonderful day for me in the midst of my "full" years.

Can't Remember Anybody's Verses or Interpretations

It's funny how well I remember that, and that was like eight years ago. I remember it so vividly still today as if it was only yesterday. But you know what's funny? I don't remember any of those Scriptures quoted to me, and not one of those godly interpretations passed on to me. Beloved, remember those who are hurting, for I can tell you that they will remember that you remembered.

Came to Pass / Joseph's Life Changes / Book of Mark - Immediately

Verse 1- Then it came to pass - Then it came to pass and everything changes for Joseph. I love the book of Mark; it's one of my favorite books in the whole Bible. Some 36 times (NKJV) the word immediately is used in that Book:

*(Mark 1:18 NKJV) They **immediately** left their nets and followed Him.*

*(Mark 1:31 NKJV) So He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and **immediately** the fever left her. And she served them.*

*(Mark 1:42 NKJV) As soon as He had spoken, **immediately** the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed.*

*(Mark 2:12 NKJV) **Immediately** he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"*

*(Mark 5:29 NKJV) **Immediately** the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction.*

*(Mark 5:42 NKJV) **Immediately** the girl arose and walked, for she was twelve years of age. And they were overcome with great amazement.*

*(Mark 10:52 NKJV) Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And **immediately** he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.*

The Christian Life – Immediately / Dark to Bright

That's the way it is for Christians, things can seem so bleak, dark, desperate, then all of a sudden, immediately, it changes in a moment, in a day.

Singles Hold On – Youth – Marriages – Parents / Wait for Your Immediately

Singles hold to your immediately, youth stay strong and stay pure, marriages your immediately will come, parents same for you. But you will never reach your immediately if you quit or try to take a shortcut. When God brings the immediately into your life, it will be worth it and you'll be glad that you waited for your immediately.

Maybe tonight Your Immediate / One More day / Looking Long Term Discourages

I do pray that maybe tonight will be your immediately, but if it is not, can you make it one more day? That's all God will ever ask you, can you make it one more day? Then tomorrow God will ask you again can you make it one more day? God does ask you can you make it three more months, three more years, He just asks if you can you make it today, for today is all we are promised. I really believe that, and know in my hearts from experience, that we can all make it one more day if we just look at it as one more day. It is when we look at it in months and years that we get discouraged, quit, and give up.

Pharaoh has a Dream (41:2-8)

(Genesis 41:2 NKJV) Suddenly there came up out of the river seven cows, fine looking and fat; and they fed in the meadow.

(Genesis 41:3 NKJV) Then behold, seven other cows came up after them out of the river, ugly and gaunt, and stood by the other cows on the bank of the river.

(Genesis 41:4 NKJV) And the ugly and gaunt cows ate up the seven fine looking and fat cows. So Pharaoh awoke.

(Genesis 41:5 NKJV) He slept and dreamed a second time; and suddenly seven heads of grain came up on one stalk, plump and good.

(Genesis 41:6 NKJV) Then behold, seven thin heads, blighted by the east wind, sprang up after them.

(Genesis 41:7 NKJV) And the seven thin heads devoured the seven plump and full heads. So Pharaoh awoke, and indeed, it was a dream.

(Genesis 41:8 NKJV) Now it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled, and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt and all its wise men. And Pharaoh told them his dreams, but there was no one who could interpret them for Pharaoh.

7 Cows – 7 Heads

So here is Pharaoh's dream, seven healthy cows being eaten up by seven sickly cows. Then he dreams again in the seven healthy heads of grains of wheat are devoured by seven the thin heads of grains of wheat.

Pharaoh goes to World / Band-Aid

So Pharaoh goes to his magicians there in Egypt, again what a picture of the world, for the world is always seeking answers from the world, and the best that the world will ever be able to offer is a temporary fix, a Band-aid. Oh it may get us through that moment, that day, that week, that month, but eventually it's just temporarily and it will fade and we'll be back where we started.

Magicians only Interpret Satan's Dreams

Now these men that Pharaoh was calling were pretty powerful themselves. Later on when Moses demands the release of the children of Israel from Pharaoh, he took his rod and threw it down and the rod turned into a serpent. The Pharaohs magicians did the same thing. Then Moses serpent ate up all their serpents. These guys had some pretty powerful demonic stuff going for them, but, "Greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world." (1 John 4:4). These magicians of Egypt were really into the magical arts of the occult. They were into Satanism, and the spirit realm and were probably able to interpret dreams that came from the satanic realm; but, this dream came from God and they were unable to cross a spiritual barrier here and so, could not interpret the dream of the Pharaoh.

So here we see the limitation of Satan and the demonic realm in that he could not interpret this. And so there is a limit that God allows and puts upon the devil. And I think there's a place for us to process all of those things as we do, that Satan can't read our mind, he can throw thoughts into our minds and hope that we'll take those thoughts and act upon them. But as for actually reading our mind or knowing our thoughts, he cannot do that, and he does not know the future, except for what has been revealed. And that's why he is so fired up and amped up in these days because he can see the future and the future is very near. It's not that the objects appear closer than they are in the mirror. The fact is, the objects are near, and we are in these last days, and he knows it. And church, buckle it up, get ready, because we are in it, and we are in to it. I'm not going to say, we're in for it because God is on the throne and he rules and reigns. And just like we read here with Joseph, God had his hand on all these details, even if they look like they were out of hand. And as we say, the world's not fallen.. out of place. It's fallen right in place and right in the details that God says through these scriptures, and that's what the devil knows is his future. He knows this word. He thinks he can change it, delay it. Whatever it may be, but in the end, every word of God will be fulfilled just as we read for the butler and the baker. And so will it be for the devil.

By the way, God knows your thoughts and wants you to know His thoughts of you:

[Psalm 139:2 \(NKJV\)](#)

² You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off.

[Jeremiah 29:11 \(NKJV\)](#)

¹¹ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Joseph Called Out of Prison (41:9-16)

(Genesis 41:9 NKJV) Then the chief butler spoke to Pharaoh, saying: "I remember my faults this day.

(Genesis 41:10 NKJV) "When Pharaoh was angry with his servants, and put me in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, both me and the chief baker,

(Genesis 41:11 NKJV) "we each had a dream in one night, he and I. Each of us dreamed according to the interpretation of his own dream.

(Genesis 41:12 NKJV) "Now there was a young Hebrew man with us there, a servant of the captain of the guard. And we told him, and he interpreted our dreams for us; to each man he interpreted according to his own dream.

(Genesis 41:13 NKJV) "And it came to pass, just as he interpreted for us, so it happened. He restored me to my office, and he hanged him."

Butler Remembers / God Preparing – Preventing / Famine Ordained Now

Oh now I remember he says. Take us back to Psalm 105; God was preparing the man, Joseph. And I believe just as God was preparing the man, he was preventing the man. Yes I know it's hard for us to accept that, but Joseph couldn't be released two years ago because God ordained the famine in the land, and he also ordained the timing for this famine. The famine is now, not two years ago:

[\(Psalms 105:16 NKJV\)](#) Moreover **He called for a famine in the land**; He destroyed all the provision of bread.

[\(Psalms 105:17 NKJV\)](#) **He sent a man before them**; Joseph; who was sold as a slave.

[\(Psalms 105:18 NKJV\)](#) They hurt his feet with fetters, He was laid in irons.

[\(Psalms 105:19 NKJV\)](#) Until the time that his word came to pass, The word of the LORD tested him.

[\(Psalms 105:20 NKJV\)](#) The king sent and released him, The ruler of the people let him go free.

[\(Psalms 105:21 NKJV\)](#) He made him lord of his house, And ruler of all his possessions,

God doesn't adjust His Plans to Our Availability

It is important for us to see this, that God doesn't adjust His plans to our availability. He adjusts our availability to His plans. Jesus Christ was accused of many things by His enemies, but He was never accused by His enemies for being in a hurry.

If Joseph Released – Back Home

Had Joseph been released two years ago, he would have most likely gone back to his father. There would have been no reason to stay in Egypt, and there was nothing but bad memories in Egypt. God had to keep him in prison, so he would be available for the time of the famine that was ordained by God. God

prepared Joseph; Joseph was the one chosen by God to save a world, preserve a people (Israel) and preserve the lineage of the Messiah.

Hard for Us – Next time Remember / Plans - Availability

I know how hard this may sound. Next time you're going through a struggle, next time you're wondering why things are happening at this pace, why this has not come to pass it yet, remember this story God does not adjust His plans to our availability, He just our availability to His plans.

God behind the Scenes Working

God is behind the scene working out His plan all the way along, even as God is behind the scene in your life if you are a child of God. He is working out details and plans of which you know nothing about; but, one day when you see the fruit you will say, "Wow". You'll see how God has been working even when you weren't aware of it. God is controlling the circumstances of our lives

(Genesis 41:14 NKJV) Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him quickly out of the dungeon; and he shaved, changed his clothing, and came to Pharaoh.

(Genesis 41:15 NKJV) And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that you can understand a dream, to interpret it."

(Genesis 41:16 NKJV) So Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace."

God Sends a Man to the World with Answers

And as we say that pharaoh goes to the world to find an answer, but isn't this amazing? There's a man in the world who's troubled looking for answers, and God sends him a young Jewish boy. And what was his claim to fame? He knew. The Lord of heaven personally. He experienced God intimately, and therefore he could go and speak to Pharaoh in the world in the midst of his troubles and his seeking answers to the questions that Joseph will be sent by God and imparted with God's gifting of the Spirit in this case to interpret dreams, but in your case, you take the Bible that's in your hand, you take the God that's in your heart, and you go, and you wait upon the Lord, and you two, can minister to people who are in the world looking for answers to their questions. We're no different than Joseph, and we can praise the Lord and have a purpose and a meaning in our life to be used by God, to change a lost and dying world. And as it was said this week to make heaven crowded,

Joseph Points to God / Me – I take Opportunity to get Credit / Joseph Lets Chips Fall

As we saw in the last chapter Joseph points man pass himself right on to the Lord. We see Joseph's character here, a humble man, and a man who trusts in the Lord. At this point if it was me I would be like this is my time to show my stuff, this is my time to get some credit, so I can get out of this pit and back on to the my life. But Joseph he points to the Lord, he gives glory to the Lord, and he lets the chips fall where they may. I get out of this prison great, I don't get out of this prison so be it.

Joseph Never glorifies God for Personal Gain / Always because God Worthy of Glory

Joseph did not, and never had, and never we'll glorify God for personal gain. He glorifies God, for one reason, God is worthy of glory.

(1 Corinthians 10:31 NKJV) Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

My Evangelizing / Share for God's Glory / Won't Get Discouraged

When I first started evangelizing, I was mainly motivated to share the gospel so the people might get saved. That's a good motivation, God's pleased with that obviously, and that is part of the reason that we share the gospel. However, what I see from the verse we just read expanded my understanding of evangelism and ministry. We are to share the gospel so God receives glory. That has to be first in our minds, or eventually at some point we will quit sharing the gospel. You see I can share the gospel 1000 times, but every time I get rejected, I can become discouraged, so much to the point that I say what's the use I quit.

No One Stand Before God - You didn't Tell Me / I sent My Servant / You Rejected

But if I share the gospel because I want God to receive glory, then I can continue on forever, even if not person responds. What do I mean? You see no one will be able to stand before God and say you never told me, how can you judge me for something that I know nothing about. God will say I sent my servant to you, on such a such date, and he told you about my love, he told you about my sacrifice, I reached out to you but you rejected me. No one can say that God is not love, and that God is unjust, for they have heard the good news, and that brings glory to God.

Same with Counsel / Decision must be Made / Accountable to the Word / No Neutral

It is true with the word that we share, the counsel that we give. I have words of hope and love and anyone who rejects the counsel, that is based on the word of God, rejected by their own choice, God still receives glory even if they go and ruin their life. For his holiness and righteousness were presented to them, and they therefore must make a decision on the word that was presented to them. The world cannot live freely once the Word has been presented to them, they are not accountable to the word that has just pierced their heart. They will have to make a decision on whether they will follow God or not, be obedient to his word or not, and God again is glorified. Stand for Jesus in the midst of this corrupt world, be labeled legalistic, a jerk, unloving, whatever they may say, but the fact is they can no longer stay neutral, they will now have to make a decision for Jesus Christ, either they will be for Him, or against Him, whether that is for salvation, or Lordship, in both cases God is glorified.

Minister – Burn out – Fade Away – Become Bitter

You ministers if for any other reason you are sharing the word of God and bringing counsel to man other than for the glory of God, you will burn out and fade away, and probably become bitter in the process.

No Credit – No Defeat

Now when people do respond we need to make sure we don't take the credit, and here's good news, when people don't respond, when they reject, you don't have to take credit for that either. You don't have to feel the pressure that it's something to do with you. We just present the words of the Father, and let things happen from there as the Spirit will lead people, or people will reject the leading of the Spirit.

People in Scripture Used - Pointed

We find this so many places through the scriptures. These men that were so used of God were men who were never willing to take credit for the gift of God:

(Matthew 5:16 NKJV) "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dream (41:17-32)

(Genesis 41:17 NKJV) Then Pharaoh said to Joseph: "Behold, in my dream I stood on the bank of the river.

(Genesis 41:18 NKJV) "Suddenly seven cows came up out of the river, fine looking and fat; and they fed in the meadow.

(Genesis 41:19 NKJV) "Then behold, seven other cows came up after them, poor and very ugly and gaunt, such ugliness as I have never seen in all the land of Egypt.

(Genesis 41:20 NKJV) "And the gaunt and ugly cows ate up the first seven, the fat cows.

Genesis 41:21 NKJV) "When they had eaten them up, no one would have known that they had eaten them, for they were just as ugly as at the beginning. So I awoke.

(Genesis 41:22 NKJV) "Also I saw in my dream, and suddenly seven heads came up on one stalk, full and good.

(Genesis 41:23 NKJV) "Then behold, seven heads, withered, thin, and blighted by the east wind, sprang up after them.

(Genesis 41:24 NKJV) "And the thin heads devoured the seven good heads. So I told this to the magicians, but there was no one who could explain it to me."

Pharaoh Repeats Dream

So Pharaoh repeats the dream to Joseph's

(Genesis 41:25 NKJV) Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do:

Both Same Dream

Joseph says they are not two different dreams both dreams mean the same thing.

(Genesis 41:26 NKJV) "The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good heads are seven years; the dreams are one.

(Genesis 41:27 NKJV) "And the seven thin and ugly cows which came up after them are seven years, and the seven empty heads blighted by the east wind are seven years of famine.

(Genesis 41:28 NKJV) "This is the thing which I have spoken to Pharaoh. God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do.

(Genesis 41:29 NKJV) "Indeed seven years of great plenty will come throughout all the land of Egypt;

(Genesis 41:30 NKJV) "but after them seven years of famine will arise, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine will deplete the land.

(Genesis 41:31 NKJV) "So the plenty will not be known in the land because of the famine following, for it will be very severe.

7 Great – 7 Terrible / Lays Out next 14 Years

There will be seven plentiful years, then seven miserable and difficult years. So Joseph now lays out for the king exactly what is going to happen. God is showing you the future, the next fourteen years God has laid out before you. They will be divided in two, seven years there will be plenty, a bumper crop, years of abundance; but, it will be followed by seven years of drought, seven years of famine and the famine will be so great that all of the abundance of the seven good years will be used up.

We Know Tribulation Period

We know of a time that there will be seven miserable and difficult years, it is called the Tribulation Period. We read about in Revelation chapter 6 to 19.

Forced Israel to Joseph / Will Force Israel to Jesus

It is interesting that the seven hard years forced Jacob (Israel), to come to Joseph for preservation. Joseph again is a picture of Jesus Christ, and we see here a picture of the seven-year tribulation period. Israel will come to Jesus, they will see the Savior that they had missed, the one they falsely accused, abandoned and forgotten, and they will come to Him in the tribulation and be preserved.

World Ready to Receive Mark of Beast

For the most part the world lives in comfort. Never in the history of mankind has the economy of the world been so good, so prosperous. Yes there are pockets of problems of course, but for most part the world is living in comfort that has been unknown to man. Even in some of the poorest countries a computer is in every home and food is on every table. But the tribulation period will come and I believe the abundance of ease of life we live today will make people readily jump on the mark of the beast. People will not want to leave their stuff, they will not want to leave the comfort that they are so used to, so they will take the mark to keep living the good life. They will trade eternity, for the temporary.

(Genesis 41:32 NKJV) "And the dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

Look at God's Power – Cant be Undone

Look at the power of God here's what I'm gonna do for 14 years and there will be no change to it. No man can change it. Nothing can undo it. Therefore, I tell you so that you can come along and get in line with it and be prepared for it, but it will happen whether you're ready for it or not, and there's gonna be a seven year tribulation period that will not be changed, no matter what man will try to do. You can try to kill the two witnesses at the wall, but there will arise and ascend into heaven. You're not going to silence the angel with the everlasting gospel. You're not gonna kill the 144,000, and the rocks will fall on the men, and they will not die, and there will be scorpions released and rivers dried up, and all those things, and nothing will change those seven years, and here God is double in that to make it seem that you couldn't change 14 years, you' surely not going to change those seven years when it comes to the tribulation and

therefore, here we are getting ready for the tribulation period. And our readiness is the get out and not be here for it, and to take as many people with us as we can.

And whether it's the 13 years as a slave or in prison or the 14 years of the feast and the famine. whatever your situation is, feasting or famine, paradise, or prison. And if it is the prison, don't get bitter. Don't try to change the circumstance. Don't get resentful. Lean into what the Lord has you, and say, "I'm gonna be all here no matter what. And whatever I do, I'm gonna give you glory. I'll give you glory in my task that you assigned to me, or a temptation that comes my way. I'm gonna give glory that you can overcome and give the power for victor's life. And if it's a trowel, I'm going to give it all the glory and let people see that I trust you and that I'm not gonna turn against you, no matter what happens in my life.

It will Come to Pass

It will come to pass, and it did. Just as it did happen there in Genesis/Egypt, so too will happen in Revelation chapter 6 through 19.

2 Dreams Joseph & Pharaoh / Prison Doors Squeak / The Long Wait

Joseph interprets a dream again, and after this one will begin the series of events that will bring the dreams he had to pass. Joseph had 2 dreams, and so does Pharaoh, and he says because it was repeated twice that means that it has been established by God, and it will shortly come to pass. So too will Joseph's come to pass, very soon. I can only image when Joseph interpreted the dreams for the butler and the baker, and the butler was freed, that every time Joseph heard the prison door open, how he must have thought, they are here for me, see ya I am out of here. But the days turned into months, and the months into two full years. How hard that must have been for Joseph, how he must have wondered, where are you God.

God Met Joseph in Prison / Never Forgot / Went with & Went before

God met Joseph there in that prison, and God never forgot Joseph there in that prison, because God went before Joseph wherever he went, and He was with Joseph wherever he was, He never left Joseph (so true to the words the Lord speaks to us - I will never leave you no forsake you - I will not leave you orphans) - from the pit, to the palace, back to a pit, and then when he is back in a palace, God was with Him ever step of the way.

Wherever He was – Everywhere He Was

God met Joseph wherever he was, and everywhere he was. God will meet you wherever you are, and everywhere you are.

Compass Direct / Fellow – Guard – Soldier – Mother - Mother

There's a Ministry called Compass Direct and they ministry to the persecuted Church. They tell the story of a dying prisoner in a Chinese prison who was imprisoned for life. The prisoner wrote a letter to his mother before he died. He would not mail it because he was afraid the censors with tear up, so he gave it to a fellow prisoner who was supposed to be freed in four more years. The dying prisoner died during those four years, but the prisoner he gave the letter to, did not get out at the end of four years, so that prisoner gave the letter to a guard that he had become friendly with, who in turn gave it to a soldier friend who travelled to the it was written, and three years after the prisoner had died, finally reaches his mother and here is what it says:

Letter of Prisoner

Of my mother, my dear mother, I have not been a good son; I have brought disgrace upon you and all the family. I hope you can forgive me. I am dying. You brought me up to be a good boy; you gave me food, love, and affection. What did I do to repay you; I painted an anti-government slogan upon a wall and got life imprisonment. Life imprisonment when my life was only 18 years old. You raised me for more than this, and I am sorry. And now your son is 31 and he will not live past 33, I have cancer of the intestines and my jailers will not pay for an operation.

Now instead of working underground in the mine, I now man a tiny storage shed full of rusty tins and tools. I fetch them all day long, no one comes near, but at least I can look out over the desert and see the

shifting of the sand. For 8 years I never saw the sunlight, I was taken from the barracks through a tunnel into the mine. A room, a corridor, and a shaft were all the world that I had. And now my world is bigger, but is coming to an end, there is no hope. So I have sat on my stool and thought for many hours, I have cried many tears, mostly for the things I have never did, and will never do. I have never kissed a woman, I have never so much as owned a toothbrush, I've never received a paycheck, never ate a gourmet meal, and never built a kite for an excited child. Above all that I have never said how much I owed you. Never said to say how sorry I am for grieving you until now, boys are not meant to bring their mothers such sorrow, otherwise no one would have them.

I have come to 2 conclusions, one is this; this is not the only world there is. I cannot believe that I went through the miracle of birth to live a life like this and to die a death like this. I believe there is another world where there is a table that I can choose to sit at, and I can drink the finest wines, and eat until my heart is content, and I can make friends with whomsoever I please, and I can speak without fear, and not be marched off at the half-hour when the gong is sounded.

And I also believe that there is someone there, who is also here, who sits at the head of that table. A fellow prisoner told me of such a one, who said my yoke is easy, my burden is light. I do not know all that that means, all that I can say is when I heard those words I felt a great relief that my death was not the end of life.

So my dying charge to you mother is to find out who spoke those words so that we may dine together again with Him.

No one Outside God's Reach / What Prison You are In / Wants to Minister to You

There is no one outside of God's reach, no matter how far away that person or you are, there is no human life that God takes for granted, and every soul is precious to Him. No matter what prison you may feel that you are in, maybe it is a love that has left you, maybe it was inappropriate behaviour towards you as a child, maybe it's an illness today, whatever it may be you are well within God's reach. And He is thinking of you right now, and wants to minister to you, even when you feel like maybe He has forsaken you. God is faithful.

Forget our Sin / Not Forsaken / Million Miles Away

The only thing God forgets is our sins, He never forgets us. Whatever it may be for you, God knows, He has not forsaken you. No matter how far away, how out of reach you may feel, He will reach you. That person you love, that you think is a million miles from God, don't give up hope, don't give up your intercession for them, for God has His ways to reach them.

7 Great – 7 Terrible / Lays Out next 14 Years

There will be seven plentiful years, then seven miserable and difficult years. So Joseph now lays out for the king exactly what is going to happen. God is showing you the future, the next fourteen years God has laid out before you. They will be divided in two, seven years there will be plenty, a bumper crop, years of abundance; but, it will be followed by seven years of drought, seven years of famine and the famine will be so great that all of the abundance of the seven good years will be used up.

Joseph Gives Wise Counsel (41:33-37)

(Genesis 41:33 NKJV) "Now therefore, let Pharaoh select a discerning and wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt.

(Genesis 41:34 NKJV) "Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, to collect one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt in the seven plentiful years.

(Genesis 41:35 NKJV) "And let them gather all the food of those good years that are coming, and store up grain under the authority of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities.

General Tax Rule

Now as a general rule the people were taxed 10% but Joseph is suggesting that during this time of surplus that the government tax them 20%, so that they might gather a large surplus to see them through the lean years that were coming.

(Genesis 41:36 NKJV) "Then that food shall be as a reserve for the land for the seven years of famine which shall be in the land of Egypt, that the land may not perish during the famine."
(Genesis 41:37 NKJV) So the advice was good in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of all his servants.

Joseph gives IBS

I like this, Pharaoh asked for an interpretation of the dream, but Joseph does not stop there he goes all the way through the inductive Bible study method, or should I say be inductive prayer method. He not only gives the observation and the interpretation, he goes on to give the application. King this is what the prayer says, this is what it means to you, and this is the application now for your life.

Example when we Quote Scriptures

I like that, good example for us. When we quote Scriptures to people we must also have the application for them. This is what the Scripture says, this is what the Scripture means, and this is how you should apply it to your life. I remember quoting scripture to my father when I was a young in the Lord, I remember saying, for me to live as Christ, and to die is gain (Phil 1:21). He said what does that mean son? I'm saying to myself I don't know what that means, I know what it means to me but I cannot explain it to him. So, be careful about throwing Scriptures out that we cannot back up with explanation, when people call you on it you could look foolish, and more so like you don't know what you are talking about. So stick to what you know, minister within your spiritual maturity level. Learn the Inductive Bible Study Method so you can give the full counsel of the Word.

Joseph Chosen by Pharaoh (41:38-44)

(Genesis 41:38 NKJV) And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom is the Spirit of God?"

(Genesis 41:39 NKJV) Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you.

Recognized Quality of Joseph / 13 yrs Testing / The Spirit Difference

"And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is? They recognized that there was a quality in Joseph that set him above the crowd and that he wasn't an ordinary person. Joseph had gone through thirteen years of severe testing, trials, hardships and still there was that quality about him. What was it they saw? They recognized the Spirit of God in him. Oh, what a difference the Spirit of God makes in our lives. How we need the Spirit of God in control in our lives. Can we find a man like this in whom is the Spirit of God?

World needs more Josephs

How the world needs more men and women like Joseph; people in whom the spirit of God is upon. People, who are filled with the Holy Spirit, people who were filled with the wisdom of the Lord, who are able to discern the things of God.

Tell Us your Secret / Teacher – Univ – Library – Volumes - Traveling

I can imagine them saying to him, tell us your secret Joseph. How did you gain such wisdom and knowledge and understanding of these things? What teacher have you sat under? What fine university did you go to? How massive is your library, tell me all the volumes of books that you have read. Surely you must be a published author? How extensive you must have been traveling the world to glean so much wisdom and knowledge.

Joseph – No Teacher – Straight from Lord / 13 yrs Imprisoned / No Church

Please tell us your story of how you gain so much knowledge and wisdom. Joseph would say well at the age of 17 I was sold into slavery by my brothers, which ended up resulting in my imprisonment, so for the last 13 years I've been a slave or a prisoner. I do not have a Bible, no church, I do not have a pastor, I do not have a set of Pastor Chuck MP3's, I have no access to the Web, no commentaries, all I've had has come straight from the Lord.

No Excuses for Us / Spirit within Us

Christian know that all the we need to overcome sin in temptation in the world, all that we need to live the victorious Christian life, all that we need to do the work of the Ministry, has been given to us by the Spirit dwelling within us.

Univ of Tears / 13 yrs – Learned to Hear God's Voice

Joseph's University was the University of tears. And Joseph became the man that he was after 13 years of suffering. I believe it was during his 13 years of suffering that Joseph learned to hear the voice of God. Joseph would sit in the quietness of his prison cell, the loneliness of his slavery, and he learned to not only speak to the Lord but also to hear from the Lord.

Set Aside – Sit / Poor Joseph – Poor You / Pouring of God

What an example for us, how vital it is, to set aside that time of quietness where we sit to hear from the Lord. You know I could really imagine people saying to Joseph, what a pity for you, how terrible you suffered. But I believe Joseph would look and say what a pity for you. I have experienced communion with the God of all creation, I hear His voice, I am one with Him. When people are saying poor you, that is when God is pouring Himself into you.

America – Busy / Oneness of Joseph

We think America is so great, is it really? These busy lives that we lead, these lives of abundance, are they really that great? Do we have the oneness with God as Joseph did?

(Genesis 41:40 NKJV) "You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you."

(Genesis 41:41 NKJV) And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."

(Genesis 41:42 NKJV) Then Pharaoh took his signet ring off his hand and put it on Joseph's hand; and he clothed him in garments of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck.

Signet symbol of Power / Seal / Chains of Empowerment

The signet ring was Pharaoh's signature. They would drip wax on a seal and he would press his ring onto it, and everyone would know the king's design. Imagine the President giving you that same power. The chains around his neck represents power, for only those in power wore them around their neck. So Joseph goes from chains of imprisonment, to chains of empowerment.

(Genesis 41:43 NKJV) And he had him ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried out before him, "Bow the knee!" So he set him over all the land of Egypt.

(Genesis 41:44 NKJV) Pharaoh also said to Joseph, "I am Pharaoh, and without your consent no man may lift his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt."

You can do Nothing without Me

Joseph a picture of Jesus, without Me you can do nothing:

(John 15:5 NKJV) "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."

Humility before Honor

We see the humility in Joseph, and they' takes us to Proverbs 15:33 before honor is humility. And there's a word for us in letting God do the promotion, and we can just rest and not have to promote ourselves. and not be arrogant in any way, but simply humble. and let God do the promoting.

Proverbs 15:33 (NKJV)

³³ The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom, And before honor is humility.

Joseph Serves Pharaoh (41:45-46)

(Genesis 41:45 NKJV) And Pharaoh called Joseph's name Zaphnath-Paaneah. And he gave him as a wife Asenath, the daughter of Poti-Pherah priest of On. So Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt.

Revealer / Jesus Reveals all Things

The name given to Joseph by the Pharaoh probably means the "revealer of secrets." That is our Jesus, He reveals all things to us:

(Mark 4:22 NKJV) "For there is nothing hidden which will not be revealed, nor has anything been kept secret but that it should come to light.

(Mark 4:23 NKJV) "If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."

(Hebrews 4:12 NKJV) For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

(Hebrews 4:13 NKJV) And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

Name of Jesus

But the meaning of his name is not fully clear, and that too is a good picture of Our Jesus. Revelation says that He has a name that nobody knows:

(Revelation 19:12 NKJV) His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.

God so Rich – Deep / Spend Eternity Exploring Him

You see Christian God is so rich, He is so deep, that we will never come to the end of Him. We will live eternity with Him, and still never scratch the depth of who He is. Heaven will not be boring for we will be in the presence of a source so deep, so rich, that will spend eternity exploring His depth, and never reach it. Imagine every day, we will be fascinated by Him, thrilled about Him, growing deeper and deeper in love with Him.

Gentile Bride

It will be a wonderful marriage. Please note here that Joseph, a Jew, is given a Gentile bride. So too are most of here a Gentile bride to Jesus Christ.

(Genesis 41:46 NKJV) Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt.

Joseph 30

Here Joseph is thirty years old when he began his ministry over Egypt, even as Jesus was thirty years old when He began his public ministry:

(Luke 3:23 NKJV) Now Jesus Himself began His ministry at about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, the son of Heli,

The 7 Years of Plenty (41:47-52)

(Genesis 41:47 NKJV) Now in the seven plentiful years the ground brought forth abundantly.

(Genesis 41:48 NKJV) So he gathered up all the food of the seven years which were in the land of Egypt, and laid up the food in the cities; he laid up in every city the food of the fields which surrounded them.

Joseph Learned in Prison / We Complain – God Preparing

Joseph would have learned how to stretch supplies while he oversaw the prison where supplies would be scarce. God so often does that in our lives, He is preparing us for things long before He ever puts us in that ministry requiring those talents. Sometimes we even complain why God are you having me waste my time in these things. We never know what God is preparing us for, so wherever He has you today, be all there. Don't waste today's equipping waiting for tomorrows ministry.

Every City – Distribution Center / America Depression

Notice that in every city Joseph set up a distribution center? The church needs to take note of this; there is definitely a place for order, for planning. In the days of depression here in the United States you saw the pictures of people waiting in line 2 and 3 blocks long to get bread and soup. The fact is there was plenty of bread and soup, but the distribution centers were poorly established. The distribution centers were poorly planned and established, thus requiring the people to walk extra distances to stand in line with many people for long periods of time. The distribution centers were overloaded and understaffed.

Church needs to Plan – Order / Not Wing It

They should have read the Bible and took this example from Joseph. Joseph had distribution centers all over the place so that they were readily accessible to the people. In the church we need to plan ahead. Lots of people just want a wing it, say as the Spirit leads us. Yes the Spirit will lead us but the Spirit also tells us to do all things orderly. That is where prayers comes in, where you seek the Lord and say what is it that you want us to do Lord, and as the Lord leads us, we plan and prepare accordingly. Why is that? Because when things are not done orderly, confusion sets in, frustration and irritation follows:
(1 Corinthians 14:33 NKJV) For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

(1 Corinthians 14:40 NKJV) Let all things be done decently and in order.

If not People not Fed

Like in the days of depression, and would have been in days of Joseph, If there is no order people will not get fed. The church needs to be a feeding center, a place of nourishment. That is why there needs to be Children's church schedules, ushers, door greeters directing people, and, order in the sanctuary when the Word is being taught. Why people can't be moving around, coming in and going out, talking, and causing distractions.

(Genesis 41:49 NKJV) Joseph gathered very much grain, as the sand of the sea, until he stopped counting, for it was immeasurable.

(Genesis 41:50 NKJV) And to Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, whom Asenath, the daughter of Poti-Pherah priest of On, bore to him.

(Genesis 41:51 NKJV) Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: "For God has made me forget all my toil and all my father's house."

(Genesis 41:52 NKJV) And the name of the second he called Ephraim: "For God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction."

Manasseh – Forget / Joseph not Dysfunctional / Will not Dwell on Past

Manasseh means forget. You know if anyone had a reason to be dysfunctional, it was Joseph. He was lied about, falsely accused, mistreated, imprisoned, forgotten, used and tossed aside. 13 years of his life, almost half of it, yet he says I forget all the struggle and toil. Joseph chose not to dwell on the past, he chose not to let the past ruin his life today, or his future tomorrow. I forget he says.

Christian forget Past – Press On

Christian that is what we must do, we must forget the past hurts, our past failings, and we must live in today. Paul said I forget the past and press on towards the mark:

(Philippians 3:12 NKJV) Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

(Philippians 3:13 NKJV) Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,

(Philippians 3:14 NKJV) I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Put it behind You / Ex – Parents – family - Friend

Christian forget about it, as terrible as it was, forget it, put it behind you or it will rot you, it will rob you. Whatever it was that an ex did to you, your mother, your father, that teacher, or friend, forget about it, or it will rob you, it will cause bitterness and you will be blinded.

No one ever fully forgets the injustice done to them. But what we can do is choose not to dwell on the injustice of what others did to us.

For Joseph to forget, he has to believe what God put in his heart, but we get the advantage of written in the scriptures. All things work together for good for those who love God. And are called according to his purposes. And that's when you'll find your freedom, you'll find your peace. You'll find your healing, where you can forget what's been done to you or choose not to dwell on it. And say, Lord, you made me. You shaped me through those things. I'm a better man, I'm a better woman because of it. Just having dinner the other night with a friend. Just a great injustice done to him. And I said to him, If you could go back...

and choose for this not to happen. Would you? It didn't take, but a second, for the answer, no, to come out of him. As he said, I would not be who I am today, if it wasn't for those things.

And we look at verse 29 of Romans 8, that we might be conformed into the image of Jesus Christ. What an ultimate reward, what an ultimate calling and destination. It's not just the destination. as a place. But it's an image. Being image bearers conformed into his image.

[Romans 8:28–29 \(NKJV\)](#)

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

People Crippled

I have noticed people today who are cripple because they will not let it go; they are literally paralysed. It effects all their relationships, they live for a bottle, whether it be booze or pills, their life is paralysed; Let It Go!

I thank God for Jesus Christ because the longer I walk with him, the further my past is from me. My past just keeps getting further and further in the past. And I thank him because... of his great power, and his hand upon me, that my past isn't yesterday. He gives me the power for victory since the day he has saved me, and I thank him for that.

And beloved, don't let the past rip off your present. There's just a place that you have to choose to forget and move on to the upward calling that God has for you in Christ Jesus. And remember, it's a fallen world. And bad things happen to God's people. But also, as well, God will use those bad things. To shape us, which then shapes the future, which is an amazing thought, that we can be future shapers. in the hand of God.

Ephraim – Fruitful / Forget then Fruitful / God has Blotted Out Past

His second son was Ephraim, which means fruitful. It is the divine order. You will never be fruitful until you forget about and quit living in the pains of the past. God has washed away your past, blotted it out, so too should you:

[\(2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV\)](#) *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

And Joseph's second son. His name's gonna mean fruitful, and Joseph's gonna put his focus on today, and the blessings of it, and the joy of it. And the opportunity to be fruitful. For his God, and to partake of the fruit that his God supplies.

Roll Away the Stone

Christian roll away the stone and live. Jesus walked out of the tomb, so too can you, so too should you. When you leave that tomb, you will go out and live that life, and that more abundant:

[\(John 10:10 NKJV\)](#) *"..... I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

[\(John 10:11 NKJV\)](#) *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.*

Joseph sees Kids – Reminded of God's Goodness

Joseph called his second son Ephraim, which means "fruitfulness." Again a very beautiful phrase, God has caused me to forget all my toil, all my father's house and He has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction. Every time Joseph called his kids he was reminded of Gods goodness and Gods blessings and what God had done for him.

Joseph names his sons, Hebrew names. He's not conformed to Egypt. He may be in the world, but he's not of the world. And this is amazing how he withstands the culture, how easy it would have been for him. To bow down. And to be absorbed, assimilated into the culture, for the work that was before him, thinking that it was even God's call. But instead, he stays separated. Unto the Lord.

The 7 Years of Famine (41:53-57)

(Genesis 41:53 NKJV) Then the seven years of plenty which were in the land of Egypt ended,

(Genesis 41:54 NKJV) and the seven years of famine began to come, as Joseph had said. The famine was in all lands, but in all the land of Egypt there was bread.

Famine All Lands / Never Know what God Raising You Up For

Notice the famine was in all lands. So Joseph has been raised up to preserve the whole world, his people, the children of Israel, and as we know to preserve the lineage of the Messiah, the one who will buy man back from prison in to Paradise. You never know what God is doing in your trial.

(Genesis 41:55 NKJV) So when all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread. Then Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph; whatever he says to you, do."

Mary – Do as he Says

Joseph is a picture of Jesus Christ, and I'm reminded by this verse would Mary said to the servants about Jesus, whatever he says to you do it:

(John 2:3 NKJV) And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine."

(John 2:4 NKJV) Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come."

(John 2:5 NKJV) His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."

Bread 7 Wine / Jesus always the Answer

So Mary was out of wine, and Egypt was out of bread, Here again a picture of communion (bread and wine). Joseph a picture of Jesus, and the answer is always the same, when you are empty come to Jesus.

(Genesis 41:56 NKJV) The famine was over all the face of the earth, and Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold to the Egyptians. And the famine became severe in the land of Egypt.

(Genesis 41:57 NKJV) So all countries came to Joseph in Egypt to buy grain, because the famine was severe in all lands.

Today – Famine of Word / Desperate Times

Christian there is a famine today him as we are told in the Scriptures, and that famine is a famine of the word of God. People are pushing it aside, I'll think about it later, churches are not teaching it, but telling jokes and cute stories, we live in desperate times:

(Amos 8:11 NKJV) "Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord GOD, "That I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the LORD."

Tribulation Period / We Raptured – Our Words Left / Keep Giving out the Word

So there will 7 years of famine, just like there will be 7 years of tribulation. People will be drawn to Egypt, to Joseph for preservation. So too in the 7 year period there will be a great revival as people will be drawn to Jesus Christ. For the Christian, we will be raptured before the Tribulation period begins. The only thing that will be left here will be the words that we spoke to those who are left behind. The words you give will be remembered; they will put the pieces together. Keep giving out the Word, it will not return void, so don't ever quit, be like Joseph, keep giving out the word even when everything seems so bleak and useless.

Had Joseph Quit / Butler Same / No Joe to Remember / No Deliverance

Guess what? Had Joseph said no more dreams, you are on your own, The butler would have gotten out regardless had Joseph interpreted or not, but had Joseph not kept ministering, then there would have been no Joseph to remember 2 years later. There would have been no deliverance from that prison, there would have been no Joseph to deliver the world from a famine, and he would never have seen his family again.

Joseph Never See Family Again / You keep Sharing / Dine Together with Lamb

Never seen his family again, consider that. You keep preaching the word, you keep giving them those tracts, books, tapes, you keep witnessing and when the rapture happens, they will put all the pieces together. Those days will be horrible for them, but when they put the pieces together, we will see them again, we will dine together in heaven, with the Lamb.

Wonderful Story/ Peaks & Valleys / Lord Sustain / Trust Him

A wonderful story, and it is not over yet. Again let me encourage you to wait on the Lord, be of good cheer. Though your path may have led you into the valley and you are going through deep water and at the present time you may not yet see your way out. You are a child of God, His hand will lead you, He will sustain you, He will bring you forth with shouts of joy and victory as you see the full cycle of Gods plan work out in your life. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, don't lean to your own understanding. There is more to the story of your life than you can see; so, don't close the book.

Next Chapter the Dream Comes to Pass

Wait for God to bring you into that next chapter where the solution to the puzzle lies and see the unfolding grace of God in your lives and the goodness of God day after day until you say, "God is so good."

Outline: Genesis 41

- Then it Came to Pass (41:1)
- Pharaoh has a Dream (41:2-8)
- Joseph Called Out of Prison (41:9-16)
- Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dream (41:17-32)
- Joseph Gives Wise Counsel (41:33-37)
- Joseph Chosen by Pharaoh (41:38-44)
- Joseph Serves Pharaoh (41:45-46)
- The 7 Years of Plenty (41:47-52)
- The 7 Years of Famine (41:53-57)

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need