

Introduction

Genesis 39:20-23 - ²⁰And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison. ²¹But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. ²²And the keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners who were in the prison. Whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. ²³The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge, because the Lord was with him. And whatever he did, the Lord made it succeed.

FRUSTRATION OF STUCK



JOSEPH - EXPECTATIONS DASHED, BUT GOD WITH HIM
WE KNOW GOD NEAR, BUT HOW IS HE NEAR?

Galatians 5:16-17 - But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

[A GOD THAT FITS IN OUR CIRCUMSTANCE BREEDS ENTITLEMENT
[A GOD THAT SURPASSES OUR CIRCUMSTANCE INSPIRES WORSHIP

WHAT PRISON ARE YOU IN TODAY? HOW ARE YOU STUCK?
WHERE IS GOD/SPIRIT IN YOUR ORIENTATION?

God is over opportunity; we must be available

Genesis 40:1-8 - ¹Some time after this, the cupbearer of the king of Egypt and his baker committed an offense against their lord the king of Egypt. ²And Pharaoh was angry with his two officers, the chief cupbearer and the chief baker, ³and he put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, in the prison where Joseph was confined. ⁴The captain of the guard appointed Joseph to be with them, and he attended them. They continued for some time in custody. ⁵And one night they both dreamed—the cupbearer and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were confined in the prison—each his own dream, and each dream with its own interpretation. ⁶When Joseph came to them in the morning, he saw that they were troubled. ⁷So he asked Pharaoh's officers who were with him in custody in his master's house, "Why are your faces downcast today?" ⁸They said to him, "We have had dreams, and there is no one to interpret them." And Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God? Please tell them to me."

(v. 1-4) CUP + BAK → PRISON, STUCK OVER
 (E)
 (v. 5-8) 2 MEN, 2 DREAMS, 2 INTERP
 NO ONE TO HELP!

(1)
 [WE LIKE GOD OVER BIG OPPORTUNITIES
 WE DON'T LIKE GOD OVER SMALL
 HOW INTERRUPTIONS]

LUKE 16 - JESUS AVAILABLE
 KIDS, RMP, BLIND BEGGAR

(A)
 [OUR FLESH WANTS TO BE UNSUCK
 SPIRIT SEEKS GOD WORKING WITHIN STUCK

ARE YOU AVAILABLE TO LISTEN?

[MAYBE GOD FEELS SMALL AND YOU
 FEEL STUCK BECAUSE YOU'RE
 ONLY LOOKING TO HIM IN
 THE BIG THINGS
 WE WANT "OUT OF PRISON"
 BUT THERE MAY BE MORE
 OF HIM HERE THAN WE LIKE

ARE YOU AVAILABLE TO SERVE?

God is over results; we must be faithful

Genesis 40:9-19 - ⁹So the chief cupbearer told his dream to Joseph and said to him, "In my dream there was a vine before me, ¹⁰and on the vine there were three branches. As soon as it budded, its blossoms shot forth, and the clusters ripened into grapes. ¹¹Pharaoh's cup was in my hand, and I took the grapes and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup and placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand." ¹²Then Joseph said to him, "This is its interpretation: the three branches are three days. ¹³In three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your office, and you shall place Pharaoh's cup in his hand as formerly, when you were his cupbearer. ¹⁴Only remember me, when it is well with you, and please do me the kindness to mention me to Pharaoh, and so get me out of this house. ¹⁵For I was indeed stolen out of the land of the Hebrews, and here also I have done nothing that they should put me into the pit." ¹⁶When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was favorable, he said to Joseph, "I also had a dream: there were three cake baskets on my head, ¹⁷and in the uppermost basket there were all sorts of baked food for Pharaoh, but the birds were eating it out of the basket on my head." ¹⁸And Joseph answered and said, "This is its interpretation: the three baskets are three days. ¹⁹In three days Pharaoh will lift up your head—from you!—and hang you on a tree. And the birds will eat the flesh from you."

E

Remember me!

It's gentle...

I

[WE WANT TO CONTROL RESULTS.
WE NEED TO BE FAITHFUL
TO GOD & TRUTH.

JOHN 5 - JESUS FAITHFUL

- ONLY DO WHAT FATHER DEMANDS
- GOD'S WILL, NOT MINE

JESUS' DEEP OBEDIENCE

A

[OUR FLESH WANTS CONTROL + GUARANTEES
SPIRIT SEEKS FAITHFULNESS + SURRENDER

ARE YOU WILLING
TO ENCOURAGE NEED!

MAYBE GOD FEELS SMALL AND YOU
FEEL STUCK BECAUSE YOU'RE
TOO WORRIED ABOUT HOW
THINGS WILL TURN OUT
INSTEAD OF OCCUPYING YOURSELF
WITH THE TRUTH

ARE YOU WILLING
TO SAY HARD THINGS? NEED!

God is over fate; we must be content

Genesis 40:20-23 - ²⁰On the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, he made a feast for all his servants and lifted up the head of the chief cupbearer and the head of the chief baker among his servants. ²¹He restored the chief cupbearer to his position, and he placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand. ²²But he hanged the chief baker, as Joseph had interpreted to them. ²³Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.

- INTERPRETATIONS TRUE
- JOSEPH FORGOTTEN

(E)

(I)

[WE LIKE TO BE FAITHFUL
WE DON'T LIKE TO BE FORGOTTEN

JESUS WAS FAITHFUL
JESUS WAS FORGOTTEN

(A)

[OUR FLESH WANTS PHYSICAL FREEDOM
OUR SPIRIT NEEDS SPIRITUAL FREEDOM

Philippians 4:10-13

I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

HAVE YOU LEARNED CONTENTMENT?

[MAYBE GOD FEELS SMALL AND YOU
FEEL STUCK BECAUSE YOU'RE
ONLY WORRIED ABOUT BEING REMEMBERED
BY PEOPLE
YOU'VE FORGOTTEN THAT YOU'VE BEEN
REMEMBERED BY GOD.

Conclusion

WHERE ARE YOU STUCK TODAY?

ARE YOU TRYING TO FIT GOD INTO YOUR LIFE TO IMPROVE,
OR ARE YOU LETTING HIM SURPASS YOUR LIFE TO REIGN?

I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG WE WILL BE STUCK,
BUT GOD WORKS ON GRACE NOT ENTITLEMENT.

CIRCUMSTANCES MIGHT NOT CHANGE,

BUT SCRIPTURES + HISTORY FULL OF PPL

WHOSE PRAYERS + SOU HAVE BEEN HEARD

FROM BEHIND BARS OF ALL KINDS.

WILL YOU SOU THEM?