



# GENESIS

## Joseph's Brothers Go To Egypt Genesis 41:53-42:38

In the text this week, Joseph tests his brothers to see if they continue to act the same as they did in the past. The question he seeks an answer to is a question that all of us who call ourselves followers of Christ have to ask ourselves. Have you changed? Because while we are absolutely saved by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone, that salvation produces something. Sometimes God allows tests in our lives to reveal the authenticity of our faith or to deal with recurring sin patterns in our lives. Below are some questions that reflect the test of Joseph's brothers and help with our own self-examination.

- Are your present actions representative of your past sins? Are you battling that sin or simply excusing it?  
*Romans 6; Galatians 5:1*
- Do you love one another?  
*John 13:34-35; 1 John 3:11-24*
- Have those closest to you seen a change in your walk as well as your talk?  
*Matthew 5:14-16*

It can be hard at times to see how God, in His providence, is working in our lives. Jacob is convinced that everything is against him, but Romans 8:31 reminds us that if God is for us, who can be against us? Spend time this week reading Genesis 37-42 as a recap of Joseph's story thus far. How do you see God working? What comfort or assurance can this give you in your own walk with the Lord?

God's providence is evident time and time again throughout Scripture, giving us confidence that the promises of God are true and will be fulfilled. Below are a few examples from Scripture that reveal aspects of the providential work of God in the lives of everyday people. What reminders or encouragement can you draw from these examples similar to our text this week?

- Jonah: A story of God's sovereign mercy.  
-Jonah 1-4
- Ruth: God's providence in the darkest of times.  
-Ruth 1-4
- Paul: The unexpected messenger of the gospel.  
-Acts 9-27

5. Read Genesis 41:47:52. At this point, Joseph's clothing was Egyptian, his name was Egyptian, his language was Egyptian, his wife was Egyptian, and his father-in-law was the leading Egyptian idol worshipper. Was Joseph's faith in greater or lesser peril now than it was when he was in prison? What do the Hebrew names given to Joseph's sons tell us about Joseph's heart through all of this?