

January 23rd – The Providence of God

*“Do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life...it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.”
(Gen. 45:5, 8)*

Joseph was a bright young man who enjoyed the favor of his father when he was sold into slavery by his brothers. Joseph’s journey after his enslavement was not easy. First, he ended up in Potiphar’s house where he found favor in the eyes of his master. Joseph also caught the eye of his master’s wife who attempted to proposition him for sex on a number of occasions. After Joseph refused her advances, she falsely accused him and Joseph was thrown into prison.

But even from prison, Joseph didn’t lose hope. Because he was a man of God, the Lord caused Joseph to find favor with the keeper of the prison. He actually placed Joseph in charge of the other prisoners. In the process of time, it was revealed that Joseph was an interpreter of dreams. When it was discovered that Joseph had a God-given gift, he was commanded to come and interpret dreams for Pharaoh himself!

Pharaoh was so impressed with Joseph and his interpretations that he made him second in command over the kingdom of Egypt. Is it possible that someone orchestrated all these events? Joseph said it was God who sent him to Egypt – through slavery, false accusations, imprisonment, etc. Joseph realized that sometimes God allows “bad things to happen to good people” so that He can use them for His glory! Keep persevering through trials – God has a purpose for your pain!