

JOSEPH

GOD'S PROVISIONS

The Difference in ONE Day

- ❖ Ring, garments, necklace of office...
- ❖ A wife & A new name... life is good!
- ❖ 41:46 – 30 years old
 - ❖ 7 years of plenty come, gathering
 - ❖ Food stored from surrounding fields (48)
 - ❖ No travel, it was where it would be needed

And a new job...

- ❖ At 36, 2 sons born in plenty
 - ❖ Manasseh – making to forget
 - ❖ Ephraim – fruitfulness
 - ❖ Much happens with these 2 sons/tribes
- ❖ In 20 years, Joseph has changed
- ❖ But GOD hasn't!

Applications

- ❖ God knows **WHAT** you need...
- ❖ God knows **WHEN** you need it...
- ❖ God knows **WHY** you will need it...
- ❖ Mt. 6:19-34 – Don't be anxious
- ❖ God also knows what you **WANT!!!**
- ❖ Greeds are not needs.....

7 years of abundance

- ❖ Are more about Joseph and his life
 - ❖ Not much info or detail given about his work
 - ❖ Building cities, storing grain: barley & emmer
 - ❖ Staples = bread and beer!



Barley

“Feast and Famine”

- ❖ Leadership and Hard Work
- ❖ Ethical and Moral Standards
- ❖ How to survive in Trials and Loss
- ❖ Sensitivity and Compassion
- ❖ Humility in Asking for Help
- ❖ Courage and Truth’s importance
- ❖ WAITING on God...

The Tide turns...

- ❖ 7 years of plenty in Egypt end (53)
 - ❖ Only Egypt has the surplus stored/ready
- ❖ “just as Joseph said” (54)
- ❖ “Go to Joseph; whatever HE says” (55)
 - ❖ Famine is severe and widespread
 - ❖ God will do what He must

God on the Throne

- ❖ God is going to great lengths here...
- ❖ What is He doing NOW???
- ❖ Earthquakes, wars, nations rise and fall
- ❖ He moved all of Rome to move M&J
- ❖ Trial and Crucifixion – details!
- ❖ ALL the people come to buy grain...

Guess who's coming...

- ❖ ENTER the long lost FAMILY!!!
 - ❖ Jacob, not the sons, hear of the plenty...
 - ❖ Staring at each other... (42:1)
 - ❖ Maybe Joseph was better off!!!
- ❖ Sill playing favorites...
 - ❖ Fear is ruling Jacob's life! NOTE: not Israel!

Joseph's Grain Sales

- ❖ Joseph in charge of the sales (non-Egypt)
- ❖ Joseph sees and recognizes
- ❖ A moment of choice for him...
- ❖ Revenge or Obedience???
- ❖ He sees Benjamin is missing... !
- ❖ Harsh words – time for accounting

Reckoning!

- ❖ Conscience stirred – Egypt?!
- ❖ Did they suspect he might be there?
- ❖ God has overseen all
- ❖ Physical needs can stir our conscience
 - ❖ Job, David, Israel, Ruth, Esther
 - ❖ What is God doing in you?

“One more thing”s...

- ❖ Had they changed – better or worse?
 - ❖ Still capable of “selling out”?
 - ❖ Had they learned to be a FAMILY??
- ❖ Most importantly...
 - ❖ WERE JACOB AND BENJAMIN ALIVE???
 - ❖ What a conflict for Joseph... DREAMS! (9)
 - ❖ “you are spies...”

‘They’ tell the tale...

- ❖ **Sons of one man.. Honest men?**
 - ❖ **Youngest is with father... still alive?**
- ❖ **By the life of Pharaoh... only Joseph! (16)**
 - ❖ **Tested - Go get Benjamin! Or else....**
 - ❖ **3 days in prison... guilt has time to work!!!**
 - ❖ **A test of sacrifice...are they still the same?**

Guilt's dilemma

- ❖ Vs.21 – we are guilty – no compassion
 - ❖ We saw his distress
 - ❖ Now distress is on us!
- ❖ Reuben's reckoning – see 37:21,29
 - ❖ Speaks as Joseph listens in - (22)
 - ❖ Joseph turns away to weep...
 - ❖ Emotions/feelings of 13 years

Trial of love

- ❖ Joseph understands more...not all!
- ❖ Simeon taken and bound
- ❖ Food, provisions, and money (25)
 - ❖ Money is the 'idol', testimony against them
 - ❖ Guilt and fear rise in them – no sorrow?
 - ❖ And of course, blame God! (28)