



Series: Genesis: The Foundations for the Coming of Christ

Title: Dreams to Disaster: Trusting God Knows What He is Doing

Scripture: Genesis 37-38

October Memory Verse: *"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."* **Romans 8:28**

1. The Dreams: God promises before He explains. (Gen. 37:1-28)
 - a. God gives dreams to anchor His people to trust God before they see His providence.
2. The Disasters: God allows pain to accomplish His purpose. (Gen. 37:29-36; 38:1, 6-7, 10-15, 18-19)
 - a. God allows disaster to teach His people to trust God and see His providence.
3. The Deliverer: God uses dreams and disasters to bring Jesus. (Gen. 38:27-30; Matt. 1:3)
 - a. God works through dreams and disasters to providentially bring Jesus, so His people trust God and rest in His providence.

For the church:

1. Hold God's promises loosely in timing and tightly in trust.
 - a. Name one promise of God you're waiting on and write it down this week.
2. Your pit is not your end.
 - a. Look back at your own "Dothan detours," the delays and closed doors that God used. Share one with your family or Small Group this week.
3. Stop asking only for miracles. Start looking for providence. (Rom. 8:28-29)
 - a. Each night this week, ask: "Where did God arrange the ordinary today?"
4. Watch what favoritism and envy do in your home.
 - a. Parents, is anyone in your home getting a "coat"? Siblings and coworkers, is there a "dreamer" you resent?
5. Your mess doesn't disqualify you from God's story. (Phil. 1:12)
 - a. Judah's worst moment became the path to Jesus. Confess like Judah did: "She is more righteous than I". (Gen. 38:26)

For the lost:

1. The same providence that brought Joseph to Egypt brought Jesus to the cross (Acts 2:23), so you could be saved.