

THE TRIUMPHANT FAITH

Introduction

How many of us have frequently read the story about Joseph's life as written in *Genesis 37-50*? If you haven't done so recently, read it again! It will strengthen your life and your life will be successful.

If we often read the story, we will be blessed and it will give us faith, strength and courage to overcome the most difficult situations that we encounter in our daily lives and we don't give up hope. Whether we encounter difficulties in our office, home, and daily lives, don't despair and get discouraged but have the faith to focus on what is important to win in our lives God's way.

Joseph is absolutely a man of great integrity and has great personal character traits as described in *Genesis 37-50*. He has the perfect mindset to face obstacles and roadblocks. He sticks to his good life principles and look to God for everything he does. Can you ever imagine someone being accused for a crime he didn't commit and then thrown to prison? Can you ever imagine the suffering Joseph had experienced in his life? We need to study his story again and again in order to accomplish the triumph of faith!

Discussion

1. What Made Him Successful?

Let's read *Genesis 39:2*, "**The Lord was with Joseph** and made him successful. He lived in the house of his Egyptian master". Also, please read *Genesis 39:21* "But **the Lord was with Joseph** and blessed him, so that the jailer was pleased with him" and *Genesis 39:23* "The jailer did not have to look after anything for which Joseph was responsible, because **the Lord was with Joseph** and made him succeed in everything he did". From the Word of God, we know that the Lord is with Joseph. So, it is the Lord who makes us successful in our lives!

2. Do Our Work as Unto the Lord

If we deeply observe the Bible in *Genesis 37-50*, we know that Joseph is a shining example of a man who does his work as unto the Lord (COL 3:23) in times of prosperity as well as in trials. No matter what situation Joseph found himself in, he worked hard and remained faithful to the Lord. By trusting in God in good times and bad and **never giving up hope**, Joseph truly let his light shine among men (MAT 5:16), and everyone he came in contact with could see it. Like Joseph, we can live our lives in a way that makes people notice the Lord's influence.

3. We Must Remain Faithful for God's Timing

What happened after Joseph interpreted the dreams of the baker and the chief cup bearer in prison?

The cup bearer failed to help him for two whole years! Two years is a long time to be sitting in prison wondering if someone is going to fulfill a promise, and it stands to reason that Joseph may have considered that the Lord had forgotten about him, just as the cup bearer had.

If the chief cup bearer had remembered to mention Joseph to Pharaoh right away, it can be assumed that Joseph may have been released immediately.

He would then have been a free man without a penny to his name and no place to call home. Because the cup bearer did not remember him until two years later, when Pharaoh himself needed an interpretation of a pair of dreams, Joseph was elevated to the second

highest position in Egypt, and was able to save an entire nation and his family from famine and starvation.

It took Joseph 13 years to achieved God's vision for him; he may have felt that God's timing was inconvenient while he was in prison, but the Lord's perfect timing served to accomplish a great deal more than could have otherwise been possible. We, Christians who wonder if God has forgotten us in a specific situation can look to Joseph's story and remember that God's timing accomplishes more than we could ever hope or plan for. (ECC 3:1, ISA 40:31)

Conclusion

1. Joseph's story is filled with practical insights for us, including lessons on patience, perseverance, and a godly work ethic.

If we profoundly study of the life of Joseph, it reveals the rewards of trusting in God unconditionally and allowing Him to be the Lord of our lives in good times and bad. Joseph trusted in the Lord regardless of his external situation, and through him the Lord saved his family and an entire nation from famine while providing an example of faith to future generations.

2. Joseph lived a God-dependent life, and he lived it in the midst of great adversity.

He knew his future rested in the hands of the Lord. Let's read *Psalms 75:6-7*. If we continue to read in Genesis, we will find that Joseph remained dependent on God, and he never lost his way in the midst of such power and wealth. He kept his God-given vision alive, served others wholeheartedly, and remained totally dependent on God. Why, because he had a vision that had not yet been fulfilled. God was going to use this slave to save his family and a nation.

It was nine years from the time Joseph was placed in power before his brothers came to Egypt seeking help. Think of the options that were available to Joseph. If he wanted revenge, he could have taken it. He could have acted in pride and demanded an audience with his father and brothers, humiliating them and forcing them to bow before him. *But Joseph did nothing; he refused to act in the flesh and remained dependent on God.* This was further described in *Genesis 50:20* "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive".

So, let's continue our walk together with God and put our trust in Him; He shall make His vision come to pass in our life and His favor always be with us, amen !