



A Bigger Dream

Genesis 41 (Part 2) | Mark Foreman | July 21, 2024

❖ The Last Time We Saw Joseph

- > God's sovereign redemption plan is bigger and better than ours. It's connected to God's redemptive plan backwards, forwards and with all the other people God is working in their lives.
- > He's working in our lives during the way (no one so discerning and wise Gen. 41:39). And we discover His character and He develops character in us.
- > Things we can do while waiting:
 - Surrender--trust God for Who he is and what He has done, not for what we want. Wanting His dream for us, while pursuing the dreams we trust he has given us.
 - Study some amazing psalms about waiting (Psalm 27; 37; 130).
 - Learn contentment and thankfulness. Let go and let God. Bloom where you are planted. Drive in your lane well.
 - Take advantage of every opportunity to serve and love others. Love others well, while waiting to be loved. Reach out and minister to others, who might be worse off.
 - Create fishing pools of opportunity, to fish when there are no fish where you are fishing (Abraham's servant, Jacob).
 - Create a plan B, which is your backup plan in case you heard Him wrong.
 - Remember - This story is not just Joseph's story, it's not just Israel's story—this is salvation history in the making, which includes our story.

❖ The Two Dreams Begin to Come Together

- > Key terms begin to link the two together: dream, stalks, robes Jacob and Pharaoh honor Joseph, and "all my people are to submit to your orders."
- > Joseph is shaved. He must move culturally from Semitic culture to Egyptian.
- > Joseph is brought to Pharaoh. He hears and interprets the dreams: the 7 gaunt cows eat the 7 healthy cows; 7 scrawny heads of grain swallow the 7 healthy ones.
- > Joseph's and Pharaoh's dreams and lives begin to come together. But Joseph doesn't know it yet.
 - Remember the robe of many colors.
 - God's will, like wood, eventually floats to the surface.

❖ Joseph's Reflection on His Life

- > Joseph married the daughter of the high priest and has two sons.
- > God has made me forget all my trouble (v.51).
- > God has made me fruitful (v.52).

❖ The Stage Is Set – Something Even Bigger Is Coming (57)

- > If you peek into the next chapter it all begins to snowball (spoiler alert 42:1)
- > Joseph hung on to his dream, but his dream was part of something bigger than he could have imagined.
- > We can't even imagine how great things will be (1 Cor 2:9).
- > No matter how fulfilled or how lacking we feel we all are waiting for the ultimate promises to be fulfilled.
- > We all live in "the already but not yet." Some of these we experience partially or intermittently because of unbelief or living in a fallen world.
 - Provision, healing, guidance, wisdom, love, purpose.
 - Forgiveness
 - Holy Spirit is the down payment, the deposit
 - By faith Identity – transformation begins but not complete
 - Everlasting life – begins but waiting for our new bodies.
 - How we will reign and serve, how we will love, how we will feel, what we will see and know and discover with awe and wonder.
 - And see and talk to Love Himself and to love others the same.
- > Not only is Joseph's dream to be fulfilled but God is going to fulfill his promise to Abraham and preserve (save) the twelve tribes of Israel and he makes a new promise that from Judah Messiah comes.

❖ Take Home: Will I Believe That God Is Faithful to Israel and to Me?

- > Fear, frustration, anxiety, impatience are natural human emotions. But once we have more information about both who God is and His plan, those human emotions become unfounded. Are you growing as a believer in who God is and His plan?
- > This is where faith kicks in. Will I believe in who God is and His plan or will I trust my experience and emotions?
- > Faith feels like surrender. It is trust. It is letting go and letting God. How do you experience trust?
- > If we absolutely believed God wins in the end, how would we live differently?
 - How would you pray?
 - How would you live?
 - What would your attitude be?
 - How do I think about his love and love others?
 - Even though this is a broken world waiting for him to put everything right, meanwhile his hand is upon you.