



Come & See What God Has Done

Joseph Experiences Betrayal, Again

Dec. 6

Our next look into the life of Joseph reveals an example of how a seemingly good situation can turn nasty. But despite this occurring, the Lord would show Joseph a better result.

We read Genesis 39:1-4, Now Joseph had been brought down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, had bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master. His master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord caused all that he did to succeed in his hands. So, Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had.

Joseph had a pretty good gig going, even in slavery, being the overseer of Potiphar's house. The life of an overseer was immensely more comfortable than that of the run-of-the-mill enslaved person in Egypt. Living conditions, food, and working environment were a few of the job's perks. Yet, there was a trap lurking in the path of Joseph's relatively good life. We see this in Genesis 39:7-8, And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, "Lie with me." But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge. In my the phrase "cast her eyes on Joseph" is the equivalent in our time of she lusted after Joseph.





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Potiphar's wife eventually ensnared not only Joseph but also Potiphar. She finally unleashed her plan, as we see in Genesis 39:11-14, But one day, when he went into the house to do his work and none of the men of the house was there in the house, she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand and fled and got out of the house. And as soon as she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled out of the house, she called to the men of her household and said to them, "See, he has brought among us a Hebrew to laugh at us. He came into me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice.

Her devious plan placed Potiphar in an unenviable position. Does he believe that Joseph was honorable, or does he believe what his wife claims to have happened? To believe Joseph would cause him dishonor amongst his peers, along with a significant level of difficulty with his wife. Remember, happy wife-happy life is as prevalent then as it is now. Potiphar takes the path of least resistance and throws Joseph into jail. For Joseph, going from a relatively cushy life as a slave as the overseer of a house to jail was a massive life-changing event. Slavery was bad enough in and of itself. But to add jail to that, life must have been crushing. The Lord had more in store for him.

Profoundly difficult situations can be a stress test of our faith. We can get so wrapped up in our misery that our focus becomes short-sighted. We cannot fathom a good outcome in the depths of our despair. That is where our faith needs to be great. We must dig down and trust the Lord and His plan. We must hang tough and see what the Lord will do in our lives, even in our time of misery. We can exemplify how faith can see us through to those around us.

Leaning on Jesus
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