

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Can we be in high positions of authority and still fully honor God?
2. Today, the world seeks escape from responsibility and accountability. How can the church cultivate these principles?
3. As a young man, Joseph had demonstrated faithfulness in good times as well as bad times. Why is it difficult to live consistently faithful lives?
4. Can we expect to be honored for faithful service? Does God bestow honor? If so, how?

### SUMMARY:

God has all wisdom and all knowledge and all power. In advance of the seven years of plenty and the seven years of famine, He revealed to Pharaoh what He was about to do. The message was given to Pharaoh in dreams, which God explained through His Holy Spirit in Joseph. Because of God's message, a good supply of food was stored up in readiness for the famine to come. Joseph was an instrument God used to fulfill His plans. Joseph permitted himself to be used of God; he honored God, and God honored him.

### NOTES:

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #10

June 8, 2014

Second Quarter

### JOSEPH, RULER IN EGYPT

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**LESSON TEXT:** *Genesis 41:38-57*

**LESSON SETTING:** Joseph still in Egypt.

**TIME:** Approximately 1715 B.C.

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- I. JOSEPH'S REWARD.** Genesis 41:38-44
  - A. Holy Spirit's Indwelling Recognized (vs. 38-39) Numbers 27:18; Isaiah 61:1; Luke 1:15; Romans 8:9, 14
  - B. Joseph Made Ruler (vs. 40-44) Psalm 105:17-22; 1 Samuel 2:30; Philippians 2:9-11
- II. JOSEPH'S RESPONSIBILITY.** Genesis 41:45-57
  - A. Joseph Given Gentile Bride (vs. 45) Acts 15:14; Ephesians 5:31-32; Revelation 19:7-9
  - B. Joseph Oversees Egypt (vs. 45-46) Zechariah 14:4; Micah 4:1-7; Revelation 11:15
  - C. Joseph Stores Food (vs. 47-49) Malachi 3:8-10; 1 Corinthians 16:2; 1 Timothy 6:17-19
  - D. Two Sons Born (vs. 50-52)

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**GOLDEN TEXT:** . . . *THEM THAT HONOR ME I WILL HONOR.*

1 Samuel 2:30

**NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON:** Genesis 42:1-9; 43:15-34; 44:1-17

**SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES:** Acts 7:9-11; Romans 8:35-39;  
2 Corinthians 4:8-10

**QUARTERLY THEME:** The Patriarchs

**TOPIC:** JOSEPH TESTS HIS BROTHERS

### INTRODUCTION:

After the years in which Joseph had lived in Egypt he could well have had bitter feelings against his brothers, but instead God's Word gives us a picture of a forgiving spirit and of a great concern for his father and brother Benjamin. He did use this as a testing of his brothers, but even in the midst of these tests his love for them was shown when he secretly had their money returned to them.

We see too, how the reckless sins of youth had resulted in some hard tests for Joseph's brothers. They even recognized that it was for their sin regarding the selling of Joseph that this trial was upon them. (Genesis 42:21) Young people today often recklessly do things that will some day require a repayment. Sin always has a price that often times still must be paid even though a soul finds repentance toward God and receives His forgiveness. Just as an injury leaves a scar even though healing is accomplished, sin also leaves its scar. If only young people could learn this lesson and would put aside the many allurements of sin, how many of life's later hard tests and trials could be avoided. How many people have even dared say that they "want to learn the hard way." With this attitude they surely shall learn this way.

**CENTRAL TRUTH:** Faith in God and faithfulness in our work will result in God's blessing and direction.

**GOLDEN TEXT:** ***GOD DID SEND ME BEFORE YOU TO PRESERVE LIFE.***

Genesis 45:5

This statement of Joseph gives us a view of God's real purpose in the events that seemingly were tragic in their happenings. Joseph being sold as a slave was being preserved as a type of a savior for the children of Israel. It was undoubtedly hard for Joseph to accept and yet all of the accounts of his life in the time of slavery are an evidence of obedience and submission to God.

Likewise hundreds of years later God ordained that His Son should come down on this earth and experience severe and sore trials and finally submit His life on the cross to "preserve life .. unto eternity" for the true children of Israel, the children of faith. Remember how He prayed? *"Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done."*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF June 9 – 15

- M. \*The Brothers Treated as Spies. Genesis 42:1-13
- T. Joseph Tests His Brothers. Genesis 42:14-24
- W. Benjamin Required as a Hostage. Genesis 42:25-38
- T. Benjamin Taken to Joseph. Genesis 43:1-14
- F. \*Joseph Entertains His Brethren. Genesis 43:15-34
- S. \*The Brothers Accused of Theft. Genesis 44:1-17
- S. Judah's Plea for Benjamin. Genesis 44:18-34

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