

From Suffering To Exaltation

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, November 12th; Steve Thiel

Sermon Theme: As believers in Christ, we are called to follow the pattern of Jesus, that first comes suffering and then exaltation. But the clear motivation throughout all of Scripture is that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

I. The Wisdom of God – Read Genesis 41:1-38 and answer the following questions.

- A. What stands out to you about Pharaoh's dreams and his urgency for an interpretation?

- B. What are all the different ways in which God is sovereignly controlling the events in these verses? Also, in what ways is Joseph shown to have the wisdom of God?

- C. As you think through Joseph's interactions with Pharaoh, what is most challenging to you?

- D. In what ways does Joseph already point us to the Lord Jesus? What passages come to mind?

II. The Exalted Servant – Read Genesis 41:39-45 and answer the following questions.

- A. What are all the different ways in which Joseph is exalted in verses 39-44?

- B. Why do you think Pharaoh gave Joseph a new name and a new wife? How might these gifts have persuaded Joseph to whole-heartedly embrace the Egyptian culture?

- C. What evidence are we given in this chapter that Joseph remained loyal to the one true God?

- D. In what ways does his exaltation remind you of the Lord Jesus Christ?

III. The Savior of the World – Read Genesis 41:46-57 and answer the following questions.

- A. What are all the different ways that Joseph prospers in the time after his exaltation?

- B. How do the last verses of this chapter (vv.53-57) point us forward from Joseph to Jesus, the ultimate Savior of the world? What passages come to your mind as you think of Jesus?

- C. How does Romans 8:14-18 help us think through the order of suffering and exaltation? How does the certainty of glory motivate you to persevere through the painful reality of suffering?

- D. What are some practical ways in which you can keep your eyes fixed on the hope of heaven?