

Genesis 37:1-36

Approaches To Dealing With Life Difficulties (Part 2)



Background

- Book written by Moses; Name Genesis lit. “beginnings, origins”
- Events; Chapters 37-50 (1900 BC) Focus of Chapters is Joseph
- Joseph’s family; severe dysfunction, brothers hate Joseph intensely
- Joseph; attacked and brothers want to murder; Reuben intervened
- Joseph ultimately sold into slavery; life shattered and devastated
- Last week: Resist envy and bitterness

Reflecting On God's Faithful Timing

- (vv.18-24) & (v.36) Jesus is always faithful; never promised life be easy, but promised to provide in His time
- Joseph in terrible situation; yet, God's intervention seen: could have been killed several times; arrived at wealthy home where his gifts recognized
- Even though difficult, God provided during entire ordeal
- God is always faithful and right

- Ps. 46:1, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”
- Ps. 40:1-2, “I waited patiently for the Lord; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry. He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay and set my feet upon a rock and established my steps.”



Relying On The Way And Word Of God

- (39:1-4a) Joseph taken as slave to Egypt and sold to Potiphar (commander of royal body guards)
- Joseph in scary situation; slavery extremely difficult; he can't see all that God is doing, can't understand all plans God working out
- But, given revelation and way/word of God; (vv.5-11) Dreams of being exalted: (Gen.15:13), Abraham given direct Word from God his family would occupy land of Canaan and be mighty, but first would spend a measure of time in foreign land

- Exodus 23:22, “But if you indeed obey His voice and do all that I speak, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries.”

