

Divine Detours

Scriptures in ESV

Introduction

Part of understanding your destiny is understanding your detours. (On screen)

Genesis Ch 50:19

Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? But as for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good., in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.

Ch 37:2

Joseph, being 17 years old, was pasturing the flock with his brothers.

Now Israel(Jacob) loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a robe of many colors.[a] **4** But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him.

5 Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they hated him even more. **6** He said to them, "Hear this dream that I have dreamed:

Verse 7-8

Behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf arose and stood upright. And behold, your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf."His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Or are you indeed to rule over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.

V.9-10

Then he dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers and said, "Behold, I have dreamed another dream. Behold, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me." But when he told it to his father and to his brothers, his father rebuked him and said to him, "What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall I and your mother and your brothers indeed come to bow ourselves to the ground before you?"

There was nothing wrong with Joseph's dream. It was a god given dream and we know now that it was definitely prophetic.

But Joseph made 3 Mistakes (on screen)

- 1. He gave a bad report on his brothers.**
- 2. Telling dreams to those that don't like him.**
- 3. Showing off his tunic.**

The purpose of detours is to develop you for the destiny God has for you while God is developing the destiny for when you arrive. (on screen)

v.11 Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. **13** And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." And he said to him, "Here I am."
14 So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock, and bring me word."

18 They saw him from afar, and before he came near them they conspired against him to kill him. **19** They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. **20** Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see

what will become of his dreams.” **21** But when Reuben heard it, he rescued him out of their hands, saying, “Let us not take his life.” **22** And Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but do not lay a hand on him”—that he might rescue him out of their hand to restore him to his father.

23 So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the robe of many colors that he wore.

Joseph held his tunic in very high value. When we are on a detour things that we hold in high value can be stripped of us. Image, Success, money, pride, etc. Things that we value more than God are idols.

24 And they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

When we are on a detour we might find ourselves in a hole. We might find ourselves in some dry spots along the journey. Joseph had to be very disappointed at this point. He is in a pit, there is no water. God gave him a promise and dream. He knows he has a purpose. But here he is in a pit with no water feeling like his dreams are shattered. He may even be disappointed with God. How can you let this be the end?

25 Then they sat down to eat. And looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels bearing gum, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. **26** Then Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? **27** Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.” And his brothers listened to him. **28** Then Midianite traders passed by. And they drew Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels[b] of silver. They took Joseph to Egypt.

What are some of the results of going on a detour? Here are 3 things to look for when you are on a detour.

1. We experience new scenery.

When on detours you have the chance to see new scenery. It can sometimes be a nice surprise.

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven.
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Experiencing new scenery can be the same as experiencing a new season. There is a time for everything.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever more.

Hebrews 13:8

Even if the scenery changes we can know that Jesus doesn't change! Even if we find ourselves in the unfamiliar, Jesus does not change. Even if we feel lost, Jesus never changes! He always stays the same.

When things begin to get uncomfortable we can hold on to the promise of God's word in

Isaiah 43:19

Behold, I am doing a new thing;

now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness

and rivers in the desert.

God is always making a way when there seems to be no way.

2. Detours allow God to repair things that need to be repaired.

Your detour could be a time of restoration!

I will restore you to health and heal your wounds. Jeremiah 30:17

God is the God of Restoration!

Restore to me the JOY of your salvation. Psalm 51:12

Maybe you are on a detour to your destination because he needs to restore your Joy! Things in life happen and we can lose our joy, but God wants you to have joy. It is God's will for you to have the joy of the lord!

28 Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. Matthew 11:28-30

3. Detours take us into God's Protection

The destination is not changing!! Just the route you take to get there!

Don't give up on your destination, don't give up on your purpose, don't give up on your destiny.

This is a detour we should welcome. There is no place I would rather be than in God's divine protection. We can stand on the promise of...

2 Thessalonians 3:3

But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.

We can be encouraged by...

Psalm 91:1-2

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High

will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

2

**I will say[a] to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."**

God is our protector!!

We can rest in...

Psalm 138:7

**Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve my life;
you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,
and your right hand delivers me.**

Don't forsake the detours God might put before you! It could save your life!

Psalm 121:7-8

**The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.**

8

**The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.**

No matter the detour, we can always know the promise in ...

Isaiah 41:10

fear not, for I am with you;

be not dismayed, for I am your God;

I will strengthen you, I will help you,

I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.