

Joseph - Week 12

Gen 41:53 – 42:5

When the Past Becomes Present

Gen 41:53 The seven years of abundance in Egypt came to an end, 54 and the seven years of famine began, just as Joseph had said. There was famine in all the other lands, but in the whole land of Egypt there was food. 55 When all Egypt began to feel the famine, the people cried to Pharaoh for food. Then Pharaoh told all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph and do what he tells you." 56 When the famine had spread over the whole country, Joseph opened the storehouses and sold grain to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe throughout Egypt. 57 And all the countries came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe in all the world. 42:1 When Jacob learned that there was grain in Egypt, he said to his sons, "Why do you just keep looking at each other?" 2 He continued, "I have heard that there is grain in Egypt. Go down there and buy some for us, so that we may live and not die." 3 Then ten of Joseph's brothers went down to buy grain from Egypt. 4 But Jacob did not send Benjamin, Joseph's brother, with the others, because he was afraid that harm might come to him. 5 So Israel's sons were among those who went to buy grain, for the famine was in the land of Canaan also.

I. Joseph's Administration

Notice three ways Joseph handled the problem of famine in the land:

1. He showed great _____ and skill.
 - The prudent man sees the _____ and avoids it.
 - The prudent man uses the _____ God has given him.
2. Joseph had a spirit of _____ on God.
3. Joseph again shows and exhibits a character _____ of the highest confidence.

What can we learn from Joseph on administrating the plans and purposes of God?

1. Adversity often _____ the prosperity God has available to us.
2. When we fail the test, adversity leaps into action to _____ the believer into a faithless life.
3. There are _____ in having strong Christian friends when calamity hits.
4. Joseph was a _____ God was about to use to show the power and provision of God.
5. God often brings about His purposes of love and mercy by using _____.
6. If we knew the whole truth and purposes of God, life would sure be _____.

- II. The _____Famine
- III. The _____

Gen 41:56 When the famine had spread over the whole country

The sin of man, and the _____ and struggles of life are to drive man to the saving power of Christ.

IV. Joseph's _____ Family

- The family of God is just as _____ to what the world is vulnerable to.
- Sometimes you have to do the most _____ thing when problems hit.
- It is time for _____ and _____.
- The healing of the _____ involves the healing of the _____.

Gen 15:13 And [God] said to Abram, Know positively that your descendants will be strangers dwelling as temporary residents in a land that is not theirs [Egypt], and they will be slaves there and will be afflicted and oppressed for 400 years. [Fulfilled in Ex 12:40.] 14 But I will bring judgment on that nation whom they will serve, and afterward they will come out with great possessions.

V. The Comparisons

Compare the _____ man and the _____ man.

- There is nothing more _____ than the flesh trying to be holy.
- God can work with any man who comes to the place of _____.
- God loves us, not just for what we are, but for what He wants to make of us.
- God does not love you for what your _____ makes of your human personality, He loves you for what _____ can make of your human personality.
- Given the opportunity, God can take the most beggarly elements of humanity and make a _____ out of them.