

STEP OUT!

FAITHFULNESS - Loyalty in Action

Joshua 1:9

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

Joseph was only seventeen years old when his brothers sold him to Midianite traders for twenty pieces of silver; who then took him to Egypt (*Genesis 37:26-28*). Joseph has a remarkable life story full of opposition and yet complete victory and restoration. Throughout Joseph's trials, he remained faithful to God and forgiving towards his family.

Once in Egypt, the Midianite merchants sold Joseph to Potiphar, who was a military officer for Pharaoh. God truly blessed the work of Joseph's hands in Potiphar's house, and Potiphar noticed this and promoted him. Unfortunately, although Joseph did his best to walk righteously in Potiphar's household, Potiphar's wife was deceitful in her ways, by trying to commit adultery with Joseph. When Joseph resisted her efforts, she retaliated by lying to Potiphar, telling him that Joseph tried to come against her 'virtue'. As a result, once again, Joseph was treated unfairly. He was thrown into prison. Despite these circumstances, God's hand of blessing was upon Joseph in the prison; and he became the leader of the other prisoners, while still being a prisoner himself under the care of the prison-keeper. What this meant, was that Joseph had the opportunity to grow further in his leadership skills, even in jail. Remarkably, this prepared him for the future leadership role he would play in saving Egypt from a great Famine.

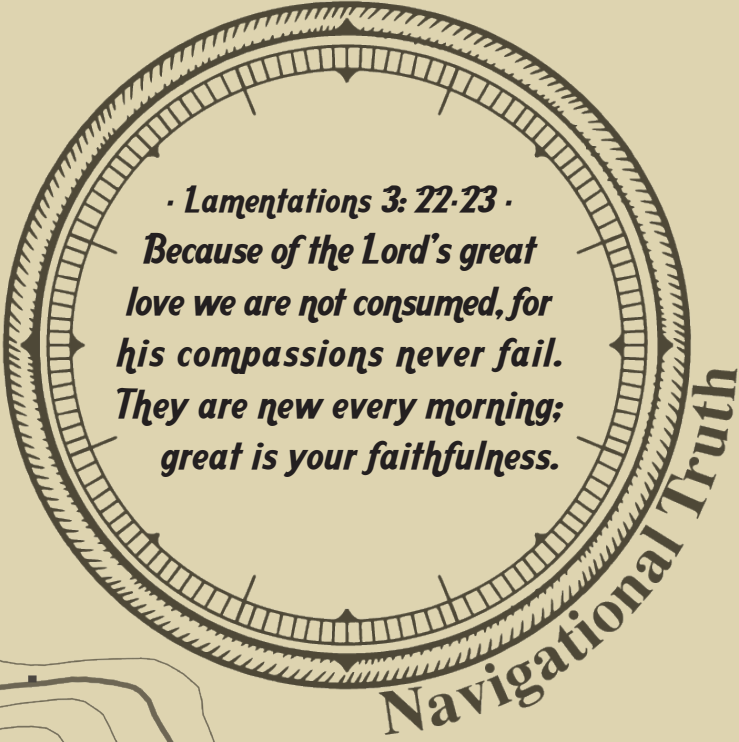
Joseph often received dreams from God. Besides this, he too became skilled in interpreting God-given dreams for others. When Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt, was struggling to get his dream interpreted; his cupbearer suggested that he should ask Joseph to help. Extraordinarily, Joseph was pulled out of jail, as Pharaoh sought counsel with him. God anointed Joseph and equipped him to interpret both of Pharaoh's dreams and on how to deal with the calamity of the famine by storing up food supplies in advance.

Pharaoh recognised that Joseph was anointed by God and serving Him; and that his nation needed Joseph's wisdom and insight. This is why Pharaoh therefore gave Joseph oversight of his entire kingdom under his authority (*Genesis 41:38-46*).

Joseph was a very forgiving man. Even though his brothers mistreated him and sold him for money, he chose not to hold any bitterness. Forgiving others can be challenging at times but God longs for us to forgive others so that He too can forgive us.

Joseph was thirty years old when he took up his leadership position in Pharaoh's kingdom. He therefore had to persevere and stand in exceptional faith some thirteen years before the fullness of his 'breakthrough' materialised. He was only able to do this because he whole-heartedly relied on the Lord and because he lived a life soaked in faithfulness to God.

God also always remained faithful to Joseph and gave him the necessary wisdom to deal with each obstacle that he faced. God is ever faithful and is there for you too. Be encouraged to live a life of active loyalty to your Heavenly Father.



*· Lamentations 3: 22-23 ·
Because of the Lord's great
love we are not consumed, for
his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.*

Navigational Truth



Renovar
Ministries

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