

Genesis 41: 38 -57 Part Two

Joseph Is Made a Ruler of Egypt

Then Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find a man like this, in whom there is a divine spirit?" ³⁹ So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has informed you of all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you are. ⁴⁰ You shall be in charge of my house, and all my people shall be obedient to you; only *regarding* the throne will I be greater than you." ⁴¹ Pharaoh also said to Joseph, "See, I have placed you over all the land of Egypt."

⁴² Then Pharaoh took off his signet ring from his hand and put it on Joseph's hand, and clothed him in garments of fine linen, and put the gold necklace around his neck. ⁴³ And he had him ride in his second chariot; and they proclaimed ahead of him, "Bow the knee!" And he placed him over all the land of Egypt. ⁴⁴ Moreover, Pharaoh said to Joseph, "*Though* I am Pharaoh, yet without your permission no one shall raise his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt."

⁴⁵ Then Pharaoh named Joseph Zaphenath-paneah; and he gave him Asenath, the daughter of Potiphara priest of On, to *be his* wife. And Joseph went out over the land of Egypt. ⁴⁶ Now Joseph was thirty years old when he stood in the presence of Pharaoh, king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh and went through all the land of Egypt. ⁴⁷ During the seven years of plenty the land produced abundantly.

⁴⁸ So he collected all the food of *these* seven years which occurred in the land of Egypt and put the food in the cities; he put in every city the food from its own surrounding fields. ⁴⁹ Joseph stored up grain in great abundance like the sand of the sea, until he stopped measuring *it*, for it was beyond measure.

The Sons of Joseph

⁵⁰ Now before the year of famine came, two sons were born to Joseph, whom Asenath, the daughter of Potiphara, priest of On, bore to him. ⁵¹ Joseph named the firstborn Manasseh; "For," *he said*, "God has made me forget all my trouble and all of my father's household." ⁵² And he named the second Ephraim; "For," *he said*, "God has made me fruitful in the land of my affliction."

⁵³ When the seven years of plenty which had taken place in the land of Egypt came to an end, ⁵⁴ and the seven years of famine began to come, just as Joseph had said, then there was famine in all the lands; but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. ⁵⁵ So when all the land of Egypt suffered famine, the people cried out to Pharaoh for bread; and Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph; whatever he says to you, you shall do."

⁵⁶ When the famine was *spread* over the entire face of the earth, then Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold grain to the Egyptians; and the famine was severe in the land of Egypt. ⁵⁷ Then *the people of* all the earth came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe in all the earth.

-

We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions

What questions were provoked within you?

Did anything confuse you?

Did anything move you emotionally?

Did God instruct you to do something?

Did you gain any insight into God's character?

Paul's Insights and questions

1. Did Joseph know he was setting Pharaoh up to, buy into his suggestion of a man, who would take charge of the administration of this project?
2. Well, Pharaoh walked right into it and appointed Joseph!
3. Pharaoh saw Joseph had a divine, holy spirit living within him – Pharaoh acknowledged God was with Joseph.
4. What is it to be discerning and wise?
5. Pharaoh gives authority to Joseph and once again he is on the fast elevator to the top.
6. Pharaoh points out to Joseph he will be second in command. Why did he feel the need to do this?
7. Joseph is given Pharaoh's signet ring which represents what?
8. Why did Pharaoh clothe Joseph with royal attire?
9. Ping – everyone came under Joseph's authority – top floor – penthouse suite.
10. Can you imagine this happening to you? What would be the dangers of people reaching the top?
11. Why did Pharaoh rename Joseph?
12. What does this name mean – God speaks, he lives.
13. Why did Pharaoh give Joseph a wife?
14. Did he want a wife?
15. Notice she is the daughter of a Potiphera priest of On - A false god which means 'city of the sun'.
16. Can you imagine reaching the top at the age of 30?
17. Joseph began the administration of the project to safeguard the nations from starvation.
18. Joseph strategically stores the food in preparation for the famine, under the provision of wisdom from the Lord.
19. Can you imagine a food mountain that could not be counted?
20. Joseph is blessed with two sons from his wife.
21. Manasseh – meaning 'forget my troubles'. Did he carry a spirit of rejection and abandonment?
22. Ephraim – meaning 'fruitful in affliction'. Some of the greatest blessings come at life's most painful encounters.
23. The seven years of famine began and quickly the land went into hardship.
24. How important is it to make provision for the famines of our lives in the year of plenty.
25. Only in Egypt was there bread.
26. The people cry out to Pharaoh for provision, now Pharaoh gets pay back for his investment in trusting Joseph.
27. Pharaoh takes control of the nations by providing them with food as everyone sold what was theirs to buy food.
28. Are we entering into a similar situation in these days?