

Genesis 37-50

“How God preserves His people”

The Big Idea- (Genesis 37-50)

God graciously preserves his people in miraculous and mysterious ways—so that the line of the promised Messiah is secure.

Psalm 77:19–20

Your way was through the sea,
your path through the great waters;
yet your footprints were unseen.

You led your people like a flock
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Two ways to live:

1. Live each day as if we are guided by blind, impersonal forces.
 - That the “universe” is guiding us
 - That we are drifting on a sea of fate
 - Our lives are merely “chance” encounters.
 - allowing Karma to run its course

Two ways to live:

2. Every day, every moment is a gift from a gracious, personal Creator.

--God has revealed Himself to us in Jesus Christ.

--Calling us to repent, He invites us into relationship with Him.

--He delights in giving us good gifts

--Our lives are planned to conform us to Christ.

Joseph did not grow bitter or angry
because he knew God and his promises-

Genesis 15:5 To Abram

Genesis 26:24 To Isaac

Genesis 35:11-13 To Jacob (Israel)

Hebrews 11:22 ESV

By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

First Observation-

Joseph lived to honor God daily, saying no to convenient, sinful pleasure.

Genesis 39:20–23 ESV

And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison. But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. And the keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners who were in the prison. Whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge, because the LORD was with him. And whatever he did, the LORD made it succeed.

Second Observation-

How Joseph treats his brothers, in contrast with how they have treated him. (chapters 42-45)

And Joseph recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him. And Joseph remembered the dreams that he had dreamed of them. And he said to them, “You are spies; you have come to see the nakedness of the land.” **Genesis 42:8-9 ESV**

Genesis 44:33–34

(Judah's plea before Joseph)

Now therefore, please let your servant remain instead of the boy as a servant to my lord, and let the boy go back with his brothers. For how can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? I fear to see the evil that would find my father.”

Genesis 50:17–18 ESV

‘Say to Joseph, “Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.” And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.”’

Genesis 50:19–21

But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.