



Series: Genesis

Passage: Genesis 40:16- 41:1

Title: Joseph, God Builds a Man, Part 4

Speaker: Pastor David Menard, 6/11/2023

Discussion Starter –What do you believe God has planned for your life that is bigger than you have ever imagined? How is He now working to grow you into a person that walks faithfully in His plan? How patiently do you embrace the path He has for you?

Read Genesis 40:16- 41:1

- 1) How did the dream of the baker differ from the dream of the butler?
- 2) Why might the interpretation of the baker's dream been more difficult for Joseph to give, compared to that given to the butler?
- 3) What was demonstrated after 3 days? (40:29) What had Joseph requested of the butler?
- 4) How did Joseph's ministry to the baker and the butler foreshadow Jesus' ministry? (Read John 3:13)
- 5) Read Luke 16:19-31, Eph 4:8-10, and 1 Peter 3:18-20. What did Jesus do during the 3 days prior to His bodily resurrection?
- 6) What other details of Joseph's life provide a prophetic foreshadow of Jesus?
- 7) How long was Joseph enslaved or imprisoned as an innocent man? What emotions might Joseph likely have experienced during this time?
 - a) What purpose might God have had in allowing Joseph to remain in prison?
 - b) How do you respond when it appears that God is absent or even cruel?
- 8) How can you answer the critic's question, "if God is all powerful and all good, why does He allow suffering and injustice"?
- 9) How does the response to this question differ if approached from the human standpoint, compared to the divine standpoint?
 - c) What can we learn from Joseph's life that reminds us that God's sovereignty, faithfulness, and justice are never diminished when gross injustice seems to prevail?
 - d) What practical steps do you take to maintain a divine standpoint when faced with trials and injustice? Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18