



**Series:** Genesis

**Passage:** Genesis 47:13- 48:7

**Title:** Joseph, God Builds a Man, Part 12

**Speaker:** Pastor David Menard, 8/06/2023

**Discussion Starter** – We have seen God working in personal difficulties in the life of Joseph and worldwide famine to accomplish His purposes. Can material blessing dull our ears to His leading? How do you remain sensitive to God's direction for your life during times of plenty? How can we use the blessings we have to actively promote His Kingdom?

**Read Genesis 47:13-26**

- 1) God had given Joseph detailed foreknowledge of the famine. What did Joseph do during the years of plenty to prepare for the famine?
- 2) In what ways do you think the public perception of Joseph changed between the last year of plenty and the first year of the famine?
- 3) Describe the part Joseph's faith played in his decision to hoard grain for 7 consecutive years, and then sell it during famine?
- 4) What was Joseph able to acquire for the Pharaoh from the people over the duration of the famine?
- 5) How did the people feel toward Joseph and the government as the famine ended, (verse 25)?
  - a) What were the unique characteristics of Joseph's government that made it successful in the eyes of the people? How can we embrace those characteristics as we lead others?
  - b) Read Psalm 37. What are we told to do or not do in the first 8 verses? What can we see about the people's submission to Joseph that instructs us as we submit to our Good King Jesus? What is the promise of verse 25?

**Read Genesis 47:27-48:7**

- 6) Read Genesis 15:13-17. Why is this promise to Abraham significant? How does the word of God provide comfort during times of change?
- 7) What was the significance of Jacob's dying wish that he expressed to Joseph? What does it reveal about his values and priorities at the end of his life, compared to his earlier years?
- 8) What is Jacob presenting to Joseph as he claims both Ephraim and Manasseh as his own sons?
- 9) We see that Jacob remembered his encounter with God at Luz. What does that memory reveal about Jacob's values as he looked back over his life?
  - c) What is the highest priority in your life? Is it clearly revealed in your speech and actions?
  - d) How do you endeavor to communicate your priorities to your children and others in your life?
  - e) Do your values change as you grow older? Why? How can we grow in Godly wisdom as we age?