

**Series "In The Beginning...God"**  
**"The Prime Minister"**  
**Genesis 41:41-57**  
**Study-71**

**Joseph is surely "God's Man In Charge In Egypt."**

God foretold the crisis of a famine in a dream to Pharaoh, but God revealed it through Joseph.

**God will give**

**Four Verses – 16, 25, 28, 32.**

**Joseph again and again pointed to God.**

**Joseph, In God's "School of Grace,"**

God had prepared Joseph to deal with the famine crisis.

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "Joseph, Amid Prosperity, Exultation, And Blessing, Continued Through God's Grace In Faith, Putting God First."

**1. Verses 41-46 Joseph's Position:**

**2. Verses 47-52 Joseph's Preparation:**

**3. Verses 53-57 Joseph's Provisions:**

**1. Verses 41-46 Joseph's Position:**

**Genesis 41:41 Pharaoh said to Joseph,**  
**"See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."**

**Pharaoh said to Joseph,**

**Context** – Joseph was remembered by the cupbearer when Pharaoh had two dreams that could not be interpreted. Joseph is cleaned up and appears before Pharaoh. Joseph immediately gives the **"Glory To God" Genesis 41:33**

**Genesis 41:38-40**

**I Am Struck By The Suddenness Of The Promotion Of Joseph.**

It was not gradual, but all at once, he became Prime Minister of Egypt.

**Psalms 40:2**

**Note also the suddenness of the promotion of a sinner.**

**Colossians 1:13**

**"The secret of power is character, but the secret of character is God."**

**Seven Ceremonial Steps Were Taken To Proclaim Joseph's Position And Power:**

**1. Verse 41 Verbal Appointment By Pharaoh:**

**Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."**

Joseph has been elevated to 2<sup>nd</sup> in Egypt, Prime Minister of Egypt.

**2. Verse 42 Giving Of The Signet Ring:**

**Then Pharaoh took off his signet ring from his hand and put it on Joseph's hand,**

This ring was a seal and signature on official documents of the state.

**3. Verse 42 Dressed In Robes Of Fine Linen:**

**and clothed him in garments of fine linen** the finest of garments,  
*Giza is longer, stronger, and softer than other cotton.*

**4. Verse 42 Placement Of A Gold Chain Around The Neck:**

**and put the gold necklace around his neck.**

The chain represented his authority.

**5. Verse 43 Public Display In A Chariot:**

**He had him ride in his second chariot;**

This is an inaugural parade. The limo of their day.

**6. Verses 43-44 Verbal Charge To The Egyptians:**

**and they proclaimed before him, "Bow the knee!"**

**And he set him over all the land of Egypt.**

This was the precursor to his own family bowing to him.

**Genesis 41:44 no one shall raise his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt."**

Figure of speech. It meant that Joseph had absolute authority.

**Joseph Is A Picture Of Jesus Exalted: Philippians 2:7-11**

**7. Verse 45 Joseph Assigned A New Name:**

**Genesis 41:45 Then Pharaoh named Joseph Zaphenath-paneah;**

*(Savior of the world, God speaks and lives, preserver of the living")*

**This was Pharaoh's way of honoring Joseph's God of Israel:**

**and he gave him Asenath,**

Joseph taught his new wife about the true and living God.

**Tamar the Canaanite, Rahab the Philistine harlot,**

**Ruth the Moabite. Bathsheba the Hittite.**

**We should be humbled by prosperity!**

**In adversity, we should be strengthened!**

**"Many Christians have been impoverished by prosperity.**

**Many have been brought low by promotions."**

**Genesis 41:46**

**Now Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh, king of Egypt. Joseph was 17 Genesis 37:2 when sold into slavery.**

## **2. Verses 47-52 Joseph's Preparation:**

**Genesis 41:47 abundantly.**

*"Earth brought forth by the handfuls"* **Genesis 41:48-9**

**20% of 7 years provided for 7 years.**

**Genesis 41:34**

**Verses 50-52 Forgiving And Forgetting The Past:**

**Genesis 41:50**

**Asenath, "Dedicated to Neith" goddess of Minerva**

**the daughter of Potiphera "given to Ra, the sun-god"**

**priest of On, bore to him.** Better known in history as **Heliopolis**, the city of the sacred to the sun-god **Amun**. North of Cairo.

**Genesis 41:51 Manasseh – (Hebrew Name)**

*"Forgetting the past" "he who brings into forgetfulness"*

**Genesis 48:8-12** Blessed by Jacob.

**"For," he said, "God has made me forget all my trouble**

Forget my toil, slavery, and being falsely accused. **Jeremiah 31:34**

**Seeing Things From God's Perspective:**

**(Things That Hurt Can Be Beneficial)**

**God's grace: The ability to wipe out the pains and bad memories of the past and make a new beginning. Romans 8:18**

**Philippians 3:13-14**

**"Lord, we thank You for the privilege of forgetting!"**

**Genesis 41:52 He named the second Ephraim,**

**Genesis 48:8-12** Blessed by Jacob.

**Ephraim – (Hebrew Name) "Doubly fruitful, to bear fruit."**

**Doubly fruitful can only come when the past is forgotten in the proper sense! John 15:2**

Only God can make the barren fruitful.

**Genesis 50:20**

## **3. Verses 53-57 Joseph's Provisions:**

**Genesis 41:53**

God's provision for the seven years of famine is the giving of seven years of plenty.

**Genesis 41:54****Predicted Famine:**

**just as Joseph had said, then there was famine in all the lands,**  
The Bible records **13 famines in Scripture.**

**Genesis 41:29-30****Matthew 24:35**

**Genesis 41:53-44:34 The Mystery Phase:**

**Genesis 45:1-24 The Majesty Phase:**

**Genesis 45:25-47:10 The Ministry Phase:**

**famine in all the lands,**

The land surrounding Egypt, the Sudan with reduced water of the Nile, and Canaan with no rain. **Acts 7:11**

**Genesis 41:55** Notice!

**"Go to Joseph; whatever he says to you, you shall do."**

**"Go to Jesus; whatever He says to you, you shall do."**

**Matthew 11:28-30; John 6:35**

**Genesis 41:56**

**Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold to the Egyptians;**

With the warning of a famine, there were those who had to purchase.

**Genesis 41:57** Joseph now in Egypt 20 years.

**Genesis 12:3; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4**

**Application:**

1. Joseph Amid Prosperity Exultation, And Blessing Continued Through God's Grace In Faith, Putting God First.
2. The Secret Of Power Is Character, But The Secret Of Character Is God.
3. Many Christians Have Been Impoverished By Prosperity. Many Have Been Brought Low By Promotions. We Should Be Humbled By Prosperity. In Adversity, We Should Be Strengthened.