



Worship in Song

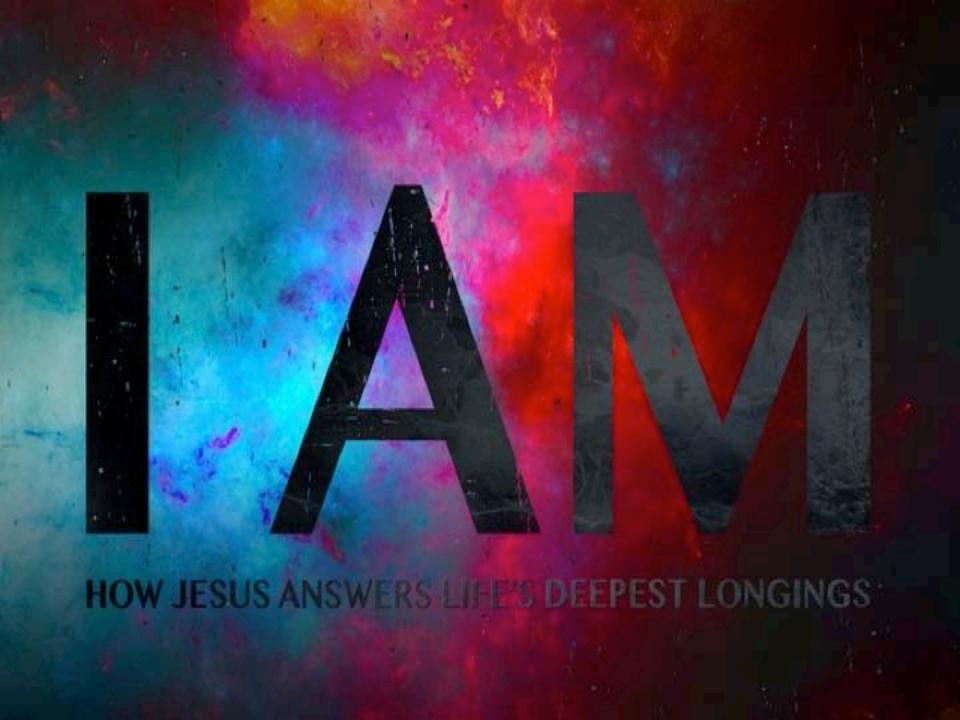
I will Celebrate

I will celebrate sing unto the Lord I will sing to Him a new song I will celebrate sing unto the Lord I will sing to Him a new song

I will praise Him For He has triumphed victoriously I will praise Him For He has triumphed victoriously

I will celebrate sing unto the Lord I will sing to Him a new song

I will celebrate sing unto the Lord I will sing to Him a new song

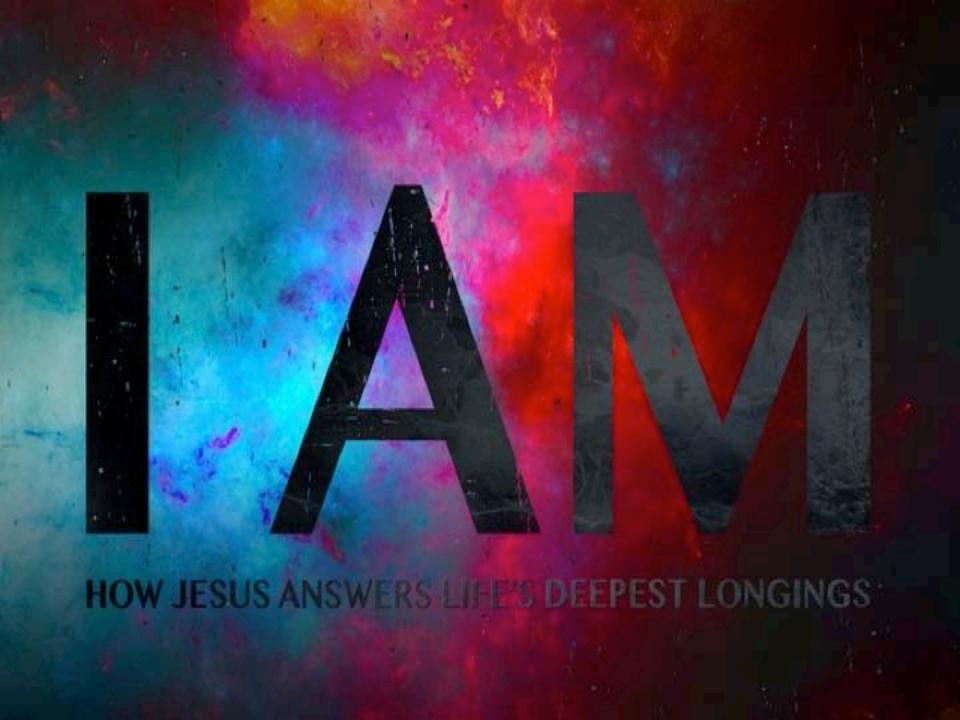


What A Mighty God We Serve

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What a mighty God we serve,
What a mighty God we serve;
Angels bow before Him,
Heaven and earth adore Him.
What a mighty God we serve.

What a mighty God we serve What a mighty God we serve Awesome in His power Worthy of all honor What a mighty God we serve What a loving God we serve What a loving God we serve Mercy like a river Flows to us forever What a loving God we serve



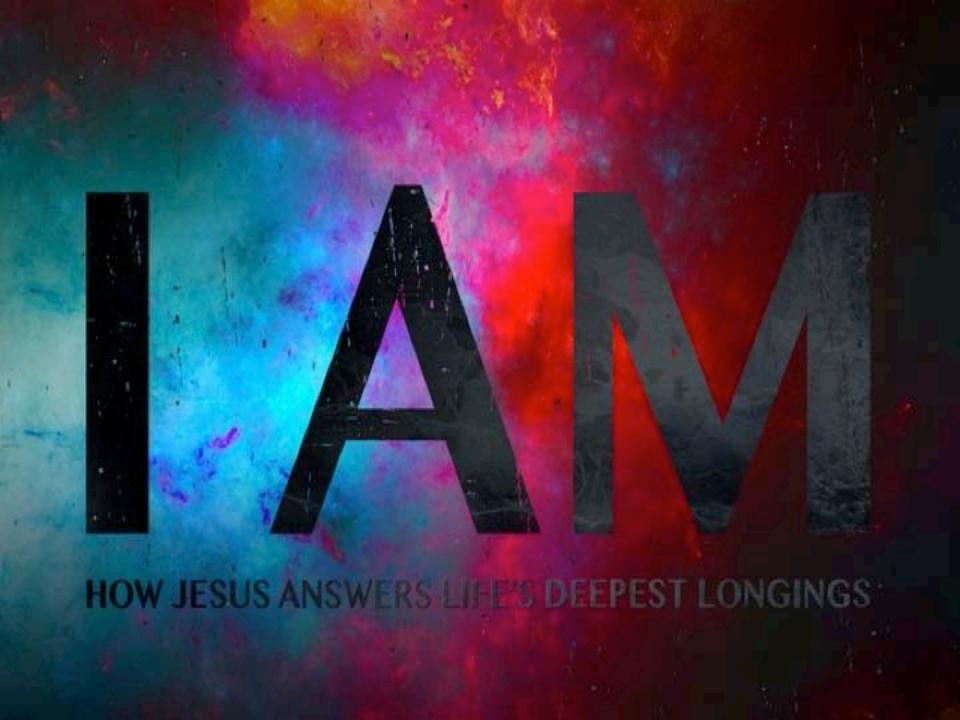
Great and Mighty

Great and mighty is the Lord our God Great and mighty is He Great and mighty is the Lord our God Great and mighty is He

Lift up your banner let the anthems ring **Praises to our King** Great and mighty is the Lord our God Great and mighty is Great and mighty is Great and mighty is He

Great and mighty is the Lord our God Great and mighty is He Great and mighty is the Lord our God Great and mighty is He

Lift up your banner let the anthems ring **Praises to our King** Great and mighty is the Lord our God Great and mighty is Great and mighty is Great and mighty is He



ANNOUNCEMENTS

and

GREETING



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

John 14:15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."



CONTRACTOR CLASS OF A

TITHS

OFFERINGS

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a

Doxology

Praise God, from whom

all blessings flow:

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heav' nly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

A-men

Worship in Song

We Bow Down

You are Lord of creation And Lord of my life Lord of the land and the sea

You were Lord of the heavens Before there was time And Lord of all Lords You will be

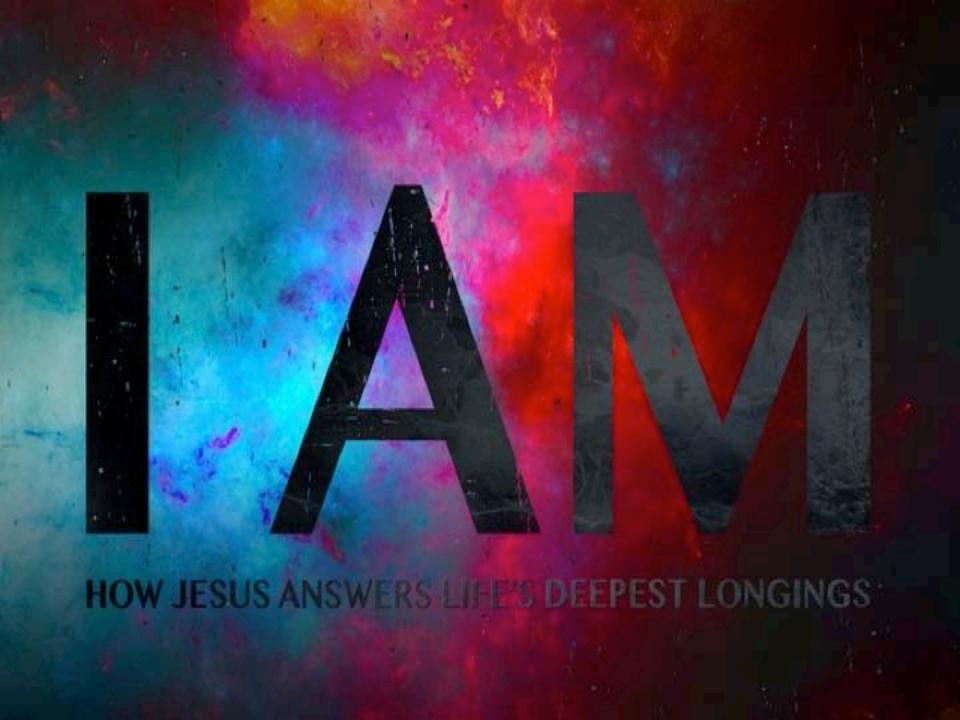
We bow down And we worship You Lord We bow down And we worship You Lord

We bow down And we worship You Lord Lord of all lords You will be

You are King of creation and King of my life King of the land and the sea

You were King of the heavens before there was time and King of all kings
You will be

We bow down And we crown You the King We bow down And we crown You the King We bow down And we crown You the King King of all kings You will be



Redeemed

Redeemed How I Love To Proclaim It! Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; Redeemed through His infinite mercy, His child, and forever I am. Redeemed, redeemed,
Redeemed by the blood
of the Lamb;
Redeemed, redeemed,
His child and forever I am.

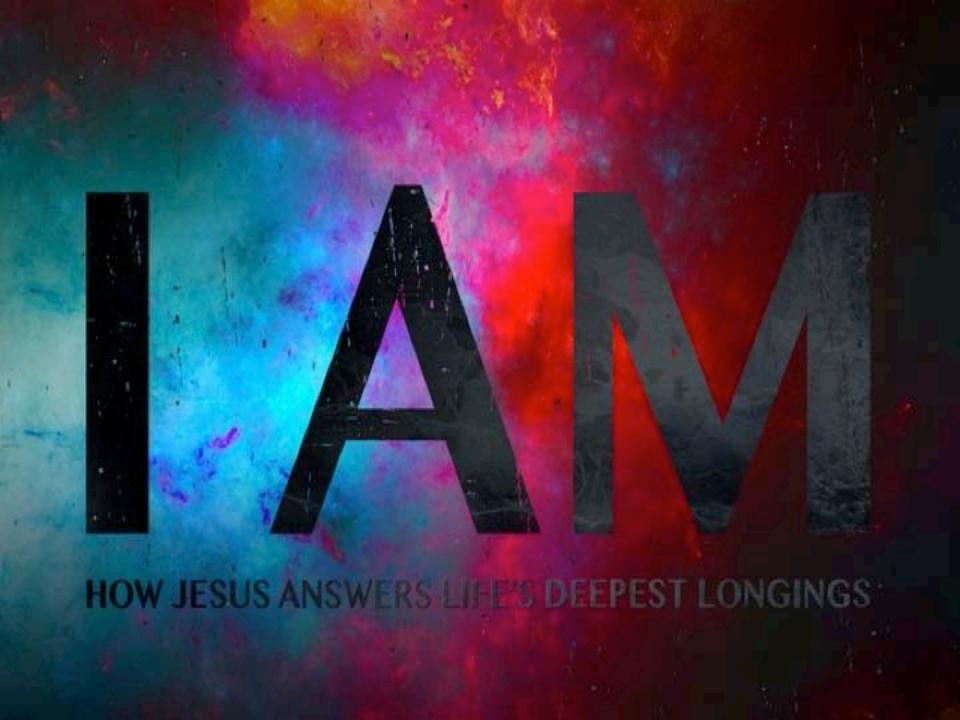
Redeemed and so happy in Jesus, No language my rapture can tell; I know that the light of His presence, with me doth continually dwell.

Redeemed, redeemed,
Redeemed by the blood
of the Lamb;
Redeemed, redeemed,
His child and forever I am.

I think of my blessed Redeemer, I think of Him all the day long; I sing, for I cannot be silent; His love is the theme of my song.

Redeemed, redeemed,
Redeemed by the blood
of the Lamb;
Redeemed, redeemed,
His child and forever I am.

I know I shall see in His beauty The King in whose law I delight; Who lovingly guardeth my footsteps And giveth me songs in the night. Redeemed, redeemed,
Redeemed by the blood
of the Lamb;
Redeemed, redeemed,
His child and forever I am.

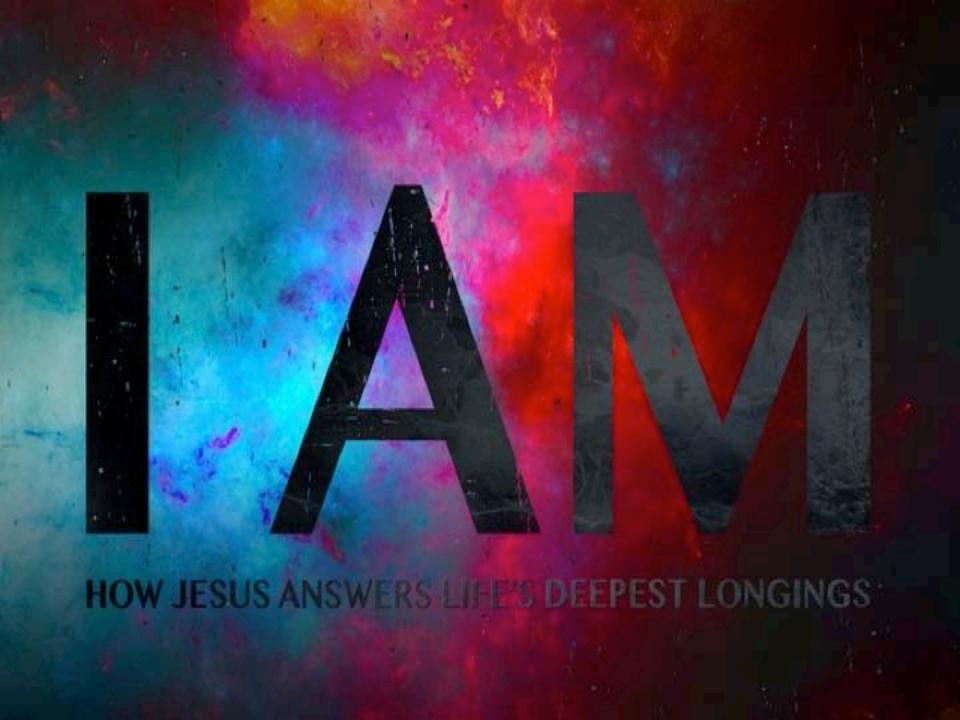


God Moves In Mysterious Ways God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform; He plants His footsteps in the sea And rides upon the storm.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take; The clouds ye so much dread Are big with mercy and shall break In blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, **But trust Him** for His grace; Behind a frowning providence He hides a smiling face.

Blind unbelief is sure to err And scan His work in vain; God is His own interpreter, And He will make it plain.



Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness O God my Father There is no shadow Of turning with Thee Thou changest not Thy compassions they fail not As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be

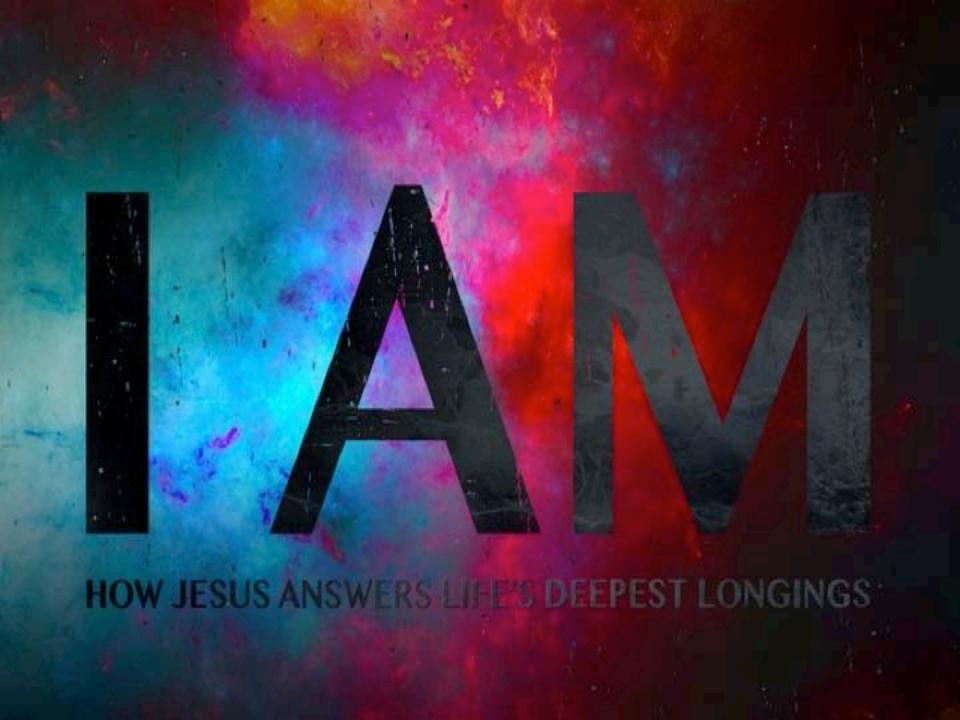
Great is Thy faithfulness Great is Thy faithfulness Morning by morning New mercies I see All I have needed Thy hand hath provided Great is Thy faithfulness Lord unto me

Summer and winter And springtime and harvest Sun moon and stars In their courses above Join with all nature In manifold witness To Thy great faithfulness Mercy and love

Great is Thy faithfulness Great is Thy faithfulness Morning by morning New mercies I see All I have needed Thy hand hath provided Great is Thy faithfulness Lord unto me

Pardon for sin And a peace that endureth Thy own dear presence To cheer and to guide Strength for today And bright hope for tomorrow Blessings all mine With ten thousand beside

Great is Thy faithfulness Great is Thy faithfulness Morning by morning New mercies I see All I have needed Thy hand hath provided Great is Thy faithfulness Lord unto me



WORSHIPTHE LORD IN ELS WORD

Journey From Tragedy to Triumph

LESSON 4 . . . When People Wrong You!!!!

TEXT: Genesis 41:1-16;

Please open your Bible and read along with us.

Genesis 41:1-16 "After two whole years, Pharaoh dreamed that he was standing by the Nile, and behold, there came up out of the Nile seven cows attractive and plump, and they fed in the reed grass. And behold, seven other cows, ugly and thin, came up out of the Nile after them, and stood by the other cows on the bank of the Nile. And the ugly, thin cows

ate up the seven attractive, plump cows. And Pharaoh awoke. And he fell asleep and dreamed a second time. And behold, seven ears of grain, plump and good, were growing on one stalk. And behold, after them sprouted seven ears, thin and blighted by the east wind. And the thin ears swallowed up the seven plump, full ears. And Pharaoh

awoke, and behold, it was a dream. So in the morning his spirit was troubled, and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt and all its wise men. Pharaoh told them his dreams, but there was none who could interpret them to Pharaoh. Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, "I remember my offenses today. When Pharaoh was angry

with his servants and put me and the chief baker in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, we dreamed on the same night, he and I, each having a dream with its own interpretation. A young Hebrew was there with us, a servant of the captain of the guard. When we told him, he interpreted our dreams to us, giving an interpretation to each man

according to his dream. And as he interpreted to us, so it came about. I was restored to my office, and the baker was hanged." Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they quickly brought him out of the pit. And when he had shaved himself and changed his clothes, he came in before Pharaoh. And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have had a dream, and

there is no one who can interpret it. I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it." Joseph answered Pharaoh, "It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer." (ESV)

Introduction:

In chapter 40 we left Joseph in prison.

He had his hopes aroused for a timely release, only to be disappointed. When the butler, whom Joseph had asked to help get him out of prison, was restored to his position, he did not remember Joseph (40:23).

Joseph must have felt very discouraged and betrayed, for he had done all he could to help the butler, who quickly forgot him.

Joseph had suffered more than his share of wrongs.

He had been betrayed by his brothers, then by Potiphar's wife, and now forgotten by Pharaoh's chief butler.

Joseph must have felt like the apostle Paul while in prison awaiting execution.

2 Timothy 4:16 "At my first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me. May it not be charged against them."

Like Joseph and Paul, most hurts of the Christian life come because we've been wronged by other people, sometimes even by our Christian friends.

What are we to do?

Let's look at Joseph to see if we can find some help by first factoring in...

I. The Providence of God (Genesis 41:1-13)

Providence - (Merriam – Webster Dictionary)

Divine guidance or care: God conceived as the power sustaining and guiding human destiny.

We do not know exactly how long Joseph was in prison, but it was at least two full years (41:1) after he had interpreted the dreams of the chief butler and baker.

For two long and unrecorded years in prison, Joseph waited on the Lord.

Why do we sometimes have to wait?

1 Peter 1:6-7 "In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,"

It is <u>natural</u> to become bitter when we are betrayed or hurt by other people.

But, remember we are not JUST natural if we have the Spirit of God living in us and we do not have to behave like a natural person.

Or, we may conclude that trying to live the Christian life just doesn't pay— that honesty and integrity are not always the best policies.

That was <u>not</u> Joseph's reaction.

He knew somehow God was at work in it all, and indeed He was.

Joseph had been a slave in Potiphar's house and a prisoner in his dungeon.

For 13 years he had faithfully waited.

Then, in one day God got Joseph released from prison and into prominence in the palace.

How could God possibly do that?

Proverbs 21:1 "The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, Like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes."

After two long years of waiting, finally the *Pharaoh had a dream* (Genesis 41:1), followed by another dream.

In the first dream "...seven cows, fine looking and fat (41:2) are eaten up by seven other cows that were ugly and gaunt (41:3-4)." In the second dream "...seven heads of grain came up on one stalk, plump and good and seven thin heads,

and good and seven thin heads, blighted by the east wind, sprang up and devoured the seven plump and full heads" (Genesis 41:5-7).









God had both the heart and dreams of Pharaoh in His hand, for He caused the dreams that "greatly troubled him."

Therefore, "Pharaoh sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt and all its wise men. And Pharaoh told them his dreams, but

there was no one who could interpret them for Pharaoh" (41:8).

When Pharaoh could find no one who could interpret his dreams, his butler remembers guess who?

Joseph!

He then tells the Pharaoh about Joseph interpreting his dream and that of the *chief baker* (41:9-12).

He also tells the Pharaoh it came to pass, just as he interpreted for us (41:13).

Now we know why God caused the pair to have dreams in prison that the butler would never forget.

It was all a part of the PROVIDENCE of GOD, and now let's look at...

II. The PERSPECTIVE of Joseph Genesis 41:14-36;

After hearing the testimony of the chief butler, the Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him quickly out of the dungeon; And Pharaoh said to Joseph,

"I have had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that you can understand a dream, to interpret it" (Genesis 41:14-15).

What would you have done in Joseph's place?

He was sent to prison because of the lies of Potiphar's wife.

He had spent two additional long years in prison because the butler he befriended <u>forgot</u> him.

HAVEYOU EVER THOUGH, TH WERE THE JUDGE!!!

I think I know what I might have said under the circumstances:

"Mr. Pharaoh, the interpreting of these dreams will save your country from destruction, but before I interpret them we need to make a little deal."

- First, there is the matter of that woman Potiphar calls a wife.
- Second, where is that guy you call a butler?"

However, no such words came from Joseph's mouth because his PERSPECTIVE on life was the same as that of JESUS.

1 Peter 2:21-23 " For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly." (ESV)

Despite what happened, he knows God is in charge.

Therefore, there is no hatred or bitterness in his heart.

Nothing is as devastating to our spiritual lives as our unwillingness to forgive those who hurt us.

The most important part of Jesus' teaching in His Model Prayer has to do with forgiveness.

Matthew 6:12 "And forgive us our debts, <u>As</u> we forgive our debtors."

Believers who will not forgive those who wrong them should hope that they never sin, because forgiving others is a prerequisite for receiving God's forgiveness.

In Matthew 6:14-15 Jesus makes the only footnote, the only amplification, to any part of the Model Prayer.

Matthew 6:14-15 ""For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 "But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

Thus, this truth is critically important.

What is it?

Failing to forgive others will secretly ruin our spiritual health, just as termites destroy a house from the inside out.

When we forgive others it should not be with just words, but with real forgiveness from the heart.

In Matthew 18, Jesus tells the parable of a man who is forgiven a debt equaling millions of dollars but then refuses to forgive an insignificant debt worth only a few hundred dollars. As a result, his master has him punished until he repays what he owes.

To conclude this parable what does Jesus say in...

Matthew 18:35 ""So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.""

Perhaps the number one cause for spiritual immaturity is refusing to forgive those who sin against us.

I believe the primary reason God so blessed Joseph was his willingness to forgive all who sinned against him. Before explaining the meaning of the two dreams, Joseph says to the Pharaoh,

"It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace" (Genesis 41:16).

Joseph makes it clear it is God who gives him the ability to interpret the dreams.

The Pharaoh recounts the dreams to Joseph (Genesis 41:17-25).

Genesis 41:25 "Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has revealed to Pharaoh what <u>he</u> is about to do." (ESV)

Then Joseph explains that the dreams mean there will be seven years of abundant harvest, followed by seven years of famine that will deplete the land (Genesis 41:25-30).

Genesis 41:32 "And the doubling of Pharaoh's dream means that the thing is fixed by God, and God will shortly bring it about." (ESV)

Genesis 41:34 "Let Pharaoh proceed to appoint overseers over the land and take one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt during the seven plentiful years". (ESV)

"...and store it to be used as a reserve for the land for the seven rears of famine (41:36)."

The PROVIDENCE of G o d a n d t h e PERSPECTIVE of Joseph lead to...

III. The PROMOTION from Pharaoh (GOD) (Genesis 41:37-57)

Pharaoh is so impressed that we read:

Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you."

Genesis 41:39-40 "You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you."

In other words, the Pharaoh appoints Joseph to the equivalent of prime minister over the nation of Egypt.

Genesis 41:46 "Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt."

It has been thirteen years since his brothers sold him as a slave.

Though Joseph is only thirty years old, God has used 13 years of adversity to accelerate his maturity and hone his impeccable character.

Romans 5:3 " Not only that, but we rejoice in our <u>sufferings</u>, knowing that <u>suffering</u> produces endurance," (ESV)

Romans 5:3 "And not only so, but we glory in <u>tribulations</u> also: knowing that <u>tribulation</u> worketh patience;" (KJV)

Romans 12:12 "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." (ESV)

It is one thing to submit to or endure tribulations without complaint, but it is another to find ground of glorying in the midst of them as Paul exhorts here.

Adversity causes accelerated spiritual growth.

Joseph's problems were not a chain of events generated by bad luck.

The pit, Potiphar's wife, the prison, and the prisoners were all allowed by a loving God.

Why did God allow Joseph to be a slave and a prisoner before elevating him?

Luke 16:10 ""He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much."

Joseph has been faithful to the Lord in times of adversity, so the Lord knows he will be faithful during prosperity.

Therefore, God elevates Joseph to become ruler over all of Egypt, the most powerful country in the world at that time.

He is second only to the Pharaoh.

The next seven years produce so much abundance that...

Genesis 41:49 "And Joseph stored up grain in great abundance, like the sand of the sea, until he ceased to measure it, for it could not be measured." (ESV)

After becoming prime minister of Egypt, Joseph marries and has two sons to whom he gives very insightful names.

Names in the Bible meant much more than they do today.

Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh...

Genesis 41:51 "Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh. "For," he said, "God has made me forget all my hardship and all my father's house."

The name Manasseh literally means "who makes to forget."

It is simply impossible to enjoy our blessings if we are not willing to forgive people who have wronged us.

Moreover, one of the greatest joys of the Christian life is forgiving others.

When we forgive, we bring a little bit of heaven into our lives while we're still on earth.

On the other hand, refusing to forgive is to live in a hell of our own making, while on earth.

In his book, The Great Divorce, Oxford scholar C. S. Lewis describes hell as a place where no one ever forgets anything and instead remembers every hurt, every cruel word, every harmful act, and no one forgives.

If you want to live in a hell on earth, refuse to forgive those who wrong you.

If you want a little heaven on earth, obey the command found in...

Colossians 3:13 "bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive." (ESV)

It is very significant Joseph named his first son *Manasseh* which means "to forget."

Did this mean he had forgotten about his brothers, the pit, Potiphar's wife, the prison, and the chief butler?

Had he forgotten the false accusations, the suffering, the humiliation, the loneliness?

No!

He could never forget all that, but he had forgotten the pain associated with those things.

Instead of allowing them to spoil his present and future blessings, he decided to put his past hurts aside. He knew what had happened in the past was over.

He could never change the past, and if he was to be God's man he couldn't avenge it.

So, he forgot the hurt and forgave those who had wronged him.

Philippians 3:13 "Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead," (ESV)

It is also significant Joseph named his second son, *Ephraim* (Genesis 41:52), which means "Doubly Fruitful."

Joseph knew no one could be fruitful until they were willing to forgive.

If you are living in the present with the pain of past hurts and injustices, you will never feel blessed in the present.

You cannot be happy in the present, no matter what your blessing might be, unless you are willing to forget the pain of the past and forgive those you hold to be responsible.

When the seven years of abundant harvest ends, the seven bad years come, and the famine became severe in the land of Egypt (41:56).

The famine extends outside the borders of Egypt to other countries who have not prepared for it, so all countries came to...

Genesis 41:57 "Moreover, all the earth came to Egypt to Joseph to buy grain, because the famine was severe over all the earth." (ESV)

Thus, God is setting the stage for the next scene in Joseph's exemplary life.

Joseph had refused to walk in the counsel of the ungodly or follow the path of sinners.

Nor would he sit in the seat of the scornful (Psalm 1:1-2).

Instead, he delighted in the ways of God". Therefore:

Psalms 1:3 "He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper."

Conclusion:

Joseph was only able to enjoy his blessings because he was willing to forget and forgive.

Is there a <u>hurt</u> to need to <u>forget</u> or a person you need to <u>forgive</u>?

Won't you TRUST GOD and do it today?

Worship in Song

Surely Goodness And Mercy

A pilgrim was I and a-wand'ring In the cold night of sin I did roam When Jesus the kind Shepherd found me And now I am on my way home

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days all the days of my life Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days all the days of my life

He restoreth my soul when I'm weary He giveth me strength day by day He leads me beside the still waters He guards me each step of the way

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days all the days of my life Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days all the days of my life

When I walk thro' the dark lonesome valley My Savior will walk with me there And safely His great hand will lead me To the mansions He's gone to prepare

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever And I will feast at the table spread for me Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days all the days of my life

Benediction and Fellowship