

# PAUSE

A BIBLE CHARACTER STUDY

## Man's Dream, God's Reality. Joseph

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Genesis 45:1-8 (NASB) 1 Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried, "Have everyone go out from me." So there was no man with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. 2 He wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard of it. 3 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence. 4 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Please come closer to me." And they came closer. And he said, "I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. 5 Now do not be grieved or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. 6 For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are still five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvesting. 7 God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant in the earth, and to keep you alive by a great deliverance. 8 Now, therefore, it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his household and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Genesis 50:20 (NASB) You meant it for evil against me, but God meant it for good.

### Similarities between Joseph + Jesus:

Both are the most loved of their fathers.

Both were prophesied to be rulers.

Both Joseph's and Jesus' brothers were jealous of them, and did not believe them.

Joseph was sent by his father to his brothers. Jesus was sent by His Father to Israel.

Both were stripped of their coat.

The coat was dipped in blood.

Both were sold out by one of the 12 named Judah (Greek 'Judas').

Both were falsely accused...

Both were with two others condemned to die, one of which was pardoned and given life.

The king of Egypt exalted Joseph out of slavery to be

ruler over all to bring all under the king's rule. Jesus is exalted out of slavery to bring all under God's rule.

All knees bowed to Joseph. All knees will bow to Jesus.

Both were given a gentile bride by the King.

The king of Egypt appointed Joseph to be the sole source of life for all. God appointed Jesus to be our sole source of eternal life.

Both offer forgiveness to those who sought to destroy them.

The evil Joseph's brothers intended God meant for good to save them. The same is true of the evil Jesus' own people intended to him...

Joseph's brothers shared Pharaoh's favor because of Joseph, not themselves. We share God's favor because of Jesus, not because we are worthy.

1. Joseph did not know how his story would end.

When you don't know, Know Your Role:

God's Part:

- The Difficult
- The Impossible
- The Supernatural

Our Part:

- Surrender
- Honesty
- Agreement

2. God is the hero of the story!

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