

Bible/College Class Notes – God’s Great Plans – Lesson 35

Joseph’s Dreams Come True.

This week we learn of how God raised up Joseph; the outworking of His plan to save his family.

*“Great peace have they which love
Thy Law: and nothing shall offend
(trouble) them.” Psalm 119v165.*

(Choose a regular time each day to read the bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Genesis 41v1-16 (Joseph is brought from prison)	
Monday	Genesis 41v17-24 (Joseph hears Pharaoh’s dream)	
Tuesday	Genesis 41v25-37 (God’s interpretation and plan)	
Wednesday	Genesis 41v38-57 (Joseph appointed in charge)	
Thursday	Genesis 42v1-17 (Jacob sends to Egypt for food)	
Friday	Genesis 42v18-38 (Joseph’s brothers bow to him)	
Saturday	Psalm 119v153-176 (Trusting in The Lord)	

Important Lesson for us Today: *Joseph tests his brother’s consciences and God tests the sincerity of our repentance. Before we can be a true Christian, we must realise how bad our sin is in the sight of our Holy and Perfect God. One sin is enough to be eternally rejected on Judgement Day. God will not accept our prayer if we go to Him casually without deep repentant sorrow for our sin and a sincere desire to turn from it.*

The world can sometimes tell us what is wrong but can never tell us what is right. God, through the mighty convicting power of The Holy Spirit, convinces us of all that is wrong - in our hearts, thoughts, words, and actions, bringing deliverance to us through sincere repentance and faith in The Saviour, The Lord Jesus Christ. Let us examine our hearts and acknowledge that these sins are present – unbelief, pride, selfishness, hatred, lying, covetousness, lust, and the rejection of God’s love and mercy offered in the Gospel.

Consider daily what it cost the Lord Jesus to die on the cross to take away the guilt of our sin.

Hymn 188 - Highlights the outworking of God’s Sovereign plan for each of us: -

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| 1. God moves in a mysterious way,
His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea,
And rides upon the storm. | 5. His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower. |
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EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

God Raises Joseph to be Prime Minister of Egypt.

• Background to Today’s Lesson.

- Joseph had kept his faith in God, fully believing that He had a plan for his life.
- God had shown him the meaning of the dreams of Pharaoh’s Butler, and Baker, and these had come true within 3 days. The Butler restored; The Baker executed.
- Joseph had asked the Butler to raise his case of innocency and for his release.
- The Butler forgot – But God had not forgotten Joseph - Joseph waited, trustingly.

• After 2 Years God Causes Pharaoh’s Butler to Remember Joseph.

- Pharaoh has two dreams, similar in content, but no-one can interpret them.
- His Butler remembers Joseph - that he had correctly interpreted his dream.
- Joseph is sent for and he testifies to Pharaoh saying, “***It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace***”. Note: God warns and offers deliverance.
- God always provides a way of escape – especially forgiveness of repented sin.

• Joseph, Guided by God, Puts Forward an Action Plan to Save Egypt.

- God was going to bring 7 years of plenty, followed by 7 years of famine.
- God’s Plan – Joseph to be made 2nd in command, to store up food during the 7 good years, so as to be able to release it slowly during the 7 years of famine.
- Joseph (30) was given power to rule, but it did not corrupt him. He obeyed God.
- Now we can see why God allowed all of Joseph’s ‘up and down’ experiences, Joseph’s character and skills had been shaped by God for this important role.

• Joseph’s Dreams Now Come True, His Brothers Bow Before Him.

- Jacob sends 10 of his sons to buy corn from Egypt. Young Benjamin is kept back.
- The brothers bow before Joseph, not recognising him, but he recognises them.

• The Brothers are in Great Danger – Joseph Tests Them.

- This was an opportunity for Joseph to take revenge and cruelly punish them.
- **But he did not.** Knowing the Lord had forgiven him he gladly forgives them.
- Joseph speaks to them roughly, through an interpreter, accusing them of spying.
- His intention was to cause their consciences to work, bringing them to humble, and sincere repentance for their treachery to him, and the grief felt by Jacob and Rachel.
- He places them in prison for 3 days, then keeps Simeon hostage, whilst getting the others to promise to bring Benjamin with them the next time they come.
- He sends them back to Jacob with corn, placing their money back in each sack.
- On the way back they discover this, and when Jacob hears their account, and that Benjamin has been requested to be taken to Egypt, he is distraught.
- His sons are convicted and challenged, realising that God was dealing with them.

Is the Lord convicting you of your sin? Have you faced up to the fact that your sin is an offence to the Holy God? He is ready to forgive you now, if you sincerely repent.

The Psalmist wrote, “*Consider how I love Thy precepts: quicken me, O LORD, according to Thy lovingkindness. Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of Thy righteous judgments endureth for ever*”.

Psalm 119 vs159,160.