

凭信和好成就神旨

By Faith To Reconcile, To fulfill God's Purpose
--旧约中的约瑟(the Story of Joseph)

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
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大纲 Outline

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Joseph and his Brothers:

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I. 约瑟和约瑟的梦: 上帝的眷顾 Joseph and his Dreams: Divine Providence

创37: 2-5节

2雅各的記略如下.約瑟十七歲與他哥哥們一同牧羊.他是個童子, 與他父親的妾辟拉, 悉帕的兒子們常在一處.約瑟將他哥哥們的惡行報給他們的父親.3以色列原來愛約瑟過於愛他的眾子, 因為約瑟是他年老生的; 他給約瑟做了一件彩衣.4約瑟的哥哥們見父親愛約瑟過於愛他們, 就恨約瑟, 不與他說和睦的話.5約瑟做了一夢, 告訴他哥哥們, 他們就越發恨他.2 This is the account of Jacob's family line. Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them.3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate[a] robe for him. 4 When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.5 Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more.

A domestic tragedy happened because:

1) 父亲雅各的偏爱 Father's Favoritism

37:1 雅各住在迦南地,就是他父亲寄居的地 Jacob lived in the land of his father's sojournings, in the land of Canaan.

37: 3 以色列原来爱约瑟过于爱他的众子, ...是他年老生的...做了一件彩衣 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age.

2) 兄长的嫉妒和恨 They hated him.

37:4, 8, 11, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him...they hated him even more...And his brothers were jealous of him.

3) 犹大的不义 Unrighteous Merciless Judah

4) 约瑟的自傲品性 The prideful Joseph

我们上帝何竟使用这么一个破碎的家庭，何竟使用充满创伤的约瑟来延续其应许？！上帝的保守和眷顾又在哪里呢？

Such a broken family is bound to bring tragedy.

How can God use a traumatized Joseph to fulfill His will?

Where is divine providence?

一位不认识上帝的埃及人又是如何看出来：耶和华与约瑟同在其中呢？！How can the Egyptian see YHWH's providence?!

第37-38章都没有出现“上帝”的字眼，一直到第 39:1-6节才六次出现“耶和华”。而且，有意思的是，**埃及人波提乏**看出了一个事实：上帝保守着约瑟 the Lord was with Joseph, but Joseph himself was with his master, the Egyptian. **The Egyptian saw that YHWH was with Joseph.**

创 39:1-6节

约瑟被带下埃及去。有一个埃及人...护卫长波提乏,从那些带下他来的以实玛利人手下买了他去。约瑟住在他主人埃及人的家中, 耶和华与他同在, 他就百事顺利。他主人见耶和华与他同在, 又见耶和华使他手里所办的尽都顺利, 约瑟就在主人眼前蒙恩, 伺候他主人, 并且主人派他管理事务, 把一切所有的都交在他手里。..... 耶和华就因约瑟的缘故赐福与那埃及人的家;凡家里和田间一切所有的都蒙耶和华赐福。 39 Now Joseph had been brought down to Egypt, and Potiphar..., an Egyptian, 2 The Lord was with Joseph, 3 **His master saw** that the Lord was with him and that the Lord caused all that he did to succeed in his hands. 4 So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had. 5 From the time that he made him overseer..., the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the Lord was on all that he had, in house and field.

上帝眷顾 Divine Providence

- 1) 上帝二次拦阻了最糟糕、最悲惨的事发生在约瑟身上，他不至于死亡。这就是上帝的保守。
- 2) 上帝拦阻了约瑟的兄长们犯更大的罪，没有亲手杀害约瑟，免去了道德上的罪。
- 3) 上帝的眷顾使约瑟成为一个在受苦之地得以昌盛的人(“以法莲”)，一个更加谦卑的人。

II. 约瑟和他的兄弟们：饶恕与和好

Joseph and his Brothers: Forgive and Reconciliation

創50:15-20,

15 約瑟的哥哥們見父親死了，就說或者約瑟懷恨我們，照著我們從前待他一切的惡足足的報復我們。15 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?"

16 他們就打發人去見約瑟，說：你父親未死以先吩咐說 16 So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died:

17 你們要對約瑟這樣說：從前你哥哥們惡待你，求你饒恕他們的過犯和罪惡。如今求你饒恕你父親神之僕人的過犯。他們對約瑟說這話，約瑟就哭了。17 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

18 他的哥哥們又來俯伏在他面前，說：我們是你的僕人。 18 His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. “We are your slaves,” they said. 19 約瑟對他們說：不要害怕，我豈能代替神呢？ 19 But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God? 20 從前你們的意思是要害我，但神的意思原是好的，要保全許多人的性命，成就今日的光景。 20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

1) 约瑟的痛哭 Joseph's Weeping

创 43:30; 45:2,14;46:29; 50:1,17

2) 我豈能代替神呢Am I in the place of God?

3) 從前你們的意思.., 但神的意思原是好的 ...,
成就... **You intended to ..., but God intended
it for good to accomplish**

the story of Joseph shows that with God, silence is not absence, hiddenness is not impotence. Often when things look like they're going the most wrong God is most working for our good.

林后5:18-20 2 Corinthians 5:18-20

18 一切都是出於神；他藉著基督使我們與他和好，又將勸人與他和好的職分賜給我們。19這就是神在基督裡，叫世人與自己和好，不將他們的過犯歸到他們身上，並且將這和好的道理託付了我們。20所以，我們作基督的使者，就好像神藉我們勸你們一般。我們替基督求你們與神和好。

18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling[c] the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ,

Questions to discuss

1. 上帝对约瑟的眷顾具体表现在哪些方面？分享上帝对你的保守和眷顾。
2. 约瑟是如何一步步地饶恕兄长们的？
3. 你认为饶恕容易吗？谈谈耶稣对你的饶恕或者你对他人的饶恕。
4. 你认为，作为基督的和好使者，和好究竟指什么？