

Gleanings from the Pentateuch

Joseph: Preserving the Promise
(Genesis 39 – 47)

Kingdom Promise

God's Promise of Kingdom Restoration:

- Through Abraham and his seed
- Everlasting land, multitude of descendants, blessing to the nations

Kingdom Promise

Connection to the Joseph narrative:

- the preservation of this kingdom promise...
- through the unusual providence of God in the life of Joseph

Genesis 39:2 – *"The Lord was with Joseph"*

Joseph & the Promise

1. Injustices Suffered

- Sold into slavery by his brothers
- Imprisoned on false charges
- Forgotten in prison by the cupbearer

Joseph & the Promise

2. Prominence Gained

- Interpreted Pharaoh's dreams and gave him wise advise
- Placed in charge over all the land of Egypt (second only to Pharaoh)
- Saved Egypt and peoples from all the earth of famine

Joseph & the Promise

3. Reunion Achieved

- His brothers came to buy grain to preserve the life of their family
- He employed a deceptive scheme to test his brothers and reunite his family

Joseph & the Promise

4. Preservation Accomplished

- God revealed to Jacob that going to Egypt was part of His plan
- In Egypt God would preserve Jacob's seed and make him a great nation; and would one day bring Israel back

Joseph & the Promise

Primary Purpose:

- to preserve Israel and advance the promise given to the seed of Jacob

Genesis 45:4-8

"...to preserve for you a remnant in the earth and to keep you alive..."

Joseph & the Promise

Primary Lesson:

- these events were God-intended, God-orchestrated for His purpose

Genesis 45:4-8

"...God sent Me...it was not you who sent me here but God..."

Joseph & the Promise

Primary Lesson:

- these events were God-intended, God-orchestrated for His purpose

Genesis 50:20

"As for you, you meant evil against me but God meant it for good.."

Joseph & the Promise

Practical Effect:

- trust in the providence of God is the source of real...
 - comfort
 - security
 - forgiveness
 - joy