

SOUTH GROVE FREE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LONDON

Lord's Day Afternoon

Date 12<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Preacher Rev Philip Knowles Ps Hymns Ps 24v7-10 T- Winchester, 125 Regent Square, 139-tune 130, 386 Read: Genesis 41:40-44 Text Genesis **41:40-44**

**Series: Joseph Title: Joseph's Set Over Egypt (1)**

Joseph interpreting Pharaoh's dream which was really a message from God, **declaring** what God had established and what He was about to do, **instructed** Pharaoh that a famine is coming, **therefore**, preparations must be made during next seven years of plenty, because those years will be followed by seven years of famine.

Pharaoh was to **look out a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt**. A man that possessed understanding and wisdom. One qualified and suited to meet all the requirements to save the people from perishing in the famine.

However, Pharaoh knew there was no man within his kingdom who was discreet and wise, there was no one suited to rule over the land of Egypt. Not even among his own councillors.

Pharaoh even said to his servants, **Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?** Pharaoh sees the man who is discreet, understanding, wise, worthy of leadership as one whose life is divinely touched.

The message and meaning of the dream, which Joseph gave an answer to, caused Pharaoh to testify **God hath shewed thee all this....**

Pharaoh admits and recognises, the man chosen must be a unique man, something about that man, that sets him apart from ever other man.

The only one in his view was Joseph, he looks to Joseph, **there is none so discreet and wise as thou art:**

**He seen in Joseph words that were truthful, a walk that was pleasing, wisdom which was incomparable, and worth that was irreplaceable.**

Pharaoh must have Joseph otherwise all will perish. Pharaoh knew Joseph alone could lead the people of the land to safety.

Joseph was appointed by God and anointed by the Spirit to accomplish his assignment to save from misery and death, by provisions.

Joseph is one chosen out of the people, and exalted high above all. Pharaoh then says in **verses 40-41** *Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou. <sup>41</sup> And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt.*

What a view we have of our heavenly Joseph, the Lord Jesus Christ. He is one chosen out from among the people as the only mediator between God and men.

He came to save sinners in their misery, facing eternal death by giving eternal life.

The **SC Q 19** what is the misery of that estate whereinto man fell? **Answer**, *All Mankind by their fall lost communion with God, are under His wrath, and curse, and so made liable to all the miseries of this life, to death, itself, and to the pains of hell forever.*

That is the sinners present position without Christ, a day of eternal wrath awaits.

God's law has been rebelled against, and therefore, His law calls for the rebels punishment.

The law cannot save, the law is our school master to discipline, follow us, the law's accusation will not allow the accused to go freely. The Law has found transgressions out. **John 5:45** "there

**is one that accuseth you Moses...**” Condemned, Condemned, Condemned.

Like Pharaoh and the people of land, there is no one else who can spare from perishing, there is none that can life give when facing death.

We must cry out like Pharaoh, **Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?** praise the Lord such a man has been provided to bring sinners from death unto life. Grace comes by Christ.

Christ was exalted, **chosen out of the people to give life and that more abundant. He is the wisdom of God unto us. He understood what the law required to honour God.**

**He understood the penalty that must be paid to satisfy God and to save sinners from the wrath they deserve.**

**Christ was the only one who could do and did do all that was required, to save from wrath to come.**

**Therefore, believer praise the Lord you looked to Him as your only Saviour.**

**Unsaved one you must look to Christ for eternal life. To look to anyone else is to never find the way to heaven, to search anywhere else is to never to arrive.**

**Just as Joseph stood before Pharaoh, so Christ stands before you, what will you do with Jesus.**

Pharaoh looked to Joseph and not another as the only one to give deliverance, therefore, Joseph was set over Egypt to rule over all.

## **I FIRST JOSEPH'S POSITION**

Pharaoh in exalting Joseph said in **verses 40-41** *Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou.* <sup>41</sup> *And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt.*

Having been exalted by Pharaoh to rule over the land of Egypt, He was given a position, *Thou shalt be over my house*, that is to rule, execute power over the affairs and furtherance of the Kingdom of Egypt.

Joseph was set before the people of the land at the only preserving and provider of life when facing death.

Notice, Pharaoh exalted Joseph, and Joseph sat at Pharaoh's right hand, *only in the throne will I be greater than thou.*

These words, do not mean that Joseph is any less of a ruler or lack of power, than Pharaoh, for both men sat upon a throne, both possessed equal power and honour, but their role and position, throughout the Kingdom differed.

Pharaoh gave into Joseph's hand a people to save, whereas Joseph work is to honour Pharaoh in saving and preserving that people from the perishing.

Once again we see a direct lesson to Jesus Christ our heavenly Joseph, the Bible says in **John 13:3** *Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;*

We read in Read in **Revelation 3:21** *To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.*

Christ's position is recorded in **Hebrews 8:1** *who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;* **Heb 12:2** *“is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

He rules and governs from heaven His dwelling place, and one day, He will come back to earth and continue His glorious reign.

**1 Joseph's Responsibility in his position *Thou shalt be over my house...***

The phrase **over my house**, refers to **a responsibility, administration**, over the people of the Kingdom, and the Kingdom itself.

Remember, Joseph is chosen for these purposes, a man discreet, and wise, who will do things decently and in order.

This is the fourth time Joseph has been given responsibility over a house or an administrative role.

In **Genesis 37:3** in receiving the coat of many colours from his father, symbolised, responsibility as the leader of his brethren.

**Genesis 39:4** he was put over Potiphar's house,

then **Genesis 39:22** he was put over the prisoners in jail and now in **Genesis 41** he is put over Pharaoh's house.

Here is the point through life during his humility, of suffering and sorrows, Joseph was faithful in responsibility for the people given to him, he served them, and give the word of God to them, and now that he is exalted, he will remain faithful to the people given to him.

The people of the land are now his responsibility, given to Him to govern over and preserve from perishing.

What a view we have of Christ our faithful prophet, priest and King in His Humiliation and exaltation.

**Rev 1:5** calls Christ “ ***the faithful witness...***” He is our faithful Prophet. Christ is described in **Hebrews 2:17** as a “...***faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.***” As Our high priest he alone forgives sin.

In **Rev 19:13** Christ who is called *faithful and True*, is called in **verse 16** "**KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS**. He is our King to rule and reign over us, and defeating all His and our enemies.

**Psalm 119:90** "*Thy faithfulness is unto all generations...*"

During His sufferings and sorrow, He was faithful. He fulfilled His duty as unto God, to save, His people from their sins.

He was faithful over the household of faith, Faithful as the head of the Church, the King of His Kingdom, and now in heaven in His exaltation

He remains faithful in His responsibility over the household of faith, the church for whom he died, His eternal Kingdom, to provide for them and bring them home to glory. **2 Timothy 2:13** "*...He abideth faithful.*"

*Here is the wonderful thought, Joseph is not depending upon the people to keep him through famine, rather they look to Joseph upon the throne, to keep them through famine.*

No wonder Peter could say in **1 Peter 4:19** that believers *commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.*"

Christ is faithful in saving, keeping, and glorying His own redeemed people, we are His responsibility. Christ has been charged with sinners given to Him.

Believer, the Lord has given you responsibilities, church ministries, family, children, employment, education, community, souls to prayer for, be faithful, **Luke 16:10** "*He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much.*" When you are faithful with what and who God gives you, He will give the increase.



**2 Joseph's Rule in his position according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled.**

Joseph ruled by his word. His word came with absolute authority. His word was magnified above all. They depended upon His word from the throne.

If the people were to be spared from perishing, it was by the word of Joseph. The warning given must be attended to, the commands he gave were to be obeyed, this do and thou shalt live.

When Egypt was famished and barren, the needy came to Joseph and he told what must be done. When Joseph's brethren came to Egypt for corn and stood before him, he gave them clear instruction what to do.

His words were clear and plain, even Pharaoh said **Genesis 41:55 Go unto Joseph; what he saith to you, do meaning go to Joseph for food, provision, life when death is near.**

Therefore, Christ rules by His word. His word shall never pass away. **Psa 138:3 "for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.** Revelation 20 He judges sin by His word.

Mary told the servants at the wedding in **John 2:5 "Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it.**

Entrance into His kingdom and Living the Kingdom life is by faith in Him. Even if it goes against human thinking, His ways are best because His word is true.

Remember in **Luke 5**, Christ said to His disciple to cast out the net into deep, Peter said to Christ nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.

Today believer, He says to you follow me and I will make you fishers of men.

Believer, we need the word of God to rule our life, it's our guide in all areas of life. ***It is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for***

**correction, for instruction in righteousness.** The word makes one wise unto salvation.

Unbeliever, He commands you to repent, believe the gospel, call upon His name to be saved.

### **3 Joseph's Right to his position**

**Verse 44** *And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I am Pharaoh, and without thee shall no man lift up his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.*

Joseph had all right and the only right to rule, as Pharaoh exalted him. All the matters of the Kingdom came through Joseph.

No man could act without Joseph. The people were not to invent with their ways or look to another, to survive the famine.

Joseph alone had the message of God. He alone had the answer.

Christ is greatly **exalted**. By His walk, wisdom and worth, by His glorious person and gospel ministry He has the full right to rule over the affairs of his eternal Kingdom and earthly kingdoms, He alone has the right to redeem sinners, right to heaven's throne. Right to do as He wills.

He has full right to our lives believers. There can be no area in our lives, or rooms in our home, where Christ is not welcomed. All Must be ruled by Him.

The Lord Jesus said in **John 15:5** *for without me ye can do nothing* meaning you are unable to do anything, achieve anything.

Without Christ there is no blessing, abandon Christ and you abandon blessing.

Shop around and you miss the supply that runs from heavens store house.

As the wind and waves obey Him, so must you.



God brought Joseph from the pit and prison to the palace, He was in full control. He was humbled then exalted in due season.

Believer, God is in full control of our lives. He will permit the lowest times in your life but He has also permitted to lift you to heaven.

There will be pits and prison experiences, but it will be worth it all when we see Jesus.