



Portion:

Title:

SCRIPTURES

- Genesis 41:1-44:17
- Matthew 24:1-51
- Zechariah 2:14-4:7
- 1 Kings 3:16-4:1
- Isaiah 40:1-3
- Romans 8:18-22
- Luke 1:13-17, 76, 80
- Matthew 11:7-11, 17:11-13
- John 1:19-23
- Malachi 4:1-6

ARE YOU FAITHFUL & WISE?

- The life of Joseph
- Wise and faithful servants
- The Gospel of the Kingdom
- The Final Generation
- The END!
- Preparing the way
- Revealing the sons
- Elijah must come first
- Final words of Malachi
- Repent! Remember!

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURES THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE

“And now let Pharaoh look for a discerning and **wise man** and put him **in charge** of the land of Egypt. Let Pharaoh appoint **commissioners** over the land to take a fifth of the harvest of Egypt during the seven years of abundance. They should collect all the food of these good years that are coming and store up the grain under the authority of Pharaoh, to be kept in the cities for food.”

Gen. 41:33-35

“The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials. So Pharaoh asked them, **‘Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?’** Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, ‘Since God has **made all this known to you**, there is no-one so discerning and wise as you. You shall **be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you.’**” Gen. 41:37-40

OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE

“Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, **when he comes, will find so doing.** Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods.” Matthew 24:45-47 NKJV

““Because the patriarchs were jealous of Joseph, they sold him as a slave into Egypt. But YAHWEH was with him and rescued him from all his troubles. **He gave Joseph wisdom and enabled him to gain the goodwill of Pharaoh king of Egypt. So Pharaoh made him ruler over Egypt and all his palace.** Acts 7:9-10

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. Two full years after the cup bearer is released from prison and has forgotten about Joseph, Pharaoh has two dreams.
2. First: seven cows, fine looking and fat and seven other cows ugly and gaunt, and the ugly and gaunt cows eat up the seven fine looking and fat cows.
3. Second: seven heads of grain came up on one stalk, plump and good (Think Menorah/Lampstand) and also seven thin heads, blighted by the east wind, spring up after them and devour the seven plump and full heads.
4. None of Egypt's wise men could interpret the dreams for Pharaoh.
5. **Enter the cub bearer who was with Joseph in prison:** "I remember my faults this day, I and the chief baker each had a dream with its own interpretation.
6. A young Hebrew man interpreted our dreams and they came to pass, just as he interpreted.
7. Pharaoh sends for Joseph—I have heard it said *that* you can understand a dream, to interpret it." Joseph says, "*It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace.*"
8. Pharaoh describes both dreams with one piece added in his description (from what he told his wise men): "When they had

eaten them up, no one would have known that they had eaten them, for they *were* just as ugly as at the beginning.”

9. Joseph tells Pharaoh two times that God is showing him something! “The dreams of Pharaoh *are* one; **God has shown Pharaoh what He *is* about to do.**” “This *is* the thing which I have spoken to Pharaoh. God has shown Pharaoh what He *is* about to do.”
10. Seven years of great plenty will come throughout all the land of Egypt; but after that, seven years of famine will arise.
11. The dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing *is* established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.
12. Joseph’s recommendation: “Now therefore, let Pharaoh select a **discerning and wise man**, and set him over the land of Egypt”
13. Pharaoh: “**Can we find *such a one as this, a man in whom is the Spirit of God?***” “Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, *there is* no one as discerning and wise as you. You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you.” And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt.” “I *am* Pharaoh, and without your consent no man may lift his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.”
14. Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt.

15. For seven plentiful years he gathered up all the food and it was so abundant that it was immeasurable.
16. Joseph has two sons during that time: the name of the firstborn Manasseh and the second he called Ephraim:
17. Seven years of famine began and Joseph opened the storehouses and the Egyptians and all countries came to Joseph in Egypt to buy *grain*.
18. Jacob tells his 10 sons to go down and get food in Egypt. And he keeps Benjamin back (for fear of losing him).
19. And Joseph's brothers came to Egypt and bow down before Joseph. (Like the dreams he had)
20. Joseph recognized them but they do not recognize him (he is a good 20 years older and made up like Egyptian royalty).
21. And they said, "we come from the land of Canaan to buy food."
22. But he accuses them of being spies! (He is clearly angry)
23. They explain that they *are* twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan; and in fact, the youngest *is* home with their father today, and one *is* no more. (Joseph realizes that the twelfth brother was born after he was sold into slavery.)
24. To test them Joseph says: bring your youngest brother here; you shall be kept in prison to see if *there is* any truth in you; he put them all together in prison three days.

25. Joseph then says, "I fear God" so If you *are* honest *men*, let one of your brothers be confined and you go home with grain and bring your brother back to me.
26. The brothers realize this is Yahweh's punishment for their sin against Joseph.
27. Reuben reminds them that HE DID NOT AGREE WITH THEIR PLANS to get rid of Joseph.
28. Meanwhile, Joseph is listening as they did not know that Joseph understood *them*, for he spoke to them through an interpreter.
29. Joseph wept privately and then takes Simeon from them and binds him before their eyes.
30. The Brothers Return to Canaan and tell Jacob all that happened and the are horrified along the way when they realize their silver was returned to their sacks.
31. They ultimately must convince Jacob to let them take Benjamin back with them and first Reuben, and then Judah make personal guarantees of Benjamin's safety.
32. Joseph's Brothers return with Benjamin and Jacob makes them return with twice the silver plus many other gifts to give the "man."
33. When Joseph saw Benjamin he orders a feast but the brothers are petrified because of the money thing. They feel they are getting called before him for punishment.

34. "Joseph tells them to relax and not to be afraid as their God must have given them a treasure as he still had their money.
35. Joseph inquires about his father: *"Is your father well, the old man of whom you spoke? Is he still alive?"*
36. Then he sees his brother Benjamin, and he goes off to weep privately.
37. He provides Benjamin five times as much food as his brothers.
38. Joseph sends his brothers back, but first puts their silver back and his own silver cup into Benjamin's sack.
39. When they were not yet far off, Joseph sends servants to accuse someone of stealing it. His brothers promise not one of them could do such a thing and he offers the life of anyone he finds guilty.
40. The cup was found in Benjamin's sack and the brother are horrified.
41. The portion ends with Joseph telling them that they are free to go but must leave the "guilty party" as his slave!

THE TIMING OF IT ALL—THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

1. How old was Joseph when?

A. Joseph at 17 years old

- (1) Joseph, when **seventeen** years of age, was pasturing the flock with his brothers...And Joseph brought back a bad report about them to their father. (Genesis 37:2)
- (2) Then he sold into slavery, taken in by Potiphar, serves Potiphar faithfully for some time, and then falsely accused of sexual misconduct with Potiphar's wife.
 - (a) HE MUST BE IN POTIPHAR'S HOUSE LONG ENOUGH FOR THE BLESSING TO BE MEASURABLE:
"So Joseph found favor in his sight, and served him. Then he **made him overseer of his house**, and all that he had he put under his authority. So it was, from the time that he had made him overseer of his house and all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and **the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had in the house and in the field.**" (Genesis 39:4-5)
 - (b) AFTER SOME TIME HE WAS FALSELY ACCUSED: "So it was, when his master heard the words which his wife spoke to him, saying, "Your servant did to me after this manner," that his anger was aroused." (Genesis 39:19)

B. Joseph must be around 18 years old when he put in prison

- (1) “Joseph’s master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined. (Genesis 39:20)

C. Joseph’s time spent in prison must be around 12 years

- (1) Joseph Served in prison for some period of time and then the cupbearer and baker are imprisoned, have dreams, and then after Joseph’s accurate interpretation, the baker is executed and the cupbearer releases—Joseph pleads, “Remember me.”

- (a) “Some time later, the cupbearer and the baker of the king of Egypt offended their master, the king of Egypt.” (Genesis 40:1)

- (b) “The captain of the guard assigned them to Joseph, and he attended them. After they had been in custody for some time,” (Genesis 40:4)

- (c) TWO YEARS AFTER THE CUPBEARER IS RELEASED IS WHEN PHARAOH’S DREAM SEQUENCE OCCURS.

“When two full years had passed, Pharaoh had a dream: He was standing by the Nile,” (Genesis 41:1)

D. Joseph is 30 years old when he is summoned by Pharaoh

- (1) JOSEPH IS SUMMONED TO THE PALACE BY PHARAOH:

“Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from

Pharaoh's presence and travelled throughout Egypt." (Genesis 41:46)

- (2) So, from the time he is sold into slavery to the time he is made ruler over all of Egypt, 13 years have passed, and it is likely that 12 of those were spent in prison.

E. Joseph from 30 to 37 years old

- (1) Then there are 7 years of abundance during which Joseph has his two sons.
 - (a) "Joseph collected all the food produced in those seven years of abundance in Egypt and stored it in the cities. In each city he put the food grown in the fields surrounding it...Before the years of famine came, two sons were born to Joseph by Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On." (Genesis 41:48, 50)
 - (b) IT IS LIKELY THE 7 YEARS OF ABUNDANCE BEGAN SOON AFTER THE DREAMS AND INTERPRETATION BECAUSE: "And the dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass." (Genesis 41:32)
 - (c) So for simplicity, let's just say it began the year Joseph was released from prison and went into the service of Pharaoh at 30 years old.

F. Joseph from 38 to 44

- (1) The 7 years of famine begins and Joseph is now 37 years old (a full 20 years after being sold into slavery by his brothers.)
 - (a) “The seven years of abundance in Egypt came to an end, and the seven years of famine began, just as Joseph had said. There was famine in all the other lands, but in the whole land of Egypt there was food.” (Genesis 41:53-54)
 - (b) HIS BROTHERS SHOW UP AT SOME POINT AFTER THE FAMINE BECAME SEVERE: “So Joseph’s ten brothers went down to buy grain in Egypt.” (Genesis 42:3)
 - (c) At this point Joseph must be at least 38 years old and his brothers have not seen him for over 20 years, plus he is dressed and likely covered in makeup like Egyptian royalty. Considering the context, his brothers would have no chance of recognizing him!

WHO IS THE WISE AND DISCERNING SERVANT THAT I CAN PLACE IN CHARGE OF MY HOUSE?

2. Joseph as the Wise and Discerning Servant—

A. Joseph Recommends Pharaoh Find the Right Man

- (1) “And now let Pharaoh look for a discerning and **wise man** and put him **in charge** of the land of Egypt. Let Pharaoh appoint **commissioners** over the land to take a fifth of the harvest of Egypt during the seven years of abundance. They should collect all the food of these good years that are coming and store up the grain under the authority of Pharaoh, to be kept in the cities for food.” Gen. 41:33-35

B. Pharaoh figures it should be Joseph since he is the one with the plan.

- (1) “The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials. So Pharaoh asked them, ‘**Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?**’ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, ‘Since God has **made all this known to you**, there is no-one so discerning and wise as you. You shall **be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you.**’” Gen. 41:37-40

C. Joseph is put in charge!

- (1) “So Pharaoh said to Joseph, ‘**I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt.**’ Then Pharaoh took his signet ring from his finger and put it on Joseph’s finger. He dressed him in robes of fine linen and put a gold chain round his neck. He made him ride in a chariot as his second-in-

command, and people shouted before him, 'Make way!'

Thus he put him in charge of the whole land of Egypt.

Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, 'I am Pharaoh, but without your word no-one will lift hand or foot in all Egypt.'" Gen. 41:41-44

D. New authority comes with a new name!

- (1) JOSEPH: "**Pharaoh gave Joseph the name Zaphenath-Paneah** and gave him Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On, to be his wife. And Joseph went throughout the land of Egypt." Genesis 41:45
- (2) JACOB: "So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob." And He said, "**Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel**; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed.'" Genesis 32:27-28
- (3) PETER: "Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to **you that you are Peter**, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. **And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.**" Matthew 16:17-19

AGAIN—WHO IS THE WISE AND DISCERNING SERVANT THAT I CAN PLACE IN CHARGE OF MY HOUSE?

3. **We (the church) as Wise and Discerning Servants**

A. **The Gospel of the Kingdom must be preached**

- (1) THE END CANNOT COME UNLESS... “But he who endures to the end shall be saved. **And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.**” Matthew 24:13-14

B. **The Final Generation**

- (1) MATTHEW 24:15-44 — WHAT HAPPENS BETWEEN THE “END” AND Y’SHUA’S COMING? THE FINAL GENERATION
- (a) “the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet
 - (b) flee to the mountains.
 - (c) pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.
 - (d) unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved;
 - (e) false christs and false prophets will rise
 - (f) For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

- (g) Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.
- (h) Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven,
- (i) And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. "Now learn this parable from the fig tree:
- (j) **Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place.**
- (k) But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.
- (l) two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. (Feast of trumpets)
- (m) Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. (Spot the new moon)
- (n) know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

C. What should you be doing while all this is going on?

(1) YOU SHOULD BE TAKING YOUR CUES FROM THE LIFE OF JOSPEH

(a) **““Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods.”** Matthew 24:45-47 NKJV

(2) LOOK—JUST LIKE PHARAOH AND JOSEPH

(a) **““And now let Pharaoh look for a discerning and wise man and put him in charge of the land of Egypt. Let Pharaoh appoint commissioners over the land to take a fifth of the harvest of Egypt during the seven years of abundance. They should collect all the food of these good years that are coming and store up the grain under the authority of Pharaoh, to be kept in the cities for food.”** Gen. 41:33-35

(b) **“The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials. So Pharaoh asked them, ‘Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?’ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, ‘Since God has made all this known to you, there is no-one so discerning and wise as**

you. You shall **be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you.**” Gen.

41:37-40

(3) WHAT WISE AND FAITHFUL LOOKS LIKE!

(a) WHAT WILL ALLOW YOU TO BE PUT IN CHARGE?

“Thus says the LORD of hosts: ‘If you will walk in My ways, And if you will keep My command, **Then you shall also judge My house, And likewise have charge of My courts;** I will give you places to walk Among these who stand here.” Zechariah 3:7

(b) SOLOMON AS THE WISE KING ADMINISTERING

JUSTICE: “And the king said, “The one says, ‘This is my son, who lives, and your son is the dead one’; and the other says, ‘No! But your son is the dead one, and my son is the living one.’ ” Then the king said, “Bring me a sword.” So they brought a sword before the king. And the king said, “Divide the living child in two, and give half to one, and half to the other.” Then the woman whose son was living spoke to the king, for she yearned with compassion for her son; and she said, “O my lord, give her the living child, and by no means kill him!” But the other said, “Let him be neither mine nor yours, but

divide him. " So the king answered and said, "Give the first woman the living child, and by no means kill him; she is his mother." **And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had rendered; and they feared the king, for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him to administer justice."** I Kings 3:23-28

THE "END" MAY NOT BE WHAT YOU THINK IT MEANS

4. The Gospel of the Kingdom

A. What should we be looking for next?

- (1) MATTHEW: "But he who endures to the **end** shall be saved. **And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come."** Matthew 24:13-14
 - (a) The Gospel of the Kingdom must be defined
 - (b) The Gospel of the Kingdom must be preached
 - (c) We must know what the "end" is referring to
- (2) ISAIAH: "**Comfort, comfort** my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that **her hard service has been completed**, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. **A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness**

**prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert
a highway for our God.”** Isaiah 40:1-3 NIV

- (a) Comfort to Jerusalem
 - (b) Hard labor ended
 - (c) Preparing a way for Y’shua in the wilderness
- (3) ROMANS: “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. **For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.** For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; **because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.** For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.”
Romans 8:18-22 NKJV

- (a) The revealing of the son of Yahweh
- (b) Creation being delivered from bondage (hard labor)
- (c) The glorious liberty of the Church

B. Who prepares the way?

- (1) THE ANGEL ABOUT JOHN: “But the angel said to him,
“Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and
your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call

his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. For he will be **great in the sight of the Lord**, and shall drink **neither wine nor strong drink**. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. And **he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.**"" Luke 1:13-17 ""And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Highest; **For you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways...**Luke 1:76 So the child grew and became strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his manifestation to Israel." Luke 1:80

- (a) John's father Zacharias was told he'd have a son who would be great in Yahweh's eyes
 - (b) He would be a Nazarite (see Numbers 6)
 - (c) He would turn the children toward Yahweh (repent!) and see Malachi 4.
 - (d) He would come in the spirit and power of Elijah
 - (e) He would prepare a way for Y'shua (see Isaiah 40)
- (2) Y'SHUA ABOUT JOHN: "As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go

out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind?
But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft
garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in
kings' houses. But what did you go out to see? **A prophet?**
Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. For this is he of
whom it is written: '**Behold, I send My messenger before
Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.**'

"Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there
has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who
is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Matthew 11:7-11 NKJV

- (a) He is a prophet
 - (b) He will prepare the way!
- (3) Y'SHUA ABOUT JOHN: "Jesus answered and said to
them, "**Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will restore all
things.** But I say to you that **Elijah has come already**, and
they did not know him but did to him whatever they
wished. Likewise the Son of Man is also about to suffer at
their hands." **Then the disciples understood that He spoke
to them of John the Baptist.**" Matthew 17:11-13
- (a) Elijah is coming first (before Messiah's 2nd coming)
 - (b) Elijah has come already (before Messiah 1st coming)
 - (c) The Elijah who already came was John the Baptist

(d) He came in the spirit and power of Elijah as prophesied to his father in Luke 1.

(4) JOHN ABOUT HIMSELF: “Now this was John’s testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, **“I am not the Messiah.”** They asked him, **“Then who are you? Are you Elijah?”** He said, “I am not.” **“Are you the Prophet?”** He answered, “No.” Finally they said, **“Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?”** John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, **“I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way for the Lord.’ ”**” John 1:19-23

(a) I am not the Messiah

(b) I am not actually Elijah

(c) So I am not THE prophet

(d) But... I did come to fill the Elijah’s role for Messiah’s first coming—to prepare a way!

(e) **And as a reminder of John’s primary message...**“In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, **“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”** This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: **“A voice of one**

calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.' "" Matthew 3:1-3 NIV

- (f) Yes—he did prepare the way for Y'shua's primary message: **"From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."**

Matthew 4:17 NIV

C. What is Elijah's message when he comes again at the END to RESTORE ALL THINGS, before the coming of Y'shua?

(1) FINAL WORDS OF THE FINAL OLD TESTAMENT

PROPHET: **"For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," Says the LORD of hosts, "That will leave them neither root nor branch. But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise With healing in His wings; And you shall go out And grow fat like stall-fed calves. You shall trample the wicked, For they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet On the day that I do this, " Says the LORD of hosts. "Remember the Law of Moses, My servant, Which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, With the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will turn The hearts of**

the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.”” Malachi 4:1-6

- (a) The day is coming—and this does not describe the first coming of Y’shua but the final coming (the great and dreadful day).
- (b) Elijah comes BEFORE that day
- (c) His message is to REMEMBER THE LAWS OF MOSES, and ‘remember’ has the same connotation as ‘repent’ or ‘turn’. Both John and Y’shua’s primary message, **“Repent, the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!”**
- (d) Yes—turn the hearts of the children. And is that not also what was prophesied about John the Baptist in Luke 1, but this time with a final warning! “Lest I come...”

Questions & Discussion

1. Contemplate the Life of Joseph and talk about:

- A. Injustice
- B. His time in prison
- C. How Yahweh uses our suffering for His good pleasure.
- D. How you would handle such persecution

2. What are the responsibilities of the wise and faithful servant?

- A. Why was Joseph deemed so?
- B. What specific function did he fulfill?
- C. How does this relate to Y'shua's question in Matthew 24:14?

3. What is the Gospel of the Kingdom?

- A. How does it relate to the End?
- B. How does it relate to the revealing of the sons?
- C. How does it relate to Elijah?

4. Discuss the final ministry and message of Elijah

- A. Compare and contrast John the Baptist and Elijah the prophet
- B. Why does Elijah come first?
- C. What is the restoration of all things?
- D. What does it mean to Repent?
- E. What does it mean to "Remember the Laws of Moses?"

5. Prophetic Ideas for Discussion (repeated from last week and then in #6 we added this week's support)

- A. Go back and review the entire narrative of Joseph and notice how there are always three roles, “people-roles” (sun—moon—stars).
- B. There is always (1) Yahweh, a King, or another leader, like Potiphar or the prison warden. (2) a Joseph or an in between and (3) someone to serve or minister to.
- C. Notice Joseph’s role as the “go between”, or in other words, the one who is put in charge to institute the directives of the “leader”.
- D. There is always a King (head), a Priest (minister to the people), and a Prophet (the go between) in Yahweh’s prophetic structure. For instance, in the Church there is the (1) King of Kings (2) Apostle (3) Prophet
- E. In our government there are three branches: (1) Executive/ king/enforcer of law (2) Legislative, the representatives of the people and is the maker of law (3) the Judicial, the go between, between the enforcer of law and the people.
- F. **Israel** [Jacob] sends **Joseph** to check on his **brothers**. “Go now and see about the **welfare of your brothers** and the **welfare of the flock**, and bring word back to me.” Brothers are pastoring the flock and Joseph is sent (the sent one) to them *Joseph oversees the welfare of both his brothers and the Flock.

G. Brothers (pastors)—Flock (people)—Joseph (prophet)

6. THIS WEEK WE SEE JOSEPH AND HOW HE ULTIMATELY RELATES TO PHARAOH!

A. Wise and discerning! — Joseph tells him to appoint commissioners. Notice again the THREE piece authority structure!

(1) Pharaoh—CEO—King

(2) Wise man in charge—CIO—Prophet—Chief of Staff!

(3) Commissioners—Overseers of people—Priests

B. Look again at God's plan for the most prosperous governance! This is God's divine order. There are always three positions: THE KING, THE PROPHET, THE PRIEST

(1) A Pharaoh (Someone with the Ultimate Authority, **the King**)

(2) A King's Direct Servant in charge (Someone who hears from God and advises, wise and discerning **Prophet**)

(3) Commissioners (those who connect to oversee the people, **the Priesthood**)

C. In Business this would equate to:

(1) The CEO—King (Chief Executive Officer)

(2) The CIO—Prophet—Chief of Staff (Chief Integrity Officer—Discerns God's best for the CEO and entire organization)

(3) The CSO—Priest (Chief Serving Officer—The Chaplain,
Head of Human Resources)

D. What does the Pharaoh say about Joseph?

(1) *Since God has made things known to you—the role of
Prophet who advises the king—you are in charge and
answer only to me!

7. PROPHETIC BOMB—BONUS CONTEMPLATION: How does
this biblical pattern of three positions relate to the three crosses
of Calvary?

A. The Messiah

B. The Repentant Sinner

C. The Unrepentant Sinner

D. Which cross represents you and why?