



Portion:

Title:

SCRIPTURES

- Genesis 44:18-47:27
- Philippians 2:5-11
- Genesis 41:37-41
- Matthew 24:45-47

“I AM JOSEPH”

- I Am Savior
- I Am Ruler
- I Am Alive
- I Am Wise & Faithful

It's all beginning to make sense. That's what happens when you finally see the big picture, what Yahweh had planned all along. At times it was just a complete mess; you could see nothing good in the series of disasters that had become your life. But, all of a sudden it all comes into focus. God brought you through this place, to this place, for just such a time as this. Now what?

This is when extreme humility must prevail; and more than humility—absolute meekness. You get to face all the naysayers, everyone who inspired you to give up, those who were bent on helping you curse God for your struggles. You might even come face-to-face with the culprits who were complicit in the whole debacle. They were instrumental in your demise. Now what?

This is the moment in time in which Christ-likeness must abound. "Forgive them Father, they didn't know... Hey, don't worry, it wasn't your fault... This was God's plan all along... And it all happened just so I could help you!" Can you imagine such graciousness, such meekness? You have all the power at your fingertips to make them pay; you have every opportunity to shout from the rooftops, "It's all your fault; I hate you; I told you so!" But instead, you weep and you take hold of those who harmed you in your arms and say, "I love you; I'm here to help you; I'm here to provide for you; don't worry about the past for even a moment; it's all God and I wouldn't change a thing." "I am Joseph."

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE

"Then Joseph said to his brothers, "**I am Joseph**; does my father still live?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed in his presence. And Joseph said to his brothers, "Please come near to me." So they came near. Then he said: "**I am Joseph your brother**, whom you sold into Egypt." Genesis 45:3-4 NKJV

"So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a **father to Pharaoh**, and **Lord of all his house**, and a **ruler throughout all the land of Egypt**. "Hurry and go up to my father, and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph: "**God has made**

me Lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not tarry.” Genesis 45:8-9 NKJV

“And they told him, saying, “**Joseph is still alive**, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt.” And Jacob’s heart stood still, because he did not believe them.” Genesis 45:26 NKJV

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

“that at the name of Jesus **every knee should bow**, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, **and that every tongue should confess** that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Philippians 2:10-11 NKJV

“...“**Why do you seek the living among the dead?** He is not here, but is risen!...” Luke 24:5-6 NKJV

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. The portion begins with the dramatic unveiling of Joseph's true identity and his reconciliation with his brothers. It then proceeds to tell the story of the migration of Jacob's family to Egypt and the rest of the famine years. We begin to set the stage for the Egyptian captivity of the sons of Jacob.
2. Leading up to this:
 - a) Joseph had "commanded the steward of his house" to place his silver cup in the mouth of Benjamin's sack.
 - b) He then instructed his servant to go and seize them on the way back to Canaan.
 - c) ...*"Get up, follow the men; and when you overtake them, say to them, 'Why have you repaid evil for good? Is not this the one from which my Lord drinks, and with which he indeed practices divination? You have done evil in so doing.' "* Genesis 44:4-5 NKJV
 - d) Once the steward "overtook" them, he relayed the words of Joseph to his brothers.
 - e) The steward searched their sacks "beginning with the eldest and ending with the youngest."
 - f) The cup was found in Benjamin's sack, as that was where Joseph had requested it should be planted.

- g) One of the brothers (unarmed) offers to kill anyone in whose possession the cup is found (if any), and agrees that the rest of the brothers would become servants.
- h) Of course, the cup is found among Benjamin's possession, so he must give his life. Now the great drama ensues.

Genesis 44

3. **Judah appeals for Benjamin:** He tells Joseph about his father's attachment and fear of letting Benjamin go to Egypt and how he absolutely cannot go back to Canaan without him.
4. Jacob had said: "If you take this one from me too, something terrible will happen to him, and you will send me—old as I am—to my grave in despair."
5. Judah emphasizes how he had guaranteed Benjamin's safety when he pleaded with Jacob to take him to Egypt, emphasizing to his father that they cannot go back without him or they would be deemed spies (Simeon would likely die).
6. Judah begs to take Benjamin's place as Joseph's slave—anything instead of having to hurt his father so badly [AGAIN!] by not returning with Benjamin!
7. In doing so, he (Judah), unbeknownst to him, reveals to Joseph for the very first time what his father was told happened to him.
 - a) *"Then your servant my father said to us, 'You know that my wife bore me two sons. One left me, and I said, "**Surely he***

has been torn to pieces," and I have never seen him since." Genesis 44:27-28

- b) Up to that very moment Joseph had no idea what his father was made to believe about his whereabouts.
 - c) It is at this very moment that the plot begins to thicken!
8. Could you transport yourself back to such a moment?
- a) What would be your reaction if someone was telling you a story about yourself you knew was entirely untrue?
 - b) Furthermore, the person telling you the story was the perpetrator of the lie?
9. Judah's authentic love for Benjamin and Jacob pierces Joseph's heart (Certainly his hard-hearted brothers have changed.)

Genesis 45

10. Joseph is so moved with emotions that he clears the room and reveals his identity.
- a) "I'm Joseph! Is my father really still alive?"
 - b) His brother's first reaction is terror! They think they are doomed!
11. You can see the depth of emotions here by the very nature of Joseph's revelation.
- a) "Is my father really still alive?"

- b) So, curious as there have been multiple conversations about Jacob and the entire narrative has focused on how devastated he would be if something happened to Benjamin.
- c) OF COURSE HE'S ALIVE, but Joseph's depth of emotion is seemingly immeasurable in the moment!
- d) The timing here is that we are two years into the famine which means Joseph is about 39 years old. And Jacob has believed Joseph's been dead for 22 years!

12. Then, the most extraordinary revelation come out of Joseph's mouth:

- a) "Now, don't be upset and don't be angry with yourselves that you sold me here. Actually, God sent me before you to save lives [**deliver you, save you, be your salvation, Y'shua**].
- b) God sent me before you to make sure you'd survive and to rescue your lives in this amazing way.
- c) You didn't send me here; it was God who made me a father to Pharaoh, master of his entire household, and ruler of the whole land of Egypt."

13. Joseph now excitedly sends his brothers back to get their dad and the whole family, so that they can live near him in Goshen **with all their flocks and herds.**

- a) This is a key point as it is not exactly what Pharaoh says when Joseph asks him permission to do so!

b) “Go tell my father about my power in Egypt and about everything you’ve seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.”

14. This is what Pharaoh says when he hears the news:

- a) “Give your brothers these instructions: Load your pack animals and go back to the land of Canaan.
- b) Get your father and your households and come back to me. Let me provide you with good things from the land of Egypt so that you may eat the land’s best food.
- c) **Give them these instructions too:** Take wagons from the land of Egypt for your children and wives, and pick up your father and come back.
- d) **Don’t worry about your possessions because you will have good things from the entire land of Egypt.” [Leave your old stuff behind.]**

15. The sons return to get the family, “Joseph’s still alive! He’s actually ruler of all the land of Egypt!”

16. Israel [Jacob] is overwhelmed. “This is too much! [It’s been 22 years] My son Joseph is still alive! Let me go and see him **[the salvation of Israel]** before I die.”

17. This seems very much like the words of Simeon in the New Testament when he says he just wants to live long enough to see Y’shua the Messiah and then he can die in peace.

- a) It had been revealed to Simeon, by the Holy Spirit, that he would not see death before he had seen the Yahweh's Messiah.
- b) So when Y'shua's parents brought Him to the temple to be dedicated according to the custom of the law, Simeon took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said: "Yahweh, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, According to Your word; **For my eyes have seen Your salvation** which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel."" (Luke 2:25-32)

Genesis 46

18. Israel (Jacob) packs to move to Egypt and Yahweh says to him in a vision to not be afraid, to go and that He will make him a great nation there.

- a) "I will go down to Egypt with you, and I promise to bring you out again. Joseph will close your eyes when you die."

19. **Here is where it gets glitchy!**

- a) Israel's sons put their father Jacob, their children, and their wives on the wagons Pharaoh had sent to carry him.
- b) **And they take all their livestock and their possessions that they had acquired in the land of Canaan with them.**

- c) THIS IS NOT WHAT PHARAOH SAID TO DO. HE TOLD THEM TO LEAVE THEIR STUFF BACK IN CANAAN AND THAT THEY WOULD GET ALL NEW STUFF!
- d) **If Joseph represents the image of Y'shua in this story (the deliverer), then Pharaoh is the image of Yahweh and ultimately we are bound to His instructions!**

20. The portion goes on to name all of Jacob's household who migrate from Canaan to Egypt (Goshen)—totaling 70.

21. When Jacob arrives, he throws his arms around Joseph and weeps, Now "I can die now after seeing your face. You are really still alive!" [Like Simeon]

22. Joseph tells Pharaoh they have arrived and instructs his family to tell him they are all shepherds which Egyptian's consider second class citizens—this is so they'd be given the fertile land of Goshen to raise livestock.

Genesis 47

23. Joseph goes in to inform Pharaoh, "**My father and brothers with their flocks, herds, and everything they own** have come from the land of Canaan and are now in the land of Goshen."

- a) This would seem to be contrary to Pharaoh's orders.
- b) *"Don't worry about your possessions because you will have good things from the entire land of Egypt."*

24. Pharaoh gives them Goshen and even asks them to take care of his livestock.
25. Jacob is 130 years old and he blesses Pharaoh.
26. As the famine rages on...
- a) the people spend all their silver
 - b) then in the next year, all their livestock
 - c) then in the next year they give all their land and even their very bodies to Pharaoh for food! (except for the priests).
27. So Pharaoh owned everything, the money, the animals, the land and the people. He gives the people seed and they forever must give him back 1/5 of what they produce!
- a) And the people are grateful to become slaves of the King
 - b) "You've saved our lives. If you wish, we will be Pharaoh's slaves." So Joseph made a law that still exists today.
 - c) How prophetic is this? Who does this look like; people happy to become the bondservants of The King!?
28. **This is the exact prophetic picture of the words of Y'shua in Matthew 24:** *"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
- (a) Faithful and wise servant = Joseph

- (b) Ruler of the household = Joseph
- (c) Provider of food in due season (famine) = Joseph!
- (d) Blessed is the servant who is being like A JOSEPH when Y'shua returns!
- (e) Why? Because it will produce the greatest harvest in the history of the world. *"Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." Matthew 9:37-38*
- (f) The people will voluntarily give over their lives to Yahweh!
- (g) "You've saved our lives. If you wish, we will [voluntarily] be Pharaoh's slaves. And that is precisely what a bondservant is, a VOLUNTARY SLAVE! [See Deuteronomy 15:12-18] And also, notice in the New Testament how many times the Disciples of Y'shua refer to themselves as bondservants. i.e. *"Paul, a bondservant of Y'shua Messiah, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God."* (Romans 1:1)
- (h) **Note:** for an in-depth study on the Hebrew bondservant, see the Impact Discipleship teaching (notes and video) from 08/08/2020. **Title:** [The Bondservant and His Master](#)

29. The portion ends with Israel settling in the land of Goshen and becoming VERY numerous.

30. Last Year's teaching on this Portion was: [Emotional Tug-of-War](#)

I AM SAVIOR

1. For Such a Time as This...

A. The Great Backstory

- (1) It has all come down to this...
 - (a) It is now two years into the famine, after the seven years of double portion harvesting and storing way.
 - (b) This makes Joseph 39 years old, as he was 30 when he was drawn from prison, presented to Pharaoh, and subsequently put in charge of the grain program and over all of Egypt.
 - (c) Remember, Joseph was 17 when he was sold into slavery by his brothers, so it is now 22 years later.
 - (d) So much has happened over those years, and as we've learned in previous weeks, each phase of Joseph's life has been symbolized by a wardrobe change! See: [How Do You Each an Elephant?](#) And: [New Wineskins II](#)
 - (e) Now it's time for Joseph to put on the garments of extreme meekness.
 - (f) I can't help but think of Paul's words to Timothy as I consider how Joseph is about to deal with his brothers. Will he be carried away with his power and success, or will he "go lower" and exercise godliness as a serving leader?

1. **Exercise yourself toward godliness:** “If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed. But reject profane and old wives’ fables, and **exercise yourself toward godliness. For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.** This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, **because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men,** especially of those who believe. These things command and teach.” 1 Timothy 4:6-11 NKJV
2. **We brought nothing into this world and certainly we can carry nothing out:** “Now **godliness with contentment is great gain.** For **we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.** And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. **But those who desire** to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a

root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and **pierced themselves through with many sorrows.**" I Timothy 6:6-10 NKJV

3. **Summary of Paul's admonition to Timothy:**

Godliness, which is right living and right priorities in all areas of life, is of great value right now in your life and into eternity. Therefore, it is an excellent and worthwhile practice. Besides, why worry about the things of this world anyway; you were born with nothing and you can't take anything with you when you die. So, hold on loosely to your position and your possessions; in the end they don't mean anything!

(2) Judah's Intercession: Please—let the boy go...take me!

(a) **It's panic time! Please, I beg you, you're the man. Don't do this!** "Then Judah came near to him and said: "O my Lord, **please let your servant speak** a word in my Lord's hearing, and do not let your anger burn against your servant; for you are even like Pharaoh." Genesis 44:18 NKJV

(b) **Take me instead!** "Now therefore, please **let your servant remain instead** of the lad as a slave to my Lord,

and let the lad go up with his brothers.” Genesis 44:33
NKJV

- (c) **Jacob was terribly worried about letting Benjamin go; he already lost a son!** “Then your servant my father said to us, ‘You know that my wife bore me two sons; and the one went out from me, and I said, “**Surely he is torn to pieces**”; and I have not seen him since.’” Genesis 44:27-28 NKJV

1. Enough is enough already. Judah knows he completely screwed up 22 years earlier. He was too passive and instead of just insisting that what his brothers were plotting was wrong, he thought he’d secretly rescue Joseph, only to discover his passivity made him “too late to the game.” But, this time he **MUST** take action. He just can’t let his dad (Jacob) suffer even more.
2. Joseph had already schemed to create pressure on his brothers by putting money back in their sacks and now hiding his “special chalice” in Benjamin’s sack.
3. Jacob was very hesitant about even letting Benjamin go back to Egypt with his brothers (as demanded by Joseph, during his brother’s first trip down to Egypt to get grain.)

4. Remember, when the brothers were first sent back to get Benjamin, Joseph kept Simeon as “collateral. First, Reuben offered that Jacob could even kill his own two sons if he failed to return with Benjamin (Genesis 42:37). Jacob rejected that offer, preferring to abandon Simeon (Genesis 42:19–20, 24) to keep Benjamin safe.
5. Then, Judah pledged Jacob his own life, if he lets anything bad happen to Benjamin, and Jacob relents.
6. Now, Joseph is threatening slavery for the young Benjamin for his “apparent theft.”
7. The brothers were certain no one in their caravan had stolen the “cup” and even offered the life of any guilty party, only to discover it was in Benjamin’s sack.
8. Judah is ready to exchange his own life for Benjamin’s. Certainly this is a big shift for Judah.
9. It is also at this time that Joseph discovers what they told their father about his disappearance. He was torn to pieces by a wild animal. This might explain why his father never came looking for him.
10. Joseph can’t take it anymore. He can’t hide it anymore. He just has to tell them!

B. The Great Reveal

(1) “I am Joseph!”

(a) “Then Joseph said to his brothers, **“I am Joseph; does my father still live?”** But his brothers could not answer him, **for they were dismayed in his presence.**” Genesis 45:3 NKJV

(b) “And Joseph said to his brothers, “Please come near to me.” So they came near. Then he said: **“I am Joseph your brother, whom you sold into Egypt.”** Genesis 45:4 NKJV

1. Okay, let me just blurt it out. “I am Joseph” And I know we’ve been talking about not disappointing your dad all along, but really, he’s still alive!?! Crazy question, but it seems that the brothers are not the only ones in turmoil.
2. And for the brothers, they are utterly speechless! How do you even process that you’ve been dealing all along with the brother you sold out 22 years ago, the one who now has all the power, the one with you’re lives in his hands?
3. Joseph tells them to come closer—take a good look. Behind all this Egyptian makeup, the strange hairstyle, and flashy clothes, is your 17 year old

brother, the one you sold as a slave. But now I'm a mature 39 year old man who is in charge of the most powerful nation on the planet, and the guy who controls the food supply and holds your life in his hands.

4. Now what? Are they toast? Is it revenge time?

C. The Great Deliverance

(1) I was sent here to save you!

(a) "But now, **do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves** because you sold me here; **for God sent me** before you **to preserve life**. For these two years the famine has been in the land, **and there are still five years** in which there will be neither plowing nor harvesting. And **God sent me** before you **to preserve a posterity** for you in the earth, and **to save your lives by a great deliverance.**" Genesis 45:5-7 NKJV

1. This is the moment of truth. Clearly the brothers are shocked and afraid. And, who wouldn't be in their situation?
2. Joseph begins by reassuring them. Don't be upset with yourselves. It wasn't even your fault. God sent me here by using you, just so He could use me to interpret Pharaoh's crazy dreams. Then, God gave me

this excellent plan, which would allow Pharaoh to systematically store enough food to feed, not only his nation, but also the surrounding world, and that means you!

3. My ability to interpret Pharaoh's dreams and my excellent suggestion about storing the grain inspired Pharaoh to make me the ruler over everything in Egypt, except Pharaoh himself.
4. Later on you will see the even bigger prophetic picture of how God will use this food to bring a world into submission to the king.
5. In the meantime, we still have five more years of famine ahead of us and it is glaringly obvious that I have been put in this position to preserve your future generations, our future generations (Israel).
6. It is a great deliverance, which, by the way, is much bigger than what you see here—it is a prophetic picture of how God will redeem the world through His Son, and how feeding people will be instrumental at the end of the age. (More on this later!)

- (2) A brief peek into the **near** future: to affirm that Joseph is not withholding revenge and supporting his brothers only for the sake of his father...
- (a) **“When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “Perhaps Joseph will hate us, and may actually repay us for all the evil which we did to him.”... Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive. Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones.”** And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.” Genesis 50:15, 19-21 NKJV
1. Let me reiterate...I did not withhold my anger and your punishment just because dad would have been upset.
 2. Listen, we all know that you had evil intentions when you sold me into slavery. But, I assure you, even though you meant it to hurt me, Yahweh allowed it for a much greater purpose. It was not about us. It was about saving an untold number of lives and the preservation of Israel itself.

3. And, really, it was not even just for the present time, but has a much greater prophetic implication for the entire future of mankind. When you think of it this way, my 13 years of suffering is but a blip on the screen of history.
 4. So, stop worrying; I will continue to provide for you and your little ones.
- (3) A lesson from Job: We all must learn to trust God no matter what.
- (a) “Then his wife said to him, “Do you still hold fast to your integrity? **Curse God and die!**” But he said to her, “You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. **Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?**” In all this Job did not sin with his lips.” Job 2:9-10 NKJV
1. Job says it as good as anyone. Is God just here for us to make things easy, and thus we praise Him for how good He makes it for us? Or, is adversity also part of the plan and the real secret is to bless God no matter how hard things get?
 2. Yes, Joseph chose to bless Yahweh every step of the way. And God used him to save “the world”.

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1. Okay, let me just blurt it out. "I am Joseph" And I know we've been talking about not disappointing your dad all along, but really, he's still alive!? Crazy question, but it seems that the brothers are not the only ones in turmoil.
2. And for the brothers, they are utterly speechless! How do you even process that you've been dealing all along with the brother you sold out 22 years ago, the one who now has all the power, the one with you're lives in his hands?
3. Joseph tells them to come closer—take a good look. Behind all this Egyptian makeup, the strange

hairstyle, and flashy clothes, is your 17 year old brother, the one you sold as a slave. But now I'm a mature 39 year old man who is in charge of the most powerful nation on the planet, and the guy who controls the food supply and holds your life in his hands.

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3. My ability to interpret Pharaoh's dreams and my excellent suggestion about storing the grain inspired

Pharaoh to make me the ruler over everything in Egypt, except Pharaoh himself.

4. Later on you will see the even bigger prophetic picture of how God will use this food to bring a world into submission to the king.
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(a) Jacob dies...

1. Let me reiterate...I did not withhold my anger and your punishment just because dad would have been upset.

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 3. And, really, it was not even just for the present time, but has a much greater prophetic implication for the entire future of mankind. When you think of it this way, my 13 years of suffering is but a blip on the screen of history.
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- (a) Curse God and die?
 1. Job says it as good as anyone. Is God just here for us to make things easy, and thus we praise Him for how good He makes it for us? Or, is adversity also part of the plan and the real secret is to bless God no matter how hard things get?
 2. Yes, Joseph chose to bless Yahweh every step of the way. And God used him to save “the world”.

I AM RULER

2. Not Just Surviving, but Thriving!

A. Father, Lord, and Ruler

(1) God sent me here...

- (a) "So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a **father to Pharaoh**, and **Lord of all his house**, and a **ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.**"

Genesis 45:8 NKJV

(2) God made me Lord over all of Egypt...

- (a) ""Hurry and go up to my father, and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph: "**God has made me Lord of all Egypt**; come down to me, do not tarry."

Genesis 45:9
NKJV

1. Listen, I didn't just survive the evil you intended, I came out on top. I am here in the most powerful nation in the world and I am the key advisor to the king; I am in charge of his personal life; and I pretty much rule the entire nation, other than if the king wants to weigh in on things. It's like I'm the master over the entire country.

B. It's a bowing festival!

(1) Joseph's Original Dreams

- (a) “There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Then behold, my sheaf arose and also stood upright; **and indeed your sheaves stood all around and bowed down to my sheaf.**” Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, “Look, I have dreamed another dream. **And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me.**”” Genesis 37:7, 9 NKJV
- (2) After Joseph is made ruler in Egypt
- (a) “And he had him ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried out before him, **“Bow the knee!”** So he set him over all the land of Egypt.” Genesis 41:43 NKJV
- (3) His brothers bow the knee
- (a) “Now Joseph was governor over the land; and it was he who sold to all the people of the land. **And Joseph’s brothers came and bowed down before him with their faces to the earth.**” Genesis 42:6 NKJV
- (b) “And when Joseph came home, they brought him the present which was in their hand into the house, **and bowed down before him to the earth.**” Genesis 43:26 NKJV

- (c) “And they answered, “Your servant our father is in good health; he is still alive.” **And they bowed their heads down and prostrated themselves.**” Genesis 43:28 NKJV
- (4) Every knee shall bow...
- (a) “that at the name of Jesus **every knee should bow**, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess **that Jesus Christ is Lord**, to the glory of God the Father.” Philippians 2:10-11 NKJV
1. Every knee shall bow—can you see the imagery of Christ in the life of Joseph? He is made lord and every brother bowed to him (multiple times), and every citizen of Egypt was made to bow to him.
 2. All this bowing could certainly go to his head. It is the type of thing that could make a man “believe his own press.”
 3. So, with all these accolades and all this power, what does Joseph do? How does he act?

C. Extreme Meekness

- (1) Joseph acts like a man with absolute power tempered with extreme humility, just like we witness later with Y’shua!
- (a) **It’s My choice!** ““Therefore My Father loves Me, because **I lay down My life** that I may take it again. **No**

one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.”” John 10:17-18 NKJV

- (b) **Your will Father!** “Then Jesus came with them to a place called **Gethsemane**, and said to the disciples, “Sit here while I go and pray over there.” And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, **“My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death.** Stay here and watch with Me.” He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, “O My Father, **if it is possible**, let this cup pass from Me; **nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.**”” Matthew 26:36-39 NKJV
- (c) **It’s not the time!** “But Jesus said to him, “Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. **Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?**” Matthew 26:52-53 NKJV
- (d) **You have no power over Me!** “Then Pilate said to Him, “Are You not speaking to me? **Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?**” Jesus answered, **“You could have no power at all**

against Me unless it had been given you from above.

Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin.”” John 19:10-11 NKJV

(e) **Forgive them!** “Then Jesus said, **“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”** And they divided His garments and cast lots.” Luke 23:34 NKJV

1. Let’s get right to the best possible example of meekness. I have at My disposal the power and authority to destroy every person who was complicit in My torture, and instead I forgive them and pray from them. They (just like Joseph’s brothers) don’t know what they are doing.
2. And even in a moment of extreme fear and sorrow, when I have the option to take the easy way out, to save My own life, I choose the will of My Father, to lay My life down.
3. And when man somehow concludes that he has power over Me, I am sure to straighten out his wrong thinking—“I have all the power; you have no power over Me AT ALL!”
4. Let Me be perfectly clear, I have the authority to wipe out all of you with a simple command from My lips. And yet, I choose to sacrifice Myself for your benefit!

5. Let's call this meekness—absolute power tempered with extreme humility!

(2) The Meekness Sermon: Words of absolute power tempered with extreme humility?

(a) **“Blessed are the poor in spirit,** For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **Blessed are those who mourn,** For they shall be comforted. **Blessed are the meek,** For they shall inherit the earth. **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,** For they shall be filled. **Blessed are the merciful,** For they shall obtain mercy. **Blessed are the pure in heart,** For they shall see God. **Blessed are the peacemakers,** For they shall be called sons of God. **Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,** For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **“Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you,** and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:3-12 NKJV

(b) **“You are the salt of the earth;** but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. **“You are the light of the world.** A city that is set

on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. **Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.**" Matthew 5:13-16
NKJV

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit
2. Blessed are those who mourn
3. Blessed are the meek
4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness
5. Blessed are the merciful
6. Blessed are the pure in heart
7. Blessed are the peacemakers
8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake
9. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you
10. You are the salt of the earth
11. You are the light of the world
12. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

D. Everything You Need for Life and Godliness

- (1) Joseph has the "knowledge of God"—the bigger picture...

- (a) “Grace and peace be multiplied to you in **the knowledge of God** and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power **has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness**, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,” II Peter 1:2-3 NKJV
- (2) I am your provider...
- (a) “You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near to me, you and your children, your children’s children, your flocks and your herds, and all that you have. **There I will provide for you**, lest you and your household, and all that you have, come to poverty; for there are still five years of famine.” Genesis 45:10-11 NKJV
- (3) I am glorious
- (a) ““And behold, your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my mouth that speaks to you. So you shall **tell my father of all my glory in Egypt**, and of all that you have seen; and you shall hurry and bring my father down here.”” Genesis 45:12-13 NKJV
- (4) I am compassionate...
- (a) “Then he fell on his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, and Benjamin **wept on his neck**. Moreover he **kissed all**

his brothers and wept over them, and after that his brothers talked with him.” Genesis 45:14-15 NKJV

(5) I am highly favored

(a) “Now the report of it was heard in Pharaoh’s house, saying, “Joseph’s brothers have come.” So **it pleased Pharaoh and his servants well**. And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Say to your brothers, ‘Do this: Load your animals and depart; go to the land of Canaan. Bring your father and your households and come to me; **I will give you the best of the land of Egypt, and you will eat the fat of the land.**” Genesis 45:16-18 NKJV

(b) “Now you are commanded—do this: Take carts out of the land of Egypt for your little ones and your wives; bring your father and come. Also **do not be concerned about your goods, for the best of all the land of Egypt is yours.**’ ”” Genesis 45:19-20 NKJV

(6) I am in command

(a) “Then the sons of Israel did so; **and Joseph gave them carts, according to the command of Pharaoh**, and he gave them provisions for the journey. He gave to all of them, to each man, changes of garments; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver and five changes of garments. And he sent to his father these

things: ten donkeys loaded with the good things of Egypt, and ten female donkeys loaded with grain, bread, and food for his father for the journey. So he sent his brothers away, and they departed; and he said to them, "See that you do not become troubled along the way."

Genesis 45:21-24 NKJV

1. Joseph clearly has the knowledge of God and correct priorities. And he has been blessed and highly favored!
2. He has everything at his disposal to provide for his family.
3. He has a glorious position in the most powerful nation in the world, yet he remains sensitive and compassionate.
4. He has such favor that he has permission to give the BEST of what Egypt offers to his family, with Pharaoh's full blessing.
5. He has so much abundance that his family need not bring a thing with them. They can leave everything behind and start all over—rich beyond imagination.

Summary: I AM RULER

2. Not Just Surviving, but Thriving!

A. Father, Lord, and Ruler

(1) God sent me here...

(a) God made me Lord over all of Egypt...

1. Listen, I didn't just survive the evil you intended, I came out on top. I am here in the most powerful nation in the world and I am the key advisor to the king; I am in charge of his personal life; and I pretty much rule the entire nation, other than if the king wants to weigh in on things. It's like I'm the master over the entire country.

B. It's a bowing festival!

(1) Joseph's Original Dreams; After Joseph is made ruler in Egypt; His brothers bow the knee...

(a) Every knee shall bow...

1. Every knee shall bow—can you see the imagery of Christ in the life of Joseph? He is made lord and every brother bowed to him (multiple times), and every citizen of Egypt was made to bow to him.
2. All this bowing could certainly go to his head. It is the type of thing that could make a man "believe his own press."

3. So, with all these accolades and all this power, what does Joseph do? How does he act?

C. Extreme Meekness

- (1) Joseph acts like a man with absolute power tempered with extreme humility!

(a) Meekness

1. Let's get right to the best possible example of meekness. I have at My disposal the power and authority to destroy every person who was complicit in My torture, and instead I forgive them and pray from them. They (just like Joseph's brothers) don't know what they are doing.
2. And even in a moment of extreme fear and sorrow, when I have the option to take the easy way out, to save My own life, I choose the will of My Father, to lay My life down.
3. And when man somehow concludes that he has power over Me, I am sure to straighten out his wrong thinking—"I have all the power; you have no power over Me AT ALL!"
4. Let Me be perfectly clear, I have the authority to wipe out all of you with a simple command from My lips. And yet, I choose to sacrifice Myself for your benefit!

5. Let's call this meekness—absolute power tempered with extreme humility!
- (2) The Meekness Sermon: Words of absolute power tempered with extreme humility?
- (a) The Sermon on the Mount
1. Blessed are the poor in spirit
 2. Blessed are those who mourn
 3. Blessed are the meek
 4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness
 5. Blessed are the merciful
 6. Blessed are the pure in heart
 7. Blessed are the peacemakers
 8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake
 9. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you
 10. You are the salt of the earth
 11. You are the light of the world
 12. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

D. Everything You Need for Life and Godliness

- (1) Joseph has the “knowledge of God”—the bigger picture...
 - (a) All things that pertain to life and godliness

1. Joseph clearly has the knowledge of God and correct priorities. And he has been blessed and highly favored!
2. He has everything at his disposal to provide for his family.
3. He has a glorious position in the most powerful nation in the world, yet he remains sensitive and compassionate.
4. He has such favor that he has permission to give the BEST of what Egypt offers to his family, with Pharaoh's full blessing.
5. He has so much abundance that his family need not bring a thing with them. They can leave everything behind and start all over—rich beyond imagination.

I AM ALIVE

3. He is Risen

A. I Am NOT Dead; I Am Alive

(1) Joseph is ALIVE!

- (a) “Then they went up out of Egypt, and came to the land of Canaan to Jacob their father. And they told him, saying, “**Joseph is still alive**, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt.” **And Jacob's heart stood still,**

because he did not believe them. But when they told him all the words which Joseph had said to them, and when he saw the carts which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived. Then Israel said, “It is enough. **Joseph my son is still alive.** I will go and see him before I die.”” Genesis 45:25-28 NKJV

(2) Y’shua is ALIVE!

(a) “Then, as they [**Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome—Mark’s Gospel**] were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? **He is not here, but is risen!** Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, ‘The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.’ ”” Luke 24:5-7 NKJV

1. Jacob is told the Joseph is alive, however...
2. Joseph has been in the tomb in Jacob’s mind for 22 years.
3. So, at first he can’t believe it!
4. But, with a little explanation and some persuasion, Jacob declares...”Joseph my son is still alive.”

5. When (Mary, Mary and Salome) went looking for Y'shua in the tomb they were confronted by the risen Lord. "He is not here, but is risen!"
6. It was so difficult to believe that they could not even recognize Him at first.
7. Stop looking for the living in dead men's tombs!
8. Joseph is alive! Y'shua is alive!

B. What to do with Your NEW Life

- (1) What does the risen Lord do for us?
 - (a) "His divine power **has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness**, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue," II Peter 1:3 NKJV
- (2) What does the risen Joseph do for Israel?
 - (a) "Then Pharaoh spoke to Joseph, saying, "Your father and your brothers have come to you. **The land of Egypt is before you. Have your father and brothers dwell in the best of the land; let them dwell in the land of Goshen.** And if you know any competent men among them, then make them chief herdsman over my livestock."" Genesis 47:5-6 NKJV
1. In Christ we have everything we need for a life of perfect balance, priorities, power, influence and provision.

2. Joseph had the power and authority to not only bring his family to Egypt, but to give them the BEST of Egypt.

Summary: I AM ALIVE

3. He is Risen

A. I Am NOT Dead; I Am Alive

- (1) Joseph is ALIVE! Y'shua is ALIVE!
 - (a) He is not here, but is risen!
 1. Jacob is told the Joseph is alive, however...
 2. Joseph has been in the tomb in Jacob's mind for 22 years.
 3. So, at first he can't believe it!
 4. But, with a little explanation and some persuasion, Jacob declares..."Joseph my son is still alive."
 5. When (Mary, Mary and Salome) went looking for Y'shua in the tomb they were confronted by the risen Lord. "He is not here, but is risen!"
 6. It was so difficult to believe that they could not even recognize Him at first.
 7. Stop looking for the living in dead men's tombs!
 8. Joseph is alive! Y'shua is alive!

B. What to do with Your NEW Life

(2) What does the risen Joseph do for Israel?

(a) Every Godly Thing!

1. In Christ we have everything we need for a life of perfect balance, priorities, power, influence and provision.
2. Joseph had the power and authority to not only bring his family to Egypt, but to give them the BEST of Egypt.

I AM WISE & FAITHFUL

4. Who will feed the people when there is no food?

A. The Wise and Faithful Servant

(1) Looking back at how it all turned around for Joseph...

- (a) **“Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, “The dreams of Pharaoh are one;** God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do: The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good heads are seven years; the dreams are one. And the seven thin and ugly cows which came up after them are seven years, and the seven empty heads blighted by the east wind are seven years of famine. This is the thing which I have spoken to Pharaoh. God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do. Indeed seven years of great plenty will come throughout all the land of Egypt;

but after them seven years of famine will arise, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine will deplete the land. So the plenty will not be known in the land because of the famine following, for it will be very severe. And the dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass. **“Now therefore, let Pharaoh select a discerning and wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt.** Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, to collect one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt in the seven plentiful years. **And let them gather all the food of those good years** that are coming, and store up grain under the authority of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities. **Then that food shall be as a reserve for the land for the seven years of famine** which shall be in the land of Egypt, that the land may not perish during the famine.”” Genesis 41:25-36 NKJV

- (b) “So the advice was good in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of all his servants. And Pharaoh said to his servants, **“Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom is the Spirit of God?”** Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, **“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.'" Genesis 41:37-41 NKJV

(2) Who is the faithful and wise servant? Who will give the people food during the famine? Y'shua asked that very question!

(a) "'Who then is a **faithful and wise servant**, whom his master made **ruler over his household**, to **give them food in due season?**" Matthew 24:45 NKJV

(b) "**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 24:46-47 NKJV

1. Pharaoh is disturbed by dreams and none of his magicians can interpret them.
2. Joseph is summoned from prison and tells Pharaoh that Yahweh can easily bring meaning to dreams.
3. Joseph proceeds in the interpretation and also lends advice about what Pharaoh should do about it. "Let them gather all the food of those good years...then

that food shall be as a reserve for the land for the seven years of famine.”

4. He suggests that Pharaoh find “a discerning and wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt.”
5. Pharaoh is so impressed with Joseph that he declares, “Who else could I possibly find who has the Spirit of God like Joseph?”
6. And, “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!”
7. So, in Matthew 24, when Y’shua asks, “Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season [the time of famine]?” “I will make him ruler over all My goods.”
8. Who do you think He is referring to?
9. Answer: “I Am Joseph!”

B. The Great Harvest: Lives for Food

(1) The Sequence of Deliverance

- (a) “**Now there was no bread in all the land; for the famine was very severe,** so that the land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished because of the famine. And

Joseph gathered up all the money that was found in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, for the grain which they bought; and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house. **So when the money failed** in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came to Joseph and said, "Give us bread, for why should we die in your presence? For the money has failed." **Then Joseph said, "Give your livestock,** and I will give you bread for your livestock, if the money is gone." So they brought their livestock to Joseph, and Joseph gave them bread in exchange for the horses, the flocks, the cattle of the herds, and for the donkeys. Thus he fed them with bread in exchange for all their livestock that year. When that year had ended, they came to him the next year and said to him, "We will not hide from my Lord that our money is gone; my Lord also has our herds of livestock. **There is nothing left in the sight of my Lord but our bodies and our lands.** Why should we die before your eyes, both we and our land? **Buy us and our land for bread, and we and our land will be servants of Pharaoh;** give us seed, that we may live and not die, that the land may not be desolate." Then Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh;

for every man of the Egyptians sold his field, because the famine was severe upon them. **So the land became Pharaoh's.** And as for the people, he moved them into the cities, from one end of the borders of Egypt to the other end. Only the land of the priests he did not buy; for the priests had rations allotted to them by Pharaoh, and they ate their rations which Pharaoh gave them; therefore they did not sell their lands. Then Joseph said to the people, **"Indeed I have bought you and your land this day for Pharaoh.** Look, here is seed for you, and you shall sow the land. And it shall come to pass in the harvest that you shall give one-fifth to Pharaoh. Four-fifths shall be your own, as seed for the field and for your food, for those of your households and as food for your little ones." So they said, **"You have saved our lives; let us find favor in the sight of my Lord, and we will be Pharaoh's servants."** And Joseph made it a law over the land of Egypt to this day, that Pharaoh should have one-fifth, except for the land of the priests only, which did not become Pharaoh's." Genesis 47:13-26 NKJV

1. The famine rages on...there was no bread in all the land.

2. The people spend all their money for food.
3. Then the next year, they trade all their livestock for food.
4. Then the following year they give all their land and even their very bodies to Pharaoh for food (except for the priests).
5. So Pharaoh owned everything, the money, the animals, the land and the people. He gives the people seed and they forever must give him back 1/5 of what they produce!
6. And how do the people feel about becoming bondservants of the King? They are grateful! You've saved our lives.
7. So, Joseph make a law about it that still exists today!
8. How prophetic is this? Who does this look like; a people happy to become the bondservants of The King!?
9. **“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus [in other words, you should prepare to play the role of Y’shua and Joseph],** who, being in the form of God **[Pharaoh]**, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God **[Pharaoh]**, but made Himself of no reputation, **taking the form of a bondservant,** and

coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death **[all of Joseph's suffering]**, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name **[Joseph's power, authority and reputation in Egypt]**, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, **[They all bowed to Joseph]** and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Philippians 2:5-11 NKJV

(b) **AGAIN—the exact prophetic picture of the words of Y'shua in Matthew 24:** *"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

1. Faithful and wise servant = Joseph
2. Ruler of the household = Joseph
3. Provider of food in due season (famine) = Joseph!

4. Blessed is the servant who is being like A JOSEPH when Y'shua returns!

(c) Why? Because it will produce the greatest harvest in the history of the world.

1. *“Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” Matthew 9:37-38*
2. The people will voluntarily give over their lives to Yahweh!
3. *“You’ve saved our lives. If you wish, we will [voluntarily] be Pharaoh’s slaves.*
4. And that is precisely what a bondservant is, a VOLUNTARY SLAVE! [See Deuteronomy 15:12-18]
5. And also, notice in the New Testament how many times the Disciples of Y'shua refer to themselves as bondservants. i.e. *“Paul, a bondservant of Y'shua Messiah, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God.” (Romans 1:1)*

C. “You are Joseph!”

- (1) When there is no food...
 - (a) **“Now there was no bread in all the land;** for the famine was very severe, so that the land of Egypt and the land

of Canaan languished because of the famine.” Genesis 47:13 NKJV

(2) Where will we get bread to feed so many people (in the time of famine)?

(a) All four Gospels have the narrative about the feeding of the 5000. It is the only miracle—aside from the resurrection—recorded in all four gospels. (Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-14)

1. **Matthew:** “When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, “**This is a deserted place**, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and **buy themselves food.**” But Jesus said to them, “They do not need to go away. **You give them something to eat.**”” Matthew 14:15-16 NKJV

2. **Mark:** “And He said to them, “Come aside by yourselves to **a deserted place** and rest a while.” For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat. When the day was now far spent, His disciples came to Him and said, “**This is a deserted place**, and already the hour is late. But He answered and said to them, “**You give them something to eat.**” And they said to Him, “**Shall we**

go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give them something to eat?" Mark 6:31, 35, 37 NKJV

3. **Luke:** "And the apostles, when they had returned, told Him all that they had done. Then He took them and went aside privately **into a deserted place** belonging to the city called Bethsaida. But He said to them, **"You give them something to eat."** And they said, **"We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we go and buy food for all these people."** Luke 9:10, 13 NKJV

(b) This is a test! (John: The Prophetic Version)

1. "Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, **"Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?"** **But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do."** John 6:5-6 NKJV

(c) We are in a deserted place and there is no food (sound familiar?); You feed the people!

1. In Matthew, Mark and Luke we see the imagery of a place in which many people are hungry and they have no food.

2. Y'shua tells His disciples, *"You give them something to eat."*
3. Of course, they balk at the idea. Where can we possibly find food to feed so many people in such a remote and desolate place? We are not prepared for this.
4. But then in the Prophetic Gospel, John records a few other details. First we see that Y'shua is specifically addressing Philip and the perspective here is not, *"You give them something to eat"*, but rather, *"Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?"*
5. And then for the prophetic exclamation point. *"But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do."*
6. The disciples are being tested to see if they can access the story of Joseph, to think like Joseph. And Joseph was not special because of what he did in the natural; he was special because he acknowledged that the revelation was supernatural! *"So Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace." Genesis 41:16 NKJV*

7. In other words, *“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”* Philippians 4:13 NKJV
8. It would not be until later in His ministry that Y’shua fills in the gap of knowledge for them... *“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
9. Listen all you disciples, think like Joseph and when Y’shua asks you, *“Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?”* you will be prepared to feed the people in a desolate place!
10. This He said to “test him”, and this is your test...and this is your preparation!

(3) Again for the fourth consecutive teaching! Ministers of Reconciliation!

- (a) “Therefore, **if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;** old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now **all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,** that is, that God

was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, **we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.** For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, **that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**" II Corinthians 5:17-21 NKJV

1. *"But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do."*
2. What was He was about to do? He was about to demonstrate what would be available to us if we are willing to take on the ministry of reconciliation. In other words, "on earth as it is in heaven!"
3. He wants to use us as if He is working all things that He is capable of doing through us!
4. So, when He says, *"You give them something to eat"*, you say, "Yes sir, I am the faithful and wise servant; I am Joseph!"

Summary: I AM WISE & FAITHFUL

4. Who will feed the people when there is no food?

A. The Wise and Faithful Servant

(1) Looking back at how it all turned around for Joseph...

(a) Who is the faithful and wise servant? Who will give the people food during the famine? Y'shua asked that very question!

1. Pharaoh is disturbed by dreams and none of his magicians can interpret them.
2. Joseph is summoned from prison and tells Pharaoh that Yahweh can easily bring meaning to dreams.
3. Joseph proceeds in the interpretation and also lends advice about what Pharaoh should do about it. "Let them gather all the food of those good years...then that food shall be as a reserve for the land for the seven years of famine."
4. He suggests that Pharaoh find "a discerning and wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt."
5. Pharaoh is so impressed with Joseph that he declares, "Who else could I possibly find who has the Spirit of God like Joseph?"
6. And, "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!"

7. So, in Matthew 24, when Y'shua asks, "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season [the time of famine]?" "I will make him ruler over all My goods."
8. Who do you think He is referring to?
9. Answer: "I Am Joseph!"

B. The Great Harvest: Lives for Food

(1) The Sequence of Deliverance

(a) Now there was no bread in all the land; for the famine was very severe...

1. The famine rages on...there was no bread in all the land.
2. The people spend all their money for food.
3. Then the next year, they trade all their livestock for food.
4. Then the following year they give all their land and even their very bodies to Pharaoh for food (except for the priests).
5. So Pharaoh owned everything, the money, the animals, the land and the people. He gives the

people seed and they forever must give him back 1/5 of what they produce!

6. And how do the people feel about becoming bondservants of the King? They are grateful! You've saved our lives.
7. So, Joseph make a law about it that still exists today!
8. How prophetic is this? Who does this look like; a people happy to become the bondservants of The King!?
9. You should prepare to play the role of Y'shua and Joseph. Every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth...

(b) AGAIN—the exact prophetic picture of the words of Y'shua in Matthew 24:45-37

1. Faithful and wise servant = Joseph
2. Ruler of the household = Joseph
3. Provider of food in due season (famine) = Joseph!
4. Blessed is the servant who is being like A JOSEPH when Y'shua returns!

(c) Why? Because it will produce the greatest harvest in the history of the world. *Matthew 9:37-38*

1. The people will voluntarily give over their lives to Yahweh!

2. “You’ve saved our lives. If you wish, we will [voluntarily] be Pharaoh’s slaves.
3. And that is precisely what a bondservant is, a VOLUNTARY SLAVE! [See Deuteronomy 15:12-18]
4. And also, notice in the New Testament how many times the Disciples of Y’shua refer to themselves as bondservants. i.e. *“Paul, a bondservant of Y’shua Messiah, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God.” (Romans 1:1)*

C. “You are Joseph!”

- (1) When there is no food...Where will we get bread to feed so many people (in the time of famine)?
 - (a) All four Gospels have the narrative about the feeding of the 5000. It is the only miracle—aside from the resurrection—recorded in all four gospels. (Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-14)
 - (b) We are in a deserted place and there is no food (sound familiar?); You feed the people!
 1. In Matthew, Mark and Luke we see the imagery of a place in which many people are hungry and they have no food.
 2. Y’shua tells His disciples, *“You give them something to eat.”*

3. Of course, they balk at the idea. Where can we possibly find food to feed so many people in such a remote and desolate place? We are not prepared for this.
4. But then in the Prophetic Gospel, John records a few other details. First we see that Y'shua is specifically addressing Philip and the perspective here is not, *"You give them something to eat"*, but rather, *"Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?"*
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Matthew 24:45-47

9. Listen all you disciples, think like Joseph and when Y'shua asks you, *"Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?"* you will be prepared to feed the people in a desolate place!

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(2) Again for the fourth consecutive teaching! Ministers of Reconciliation!

(a) If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation...

1. *"But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do."*

2. What was He was about to do? He was about to demonstrate what would be available to us if we are willing to take on the ministry of reconciliation. In other words, *"on earth as it is in heaven!"*

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4. So, when He says, *“You give them something to eat”*, you say, *“Yes sir, I am the faithful and wise servant; I am Joseph!”*

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

- 1. Discuss the series of interactions Joseph had with his brothers leading up to the “big reveal” of his true identity.**
 - A. Joseph’s brothers are frightened at first, but what does Joseph say to assuage their fears?
 - B. After the death of Jacob, what do the brothers think will happen?
 - C. How does Joseph assure them?
- 2. Joseph is thriving in Egypt when his brothers arrive for food...**
 - A. How are Joseph’s original dreams fulfilled?
 - B. What four roles is Joseph playing in Egypt?
 - C. What does he tell his brothers that shows that he has everything he needs for life and godliness?
- 3. Describe how Joseph demonstrates extreme meekness in the presence of his brothers.**
 - A. Use the life and words of Y’shua to affirm Joseph’s approach.

- 4. Compare the revelation to Jacob that Joseph is alive to the revelation to the disciples that Y'shua is alive.**
- 5. Prove using Genesis 41 that Joseph is the faithful and wise servant Y'shua is referring to in Matthew 24.**
- 6. Discuss the sequence of deliverance of the people during the seven years of famine in Egypt.**
 - A. How does the final outcome of their deliverance relate to our deliverance as believers?
- 7. How does the feeding of the 5000 in all four Gospels relate to Joseph's feeding of the people in the time of famine?**
 - A. What is the unique feature of that narrative that only appears in John's Gospel?
 - B. How might that relate to our role at the end of the age?