

# THE JOSEPH CHRONICLES

## The Test of the Prison

Gen 39:20- 41:1

### *The Joseph Chronicles*

There are some things that God has to change in us before He can do what He plans to do for us!

- 1) The Test of the Pit - take responsibility for your character
- 2) The Test of the Pot - protect your character from compromise.
- 3) The Test of the Prison

### The Issue that the test reveals

So Potiphar arrested Joseph and put him into the **prison** where the king's prisoners were put. And Joseph **stayed** there in the prison. But the **LORD** was with Joseph in the **prison** and showed him his faithful **love**. And the LORD made Joseph a **favorite** with the prison warden. Before long, the warden put Joseph **in charge** of all the other prisoners and over everything that happened in the prison. The warden had no more **worries**, because Joseph took care of everything. (Genesis 39:20-23, NLT)

**When we carry our load, we lighten the load of others.**

The LORD was with him and caused everything he did to **succeed**. (Genesis 39:23, NLT)

**The character issue is the need to build the strength of your character.**

**You cannot expect penthouse lives from outhouse character.**

### The Change that Must be Made

- 1) Persevere in doing the **right** thing even when you are **wronged**.

Some **time** later... (Genesis 40:1, NLT)

- 2) Focus on **God** first, **people** second, and **everything else** after that.

Some **time** later, Pharaoh's chief **cup-bearer** and chief **baker** offended their royal master. Pharaoh became angry with these two officials, and he put them in the prison where Joseph was, in the palace of the captain of the guard. They remained in prison for **quite some time**, and the captain of the guard assigned them to Joseph, who **looked after** them. While they were in prison, Pharaoh's cup-bearer and baker each had a dream one night, and each dream had its own meaning. When Joseph saw them the next morning, he **noticed** that they both looked upset. "Why do you look so **worried** today?" he asked them. And they replied, "We both had **dreams** last night, but no one can tell us what they mean." "Interpreting dreams is **God's business**," Joseph replied. "Go ahead and **tell me** your dreams." So the chief cup-bearer told Joseph his dream first... (Genesis 40:1-9, NLT)

- 3) Deal with the **flaws** your trials reveal.

And please **remember me** and **do me a favor** when things go well for you. **Mention me** to Pharaoh, so he might **let me out** of this place. For I was kidnapped from my homeland, the land of the Hebrews, and now I'm here in prison, but I did nothing to deserve it." (Genesis 40:14-15, NLT)

**Manipulation stunts your growth!**

Pharaoh's chief cup-bearer, however, **forgot** all about Joseph, never giving him another thought. When **two full years** had passed, Pharaoh had a dream... (Genesis 40:23-41:1, NLT-NIV)

**The strength of your character is never any greater than depth of your trust!**