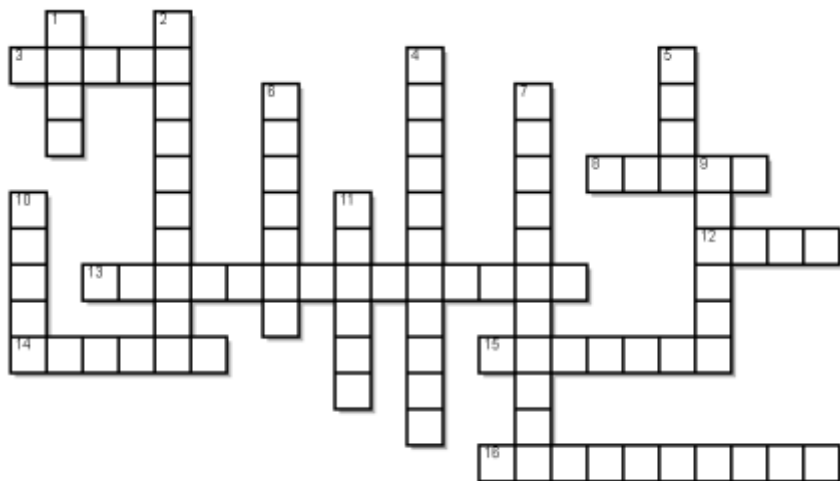


Joseph and His Difficult Life



ACROSS

- 3 God will _____ Heb 10:30
- 8 Profession of one of Joseph's co-prisoners
- 12 God gave these people over to their _____ affections Rom 1:26-27
- 13 We should control our bodies and lives in s_____ and h. 1Th 4:3-4
- 14 Which of Joseph's brothers interceded to kill the others from killing him? Gen 37:21
- 15 How does God consider the man that endures temptation without succumbing James 1:12
- 16 God gives the _____ of their error to those who follow vile affections.

DOWN

- 1 What burned in these sexually filthy people Rom 1:26-27
- 2 God will _____ Heb 10:30
- 4 God's will is that we abstain from _____ 1Th 4:3-4
- 5 What Potiphar's wife accused Joseph of Gen 39:17
- 6 The _____ of the guard charged Joseph with them Gen 40:4
- 7 What we receive when we resist temptation James 1:12 (3 words without spaces)
- 9 What were Joseph's brothers attitude towards Joseph? Gen 37:11
- 10 We should control our bodies and lives in s_____ and h_____ 1Th 4:3-4
- 11 The kings prisoners were taken where? Gen 39:20

Joseph and His Difficult Life

By David Cox © 2010



Sunday School Series 1 Volume 2

<https://www.cocontracts.com/sst1/ssteen1-02-sexual-purity-joseph-and-his-difficult-life/>

Bible Reading: Genesis 37:3-11

Why was Joseph a slave in Egypt? Was not it because his brothers sold him as a common slave when he was his father's favorite son? If you or I had been in his place, we would have had much to complain about and murmur against the things that God was doing in his life. Joseph, being faithful to God and seeking to serve God, for him, everything went wrong. It seems that his life almost came to an end several times throughout the history of Joseph.

Heb 10:30 *For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.*

But we see something in Joseph's character that made him God's favorite also in addition to his father's favorite. This element is that Joseph accepted everything good and bad that happened in his life, everything that God gave him in his hand as if it were good and just for him. He did not complain, his attitude did not become bitter, and he did not take a murmuring attitude and accuse God and others for everything bad in his life.

Rom 8:28 *And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.* There is a very important principle in the life of Joseph. This principle is that a good Christian

Accept the good AND bad things that God commands or allow as if all were great blessing even though they don't appear as such at the moment.

Bible Reading: Genesis 39:1-20

First, it was wrong for his brothers to sell him into slavery. But from this bad event in his life, God got him to Egypt. Then another bad event happened when the wife of Potiphar wanted to sexually abuse him. But Joseph remained pure, and from there, Joseph ended up in prison meeting other servants of the Pharaoh. Then when Joseph helped the baker and the chief cupbearer (chief of the cupbearers is someone who tests the drinks served to Pharaoh to see if he has poison or not), Joseph helped them, but then forgot about him. It was not fair that they forgot about Joseph. The strength of Joseph's character was not to be bitter about all the "bad" things that were happening to him. In addition, Joseph demonstrated a strong resistance to sexual temptation.

James 1:12 *Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.*

If we truly love God with all our heart, we will seek to resist the temptations of life, and we will live as children of God by obeying His will. Our salvation is such that we meet with God in his will. This is what saves us, and this is what marks us as children of God, from our heart we want to do what pleases Him. This is if we are really saved and are going to heaven.

1Thess 4:3 *For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: 4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;*

Our "vessel" is our body where our being and soul are contained. It is highly God's will that we be holy and that we control ourselves against sin. Let us not sin in any way, but the focus here is especially not sexually. Fornication is any kind of sexual sin. The only way a person is permitted by God to have sex (a man with a woman) is after they get married to each other. If two men have sex, are homosexuals (two women are lesbians) and this is high perversion and abomination before God.

Rom 1:26 *For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: 27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.*

As Christians, we are to reject things that the people of the world easily indulge in. These sins are very abominable before God, and for those who do them, they will have God's wrath against them all their lives. The only way to avoid this condemnation of God is to resist the temptation and not get involved in sexual sins.

Principles to observe:

(1) God moved Joseph to a much better place through bad events in his life. That is, although at the time, Joseph could have been angry with God for all the "evil" that God allowed to come in his life, but notice that God moved him from the back of a desert with small flocks of sheep to be second to the king of

Egypt, a strong and powerful country at that time. In addition to the glory, exaltation, and power that Joseph enjoyed in the end, God used Joseph to save the life of his entire family. None of this would be possible if Joseph had had a bad attitude when his brothers mistreated him, and then sold him to be a slave. That was the worst thing a brother could have done to his brother.

(2) Joseph sought fidelity with God, and sexual purity. Another reason why God could use Joseph was because of his fidelity to God in his personal bodily holiness. Sexual sin always dirties our lives to make it difficult for God to use us in His work. We must fight for personal purity to be useful to God.

(3) Joseph did not take revenge on his brothers for having done him evil. Revenge is not something we can afford in our lives. If someone does something wrong to us, take it that God is allowing testing in your life and leave revenge to the hands of God.

Blessed / How does God consider the man that endures temptation without succumbing James 1:12

prison / The kings prisoners were taken where? Gen 39:20

mock / What Potiphar's wife accused Joseph of Gen 39:17

Baker / Profession of one of Joseph's co-prisoners

recompense / God will _____ Heb 10:30

judge / God will _____ Heb 10:30

fornication / God's will is that we abstain from _____ 1Th 4:3-4

sanctification / we should control our bodies and lives in s _____ and h. 1Th 4:3-4

honor / we should control our bodies and lives in s. _____ and h _____ 1Th 4:3-4

recompense / God gives the _____ of their error to those who follow vile affections.

lust / what burned in these sexually filthy people Rom 1:26-27

vile / God gave these people over to their _____ affections Rom 1:26-27

captain / the _____ of the guard charged Joseph with them Gen 40:4

reuben / Which of Joseph's brothers interceded to kill the others from killing him? Gen 37:21

envied / What were Joseph's brothers attitude towards Joseph? Gen 37:11

crownoflife / What we receive when we resist temptation James 1:12 (3 words without spaces)