

God's Plan For Your Pain

Joseph: The Lord Is With Us

November 15, 2020

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INTRODUCTION

Main Idea: God uses pain to prepare you for promotions. Pain, when properly handled, equips you to be used for God's great purposes!

Promoted In The Pain Of Family Dysfunction

*The Lord was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. ³ When his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did, ⁴ Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar **put him in charge** of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. **Genesis 39:2-4***

Promoted In The Pain Of False Accusation

*Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined. But while Joseph was there in the prison, ²¹ the Lord was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden. ²² So the warden **put Joseph in charge** of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there. ²³ The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph's care, because the Lord was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did. **Genesis 39:20-23***

Promoted In The Pain Of Being Forgotten

The chief cupbearer, however, did not remember Joseph; he forgot him.

When two full years had passed, Pharaoh had a dream...

*The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials. ³⁸ So Pharaoh asked them, "Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?" ³⁹ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. ⁴⁰ **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." **Genesis 40:23-41:1, 41:37-40***

How do I handle pain and hardships properly?

I. Hold On To God's Promises

Genesis 37:5-11

II. Know God Is Forming Your Character And Developing Your Skills

III. Trust The Promotions Are Coming In God's Ways And Timing