

God Can Turn Mistreatment in Your Life into Good

Pastor's Desk – April 30, 2017



The lives of the children of Jacob were filled with spectacular events. When we think about Joseph and what he went through, it can be an inspiration to anyone suffering mistreatment of any kind – especially coming from family members, the people we do not expect to give us this kind of treatment. Yet Joseph's life serves as an inspiring tool in our modern days where we still see sibling rivalry, romance, cunning, sexual and political intrigue, and still some true friendship.

Joseph's life teaches us that many times we may experience extreme situations; i.e. (Genesis 37:23-28) being betrayed and sold by his own family, sexually harassed by his boss's wife and landing in jail (Gen. 39), and being forgotten by his cell mate (Gen. 40:22-23). What a roller coaster!!! Yet Joseph does not show signs of complaint. I believe he knew what we now know in Gen 50:20: "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."

Despite all of the many painful circumstances that were directly related to deeds and decisions made by others, Joseph was not bitter or resentful. If he was living in today's society, he would be called a "victim;" but this man knew, "the LORD was with Joseph and showed him mercy." (Gen. 39:21). I believe that when we look at such a beautiful example, we can be encouraged with the fact that no matter how victimized we may have been in life, even if by our own family, we can trust in the fact that our God is powerful and mighty enough to take that pain and transform it for good, and even save lives, through all the agony we went through! Joseph's response to injustice, cruelty, and rejection is a sober reminder that God is sovereign in the life of His children. May the injustices in your life be a focal point of transformation not only in you, but a leading factor in the salvation of those around you!

In Him,

Pastor Paul Santos