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Readings: Genesis ch 41 v 1, 25, 32-33, 38-40, 43, 45, 55-57; John ch 6 v 34-35

Joseph is a Christ-like man. God wants everyone of us to be Christ like but the only way to do this is to be born again. Jesus said, "ye must be born again" (John 3:7)

It is not Joseph that we want to know about but Christ.

1 - Loved of the father

Jacob loved Joseph " now Israel loved Joseph"

God's son is His beloved son. There was a day at the river Jordan where the Lord Jesus Christ was baptised by John there was a voice from heaven saying "This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased" (Matt 3:17)

He was daily God's delight (Prov 8:30). He came into the world as a babe then grew up to be a man. He would do the Father's will. He said, "I do always the things that please Him" (John 8: 29). God said of Him, "Behold My Servant whom I have chosen, Mine Beloved in Whom I am well pleased" (Matt 12:18)

2 - Sent by the father

Joseph was sent to look for his brethren in the fields by his father. God sent His son. "When the fullness of time was come God sent His son to redeem" (Gal 4:4)

To redeem who?

Those under the plague of sin - everyone of us in the eyes of God (Rom 3:23). He was sent to redeem all. We all need to be redeemed. We are all sinners.

3 - Hated by his brethren

Joseph was hated by his brethren.

The Lord Jesus Christ "came unto His own and His own received Him not" (John 1:11). They rejected Him. "When shall He die and His name perish" (Psalm 41:5; Psalm 69:4). The world has no time for the Lord Jesus Christ. Just like Joseph's brothers had no time for him.

4 - Sold for silver

Joseph was sold as a slave for 20 pieces of silver. They bargained with Judas for 30 pieces of silver for the Saviour. The world covets silver and gold. Peter said, "Silver and gold have I none but such as I have I give unto you in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk" (Acts 3:6). The Lord Jesus said, "What shall it profit a man if he should gain the whole world and lose his own soul" (Mark 8:36)

5 - Tempted

Joseph was tempted by a woman but said - "How can I do this great wickedness and sin against God". The Lord was tempted by Satan while in the wilderness fasting for 40 days and 40 nights. The devil said, "If thou be the son of God"

He wanted the Lord to turn a stone into bread the Lord responded by saying " man shall not live by bread alone"

More important than bread is to know the Lords will for us in life.

6 - Suffered

Joseph was wrongly imprisoned. The feet of Joseph were always serving but they were put in irons.

Remember the suffering of the Lord Jesus Christ: "When they had scourged Jesus, they delivered Him to be crucified" (Matt 27:26). "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God" (1 Peter 3:18)

He suffered to bring us to God.

7 - Provision was made

Joseph made provision for the people in gathering grain.

"The Son of man came to give his life a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45).

In His death He made provision of eternal life. In His suffering and death He gave provision for all who would believe on His name.

8 - Given a new name

Joseph got a new name. He was the Saviour of the world in that day by selling grain to all the countries of the world.

"and thou shall call His name Jesus for He shall save His people from their sins" (Matt 1:23)

"Come see a man who told me all things that ever I did" (John 4:29). The people recognised, "This is the Saviour of the world" (John 4:42)

9 - Supplied a need

Joseph provided bread. Pharaoh had many people coming to him and he sent them on to Joseph.

We are directing you to Christ tonight.

"Come unto me all ye that weary and are heavy laden and I will give you rest" (Matt 11:28). If you come to the Lord and believe on Him and His works then thou shall be saved.

10 - Exalted

Joseph became a ruler and people had to bow to him. The one who has confounded every foe is exalted. "At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow and tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord" (Phil 2:11)

He shall reign in righteousness. The Lord Jesus Christ has ascended to the right hand of God. He is the Lord of glory - He is the one we bring you to. He will provide you with eternal life through faith by believing in Him (John 3:16).