



## Bits of Hope from 10/01/2006

Rev. Dr. Lance D. Watson

### Genesis 41:37-40

We must be very careful in how we interpret the experiences in our lives. Things don't always work out like we want them. However, we have to resist the urge to throw in the towel and give up. We serve a God that uses setbacks as setups. God still crafts and cultivates our character over time. It is always the will of God to prepare us. Our present situation is always pinned to our promise. When it is your moment, that moment won't take long. Don't give up. In the text, God elevated Joseph from felon to ambassador in one day. Every turn and undesirable situation in his life was used to bring him into his destiny. In the plan of God, there was something that nobody could do better than Joseph. There were no wasteful moments or useless days in Joseph's life especially while he was on the path to his destiny. Everything was planned to get Joseph to the place God destined for him.

The size of your dreams has to do with the God you serve. God can do anything but fail. To mature in God is arriving at the conclusion that your life is not unfolding by circumstance. You have to recognize that God is advancing you to the place He has destined for you. There is rhyme and reason for all of your life experiences. There is something nobody can do better than you. There is a place that only you can occupy. There is an assignment that only you can complete. All the experiences in your life have been about your divine destiny. All you have to do is 'Step Into It'. Your entire life experiences, the good and the bad, have been promoting and pushing you to your destiny. There are no wasted tears. God did not plan everything that happened to you but He is at work through everything that happens to you. It may not be in the direct plan of God but it is in the permissive plan of God. **Romans 8:28** God can take your layoff, your break-up, your sickness, and your divorce and use it to get you to where you need to be. God isn't shocked by anything. All those sleepless nights aren't wasted. You are stepping into your divine destiny. Stop talking about what people won't let you do. Where you are currently is a step in your divine destiny.

Destiny is an appointment. Destiny is about God making an appointment for you that is greater than your plans for yourself. Your destiny is always greater than the dream or vision that God has already shown you. You have wondered why you had to bear the burdens you had to bear. Joseph's destiny could not be fulfilled without him going through what he went through. There are simpler ways to reach your dreams but God's plan is for your destiny. If you knew the direction, you would not need the Director. You have been shown just a piece of your destiny in a dream or vision but God hasn't shown you all of it. Joseph's destiny was greater than his narrow context.

Destiny is about assignment. You are here at the Ray of Hope to meet a need. Keys to your assignment are found in the things that agitate you. You wonder why it agitates you and not others. It is because

God has ordained and called you to fix it. It is going to 'pluck your nerves', until you fix it. The path of destiny is always the path of service. If you want to be great, you have to serve somebody. Where life has dropped you is a part of your divine assignment. It is an assignment in your life that is greater than the narrow confines of your mind. Every service to God will make a difference on the path of destiny. We live in a day where we no longer think about serving others. It is not about you; it is about God. If you serve God in the place where He has assigned you, He can set you up to take you up to another level of victory and grace. If you aren't serving God in the place He has assigned you, you are hindering your own advance. God is more concerned with your destiny than He is with your dreams. God will bless you as you serve Him.

Destiny is also about accompaniment. Everybody with you now will not always be with you on that path to destiny. Destiny is not about where you have been it is about the place you are in currently. Success is nothing if you don't have anyone to share it with. Even as Joseph's life got better he still needed someone to share it with. God knows that the path to your destiny can get lonely. However, God always brings the right people at the right time. The right people are those with whom you can develop significant relationships. God knows we need relationships and fellowship. You don't need relationships that don't add to you. People are in your life for reasons and seasons. You have to figure out why they are there. Don't frustrate yourself by trying to hold on to people who are trying to let you go. Let them go.

Destiny is about authority. Destiny is the place where you start taking charge. You can take charge of your family, finances, feelings, and community. God has given you power to put things in order. Your life does not have to be chaotic. Your destiny is to subdue and exercise authority. Exercise your influence. You have been beat up long enough. It is time for you to take charge and step into your destiny. It is not about what you think. It is about what God has already declared. He has put you in charge so you can take charge. When the first Adam messed up, God sent Jesus to establish our kingdom authority. Even the cross was a step toward the destiny of Jesus. It looked like he was out of control. However, he established his authority even as he was dying on the cross. Jesus has authority and he has given it to you. In his name, you can defeat any devil. In his name, you can do great things. If you are ready to move to the next level, step into your destiny.

Peace.

Volunteers are always welcome 770-696-5100