

The Brothers of Jesus

This Sunday I was reminded of something while watching a movie about Joseph (the dreamer). I want to share it because we all have access to the mysteries hidden within God's Word. My desire is that we all come to know our Lord in the deepest way possible so that we can understand our identity and authority through Him because:

- **Proverbs 25:2 - It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, But the glory of kings is to search out a matter.**
- **Revelation 1:5-6 - And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, 6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. [KJV]**

When these mysteries are opened to us we call them revelations. Here are some definitions of revelation:

- A surprising and previously unknown fact, especially one that is made known in a dramatic way.
- The making known of something that was previously secret or unknown.
- Used to emphasize the surprising or remarkable quality of someone or something.
- The divine or supernatural disclosure to humans of something relating to human existence or the world.

Whenever someone is in a revelatory season by the Holy Spirit or receives a revelation about our Lord it means their spiritual ears and their spiritual eyes are open more than before to hear and see things that were unnoticed before. The thing about being open to the things of Heaven is it doesn't turn off until either you choose to turn it off (which, by the way, I would advise against) or God says you have had enough for the moment. I'm not going to go into the ways we choose to turn it off because it is not important for this writing (if you want to know more feel free to email us and we will be more than happy to share).

Joseph (the dreamer) is a type and shadow of Jesus Christ. Type and shadow means an example. It doesn't mean they are the fullness of but just an example of for our developing understanding.

When we look at the example of Joseph we can start to see the parallels to Jesus. There are many things to see but I want us to focus on Joseph's interaction with his brothers for this writing. It is important in order to grow not only in our understanding of God's Word but in our relationship with Jesus Christ.

The entire story begins in Genesis 37. I implore us all to read the life of Joseph with the leading of the Holy Spirit. Here is what Holy Spirit highlighted for me to share.

Joseph's brothers were jealous of him and originally wanted to kill him but threw him in a pit and eventually sold him into slavery instead. I want to start with the following comparison.

- **Genesis 37:23 - So it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the tunic of many colors that was on him.**
- **Matthew 27:28 - And they stripped Him [Jesus] and put a scarlet robe on Him.**

The end result of Joseph's slavery is that he became a leader in Egypt and God used him to save the nations (including his family) from starvation after he incurred many ups and downs.

When his brothers first came to Egypt looking for food they did not recognize him. It took Joseph revealing himself for them to truly know this indeed was their brother. Look at what Joseph said when he finally revealed himself to his brothers after many incidences he had with them:

- Genesis 45:5-8 - But now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. 6 For these two years the famine has been in the land, and there are still five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvesting. 7 And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. 8 So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.
- Genesis 50:20-21 - 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. 21 Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones." And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.
- Acts 3:19-21 - Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, 20 and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, 21 whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.
- Genesis 47:23-25 - Then Joseph said to the people, "Indeed I have bought you and your land this day for Pharaoh. Look, here is seed for you, and you shall sow the land. 24 And it shall come to pass in the harvest that you shall give one-fifth to Pharaoh. Four-fifths shall be your own, as seed for the field and for your food, for those of your households and as food for your little ones." 25 So they said, "You have saved our lives; let us find favor in the sight of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh's servants."
- John 10:9 - I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.
- John 3:17 - For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Just as the brothers of Joseph repented and were reconciled to Joseph (and ultimately forgiven by their father) so are the brothers of Jesus (this includes Jew and Gentile; men and women) reconciled with Him through His blood (by repentance and accepting Him into our lives and hearts) and then to the Father, God Almighty. Just as Joseph was sent ahead by God (by turning the evil intent of his brothers into good) and placed at the highest command over the land to save the land from a natural famine so was Jesus sent before us, crucified, and raised from the dead to take his place at the right hand of God to save us from a spiritual famine.

Revelation 2:17 - "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it."

Other sources:

http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american_english/revelation

<http://dtjsoft.com/joseph-a-type-of-christ/>

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