

GENESIS 39:16-21 HIS PROMISE IS SURE

¹⁶ She kept his cloak beside her until his master came home. ¹⁷ Then she told him this story: "That Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to make sport of me. ¹⁸ But as soon as I screamed for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house."

¹⁹ When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, "This is how your slave treated me," he burned with anger. ²⁰ 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.

No matter what the world does, the sovereign God will not abandon the righteous. Joseph was not alone in prison any more than the three young men were alone in Nebuchadnezzar's furnace (Daniel 3: 25). The man of integrity is the man who experiences God's providence even amid his suffering. Jesus stated this truth when he taught:

¹⁰ *Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

¹¹ *"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. (Matthew 5:10-12)*

If we choose integrity and obedience to God, he will be our pole star by which we can navigate through the storms of life. When we train our eyes to focus on him daily, we will not lose sight of him in our affliction. Other than our own decision to ignore and disobey God, ^{38b} *neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans:38b-39).*

Lord Jesus, as you went to the cross for me in obedience to the will of your Father, grow my obedience so that I might become a person of integrity under all circumstances. Help me to count my obedience to you as a greater treasure than the avoidance of suffering in this world. Make me faithful to you as you are ever faithful to me. Amen.