



SAVED TO SERVE

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LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH, PART 3

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study Joseph's ascent to being co-ruler of Egypt and the crisis of famine which took place in all lands.
2. What dreams did Pharaoh have which troubled him? Genesis 41:1-7
Answer: _____
3. In all of Egypt, only Joseph was able to interpret the dream (see Genesis 41: 41:16, 25, 29, 30). What gift did Joseph have? 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28
Answer: _____
4. When Pharaoh heard the words of prophecy, how did he respond? Genesis 41:38-40
Answer: _____
5. In contrast to Pharaoh, a heathen, how did Joseph's brothers and father respond when they heard the words of prophecy? Genesis 37:7-10
Answer: _____
6. **Note:** As it was in the days of Joseph, so it is today. When many who are not now Seventh-day Adventists hear the words of prophecy presented from the Bible and The Spirit of Prophecy, they will accept and act according to the light they receive. However, those who now profess to be Seventh-day Adventists will reject the Spirit of Prophecy and go out of the faith as unbelievers.
7. The crisis of famine in Joseph's day also included an economic crisis (Genesis 47:15). How many lands were affected by the crisis? Genesis 41:54, 57
Answer: _____
8. How severe was that crisis? What did people have to do to survive? Genesis 41:30; 47:18
Answer: _____
9. What global crisis in these last days is connected to an economic crash which will be more severe than any other crisis in Earth's history? Revelation 13:15-17; Daniel 12:1
Answer: _____
10. Read Genesis 41:48, 55, 56. What did Joseph do which many people in Egypt and in other lands failed to do?
Answer: _____
11. What did the five foolish virgins fail to do, and what was the result? Matthew 25:8-10
Answer: _____
12. **Note:** In order to be prepared for the crisis of famine, Joseph stored up corn. Let us now look at the practical lessons that corn teaches us throughout scripture so that we can be prepared for the final crisis in these last days.
13. To what day of creation does the corn direct our mind? Mark 2:23, 24 Answer: _____
14. To whom are we to focus on as we keep the Sabbath? Mark 2:28 Answer: _____

15. **Note:** The corn teaches us to keep the Sabbath, and it also directs our mind to the Lord of the Sabbath, Jesus Christ. To truly experience the Sabbath, each person must have an individual relationship with Jesus. Only then, can we enter into His rest on Earth and afterward in Heaven.

16. In Psalm 78:24, corn is likened unto manna from heaven. What were the Israelites instructed to do with the manna that fell on Friday? Exodus 16:15, 22, 23

Answer: _____

17. **Note:** The Israelites gathering a double portion of manna on Friday to have enough for Sabbath teaches us that we need to be physically prepared for the crisis ahead. We are counseled to move into country areas where we can grow our own food and have provisions stored up for the Time of Trouble. Additionally, the corn experience informs us of the messages that we should be hearing every Sabbath - messages encouraging people to get ready for the Mark of the Beast crisis just before us.

“Again and again the Lord has instructed that our people are to take their families away from the cities, into the country, where they can raise their own provisions; for in the future the problem of buying and selling will be a very serious one. We should now begin to heed the instruction given us over and over again: Get out of the cities into rural districts, where the houses are not crowded closely together, and where you will be free from the interference of enemies.” (For further detailed counsel on this topic see Country Living.) {AH 141.4}

18. Besides physical provisions, what are we to store up for the Time of Trouble? Psalm 119:105; Amos 8:11

Answer: _____

19. What else does the corn represent? Genesis 27:28; Deuteronomy 11:14; Isaiah 44:3

Answer: _____

20. What do the dew and the early rain represent? Hosea 14:5, 4, 7 Answer: _____

21. How can we practically get victory over our sins? John 12:24; 1 Corinthians 15:31 Answer: _____

22. What will we say once we are experiencing victory over our sins? Hosea 14:8

Answer: _____

23. What promises does God leave with us to encourage us? Ezekiel 36:26, 27, 29

Answer: _____

24. Literally, the latter rain ripens the crops for harvest. What is the latter rain experience and what does the harvest foreshadow? Mark 2:28, 29; Revelation 14:14, 15

Answer: _____

“Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain.” “He will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain.” In the East the former rain falls at the sowing time. It is necessary in order that the seed may germinate. Under the influence of the fertilizing showers, the tender shoot springs up. The latter rain, falling near the close of the season, ripens the grain and prepares it for the sickle. The Lord employs these operations of nature to represent the work of the Holy Spirit. As the dew and the rain are given first to cause the seed to germinate, and then to ripen the harvest, so the Holy Spirit is given to carry forward, from one stage to another, the process of spiritual growth. The ripening of the grain represents the completion of the work of God's grace in the soul. By the power of the Holy Spirit the moral image of God is to be perfected in the character. We are to be wholly transformed into the likeness of Christ.” {TM 506.1}

25. **Note:** The final application of the corn for this lesson is that it is connected to the shaking. Many will be shaken out of God's truth. Read Amos 9:9.

26. In Nehemiah 5:13, Nehemiah speaks about the shaking in a time when Israel had to gather the scrapes of corn to eat and keep them alive. What was the socio-economic climate that was happening in the land at that time? Nehemiah 5:1-4

Answer: _____

27. **Note:** The scene here in Nehemiah 5 lets us know that when we see increased famine on earth, poverty, and economic crises, there will be a shaking happening amongst God's people just before the Second Coming of Christ. However, Amos 9:9 gives us hope saying that the least grain will not fall to the ground.

“Satan is constantly at work, but few have any idea of his activity and subtlety. The people of God must be prepared to withstand the wily foe. It is this resistance that Satan dreads. He knows better than we do the limit of his power and how easily he can be overcome if we resist and face him. Through divine strength the weakest saint is more than a match for him and all his angels, and if brought to the test he would be able to prove his superior power. Therefore Satan's step is noiseless, his movements stealthy, and his batteries masked. He does not venture to show himself openly, lest he arouse the Christian's dormant energies and send him to God in prayer.” {5T 293.4}

28. **Note:** As we have been seeing in our lessons, Joseph typifies Jesus. Joseph was mistreated, lied upon, and made a prisoner. Yet, he was afterward exalted to the highest office in the land to save Egypt and the other nations. Likewise, Jesus humbled Himself as a man, was abused, hated, and executed as a prisoner and then exalted on high in Heaven as Priest and King to save fallen humanity. In order for us to be recipients of Jesus' salvation, we must come to Him to buy of Him as all people came to buy provisions from Joseph. Will you come to Jesus today - wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked as you are that He may cleanse you from your sins and set you on the right path toward heaven?