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Joseph in Prison 39:19 to 40:23



This was no accident. But **Joseph** seems as though **he** is in a hopeless dilemma. **He** is not only a slave, but also a slave who has been falsely accused. **Potiphar** was going to bury **him** in **prison** to cover up the scandal in **his** own household. **Joseph's** one ray of hope was that **the cupbearer** would remember **him** to **Pharaoh**. However **the cupbearer was** so elated with going back to work that he forgot all about poor **Yosef**. In spite of the discouragement, however, **Yosef** believed that **El Shaddai was with him (49:24)**, and there were fruits of faith that were there for all to see. **He** was faithful in every relationship in **his** life. **He** was faithful to **his** father. **He** was faithful to **Potiphar**. In prison, **he** was faithful to **the warden**. Later on we will see **he** was faithful to **Pharaoh** and **his** own brothers who had sold **him** into slavery in the first place. And **he** was always faithful to **the LORD**, giving **Him** the glory.⁶⁰³ But while it seemed like **Joseph** was forgotten in **prison**, **ADONAI** had not forgotten **him**. **Yosef** waited for the exact moment that **God** needed him, and **Yosef** was ready.

There is also one thing that is very noticeable in this account. **Joseph** never complains! He accepts the situation he is in no matter what. Because of **the dreams he** had received from **ADONAI** (see [Iz - Joseph's Dreams](#)), faith in the promises of **God** was the force that kept **him** going. We also have **God's** promises:

We know the God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called in accordance with His purpose (Romans 8:39).

The rise that **Joseph** would receive in the royal government of **Egypt** was quite impressive when we consider the hostility of **the Egyptians** toward the Semites. But **the Egyptians** were not ruling at that time. **Joseph** was living in **Egypt** during the reign of the Bedouin Semitic conquerors, the Hyskos who ruled in Egypt sometime between 1700 and 1550 BC. They had taken over the government of **Egypt** rather peacefully by taking advantage of weakened Middle Kingdom leadership. They were not **Egyptian**, but from the East. Apart from the sovereign grace of **ADONAI**, this explains why **Joseph** would rise to such great heights, becoming Prime Minister of **Egypt**. Only Pharaoh was greater. And being a Semite, that Hyskos pharaoh was looking for all the help he could get, swimming in the shark infested waters of the Hamitic **Egyptians**.