

All Things Work Together for Good
(Lesson 19)

Introduction:

1. The Bible contains many illustrations of the principle revealed in Romans 8:28.
2. Genesis shows how all things worked together for good in Joseph's life.
3. In this lesson we are covering the information presented in 41:33-57.
4. Let us first review vs.1-32 that we covered in our last lesson.
 - a. (vs.1-8) Pharaoh had 2 dreams.
 - 1) One dream was about 7 fat cows and 7 lean cows.
 - 2) The other dream was about 7 good ears of grain and 7 lean ears.
 - 3) These dreams bothered Pharaoh, and no one could interpret them.
 - b. (vs.9-13) Pharaoh's chief butler related how Joseph interpreted his dream in prison.
 - c. (vs.14-16) Joseph was brought from prison to appear before Pharaoh.
 - d. (vs.17-24) Pharaoh related his dreams to Joseph.
 - e. (vs.25-32) Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dreams.
 - 1) (vs.25) Both dreams had to do with something God was about to accomplish.
 - 2) (vs.26-27) Joseph explained the symbolism of the cows and the ears of grain.
 - 3) (vs.28-31) Joseph explained what was about to happen.
 - 4) (vs.32) Joseph showed there could be no doubt about what God was going to do.
5. Vs. 33-57 show how Joseph was promoted to the second highest position in Egypt.

Discussion:

- I. (vs.33-36) JOSEPH ADVISED PHARAOH ABOUT HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE FAMINE
 - A. (vs.33) Joseph's plan included putting a wise and discreet man in charge.
 - B. (vs.34) Joseph's plan also included overseers who would collect a fifth part during the 7 years of plenty.
 - C. According to vs.35-36, following this plan would allow Egypt to have sufficient food during the 7 years of famine.
- II. (vs.37-41) PHARAOH AGREED WITH JOSEPH'S PLAN
 - A. (vs.37) Pharaoh and his servants approved of Joseph's advice.
 - B. (vs.38-41) Pharaoh placed Joseph in the position that Joseph suggested (vs.33).
 - C. Pharaoh made Joseph the second highest ruler in Egypt.
- III. (vs.42-46) PHARAOH MADE JOSEPH'S PROMOTION OFFICIAL
 - A. (vs.42-43a) Pharaoh gave Joseph his ring, he dressed Joseph in fine clothes, he put a gold chain about Joseph's neck, and he placed Joseph in his second chariot.
 - B. (vs.43b) People were to show reverence to Joseph.
 - C. (vs.44) Joseph was given high authority.
 - D. (vs.45) Pharaoh gave Joseph another name, and he gave Joseph a wife.
 - E. (vs.46) Joseph was 30 years old when he was given this high position.
- IV. (vs.47-49) JOSEPH FULFILLED HIS RESPONSIBILITIES
 - A. During the 7 good years, the land produced an abundant harvest.
 - B. Joseph gathered grain and stored it up for the approaching famine.
- V. (vs.50-52) GOD BLESSED JOSEPH WITH 2 SONS
 - A. Joseph's sons were born before the famine began.
 - B. Their names are significant.
- VI. (vs.53-57) THE 7 YEARS OF FAMINE ARRIVED
 - A. Egypt was not the only country affected by the famine; however, food was available in Egypt.
 - B. The Egyptians came to Joseph for food.
 - C. People from other countries also came to Joseph for food.

Conclusion:

1. Joseph rose from being a slave to the second highest ruler in Egypt.
2. The stage was being set for Joseph's family to move to Egypt (15:13-14).