

Choose Righteousness, do not Forget the Lord in Your Prosperity!

In this weeks reading from Parashat Vayeshev (*Bereshit / Genesis 37:1-40:23*) we learn that Jacob loved Joseph more than his brothers (37:3, וַיִּשְׂרָאֵל אֶהָב אֶת-יוֹסֵף מִכָּל-בְּנָיו). Joseph had a dream about his future (37:5-10) as a result his brothers become jealous (37:11). As the narrative continues, Joseph's brothers plot murder in their hearts (37:18-22) and sell him into slavery to Ishmaelites (37:27-29). Joseph is sold to Potiphar in Egypt where he chooses righteousness (וַיִּצְדָּק) and God prospers him. He is falsely accused by Potiphar's wife and then placed in jail (39:1-20). Throughout the days of Joseph's life he walked in righteousness (וַיִּצְדָּק) and in justice (מִשְׁפָּט) before the Lord, more so than his brothers. Even though Joseph chose to walk in righteousness, trials come, and the Lord shows us how He prepared Joseph in the midst of trouble. This week we are told that Yoseph was given the gift to interpret dreams and this gift was given to be used to help others. When in prison, he helped the baker and the cupbearer to know the meaning of their dreams. One was restored to his former office, and the other would die. We read the concluding verses in Parashat Vayeshev stating that the interpretation that God had given Joseph came to pass exactly as Joseph had interpreted them.

כתבי הקודש / The Holy Scriptures	
<p style="text-align: center;">ספר בראשית פרק מ</p> <p>כ וַיְהִי בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי יוֹם הַלֵּלֶת אֶת-פְּרַעְזָה וַיַּעַשׂ מִשְׁתֶּה לְכָל- עַבְדָּיו וַיִּשָּׂא אֶת-רֹאשׁ שַׁר הַמְּשָׁקִים וְאֶת-רֹאשׁ שַׁר הָאֲפִים בְּתוֹךְ עַבְדָּיו: כֹּא וַיִּשֶׁב אֶת-שַׁר הַמְּשָׁקִים עַל-מִשְׁקָהוּ וַיִּתֵּן הַכּוֹס עַל-כַּף פְּרַעְזָה: כִּב וְאֶת שַׁר הָאֲפִים תָּלָה כְּאִשֶּׁר פָּתַר לָהֶם יוֹסֵף: כִּג וְלֹא- זָכַר שַׁר-הַמְּשָׁקִים אֶת-יוֹסֵף וַיִּשְׁכַּחְהוּ</p>	<p>Bereshit / Genesis 40:20-23</p> <p>40:20 Thus it came about on the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, that he made a feast for all his servants; and he lifted up the head of the chief cupbearer and the head of the chief baker among his servants. 40:21 He restored the chief cupbearer to his office, and he put the cup into Pharaoh's hand; 40:22 but he hanged the chief baker, just as Joseph had interpreted to them. 40:23 Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him. (NASB)</p>

It is written in the Torah, that the cupbearer was restored into his former office (וְאֶת-רֹאשׁ שַׁר הָאֲפִים בְּתוֹךְ) and the baker was hanged and died. The final verse of the Parashah says "40:23 *Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.*" (NASB) Out of all that had happened, when prosperity come the cupbearer forgot Joseph and the Lord whom Joseph represented. How easy is it today for each of us to forget what God has done in our lives when prosperity finally comes? Reading the Apostolic Writings (NT), when Yeshua was on the cross, one of the criminals, like Joseph (*Bereshit / Genesis 40:14, יד כִּי* :אם-זְכַרְתִּנִּי אִתָּךְ כְּאִשֶּׁר יִטַּב לְךָ וַעֲשִׂיתָ-נָּא עִמָּדִי חֶסֶד וְהִזְכַּרְתִּנִּי אֶל-פְּרַעְזָה וְהוֹצֵאתִנִּי מִן-הַבַּיִת הַזֶּה: "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!"

Luke 23:39-43

23:39 *One of the criminals who were hanged there was hurling abuse at Him, saying, 'Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!'* 23:40 *But the other answered, and rebuking him said, 'Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?'* 23:41 *'And we indeed are suffering justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.'* 23:42 *And he was saying, 'Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!'* 23:43 *And He said to him, 'Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise.'* (NASB)

Yeshua promised saying 23:43 *And He said to him, 'Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise.'* Yeshua did not forget him, and He will not forget us either. When prosperity comes do you forget what the Lord has done and the mercy he has show you? Today do you choose the path of righteousness regardless of what comes your way in life? The path of righteousness begins by faith in the Lords Messiah Yeshua.