

THE SECRET OF THE REIGNING LIFE OF JOSEPH

Message Nine

**The Universal Blessing on Joseph**

Scripture Reading: Gen. 39:2-5, 20-23; 49:22-26; Deut. 33:13-17; Phil. 1:20; Acts 4:31; Rom. 8:36-37; Gen. 45:5; 50:20; 1 Cor. 3:21-22; Rom. 8:28; Eph. 5:20; 1 Thes. 5:18

**I. Joseph was blessed by God wherever he was; thus, Joseph is a sign of God's universal blessing—Gen. 39:2-5, 20-23; 49:22-26; Deut. 33:13-17:**

- A. Jacob prophesied over Joseph with blessings, and in Deuteronomy, Moses also prophesied over the tribe of Joseph with blessings—Gen. 49:22-26; Deut. 33:13-17.
- B. Joseph as a fruitful bough by a fountain with branches running over the wall typifies Christ as the branch for the branching out of God through His believers as His branches, with God as the source of their fruitfulness, to spread over every restriction and limitation—Gen. 49:22; Phil. 1:20; Acts 4:31; cf. Isa. 11:1.
- C. The blessings bestowed on Joseph encompass all time, from ancient time to eternity, and all space, from heaven, to earth, including the deep under the earth; time and space equal the universe—Gen. 49:25b-26; Deut. 33:13-16a.
- D. The blessing on Joseph also indicates that he is victorious over every opposition and environment; the spiritual significance of this is that in all suffering we more than conquer; the sufferings cannot suppress us, but rather we subdue the sufferings—Rom. 8:36-37.

**II. The universal blessing of the Triune God was with Joseph as the one who was separate from his brothers in the principle of a Nazarite—Gen. 49:22-26; cf. Num. 6:1-8, 22-27:**

- A. The reigning aspect of the matured Israel is a life that is separate from everything to live absolutely for God; Joseph was the first Nazarite being separated from his brothers and being absolutely for God—Gen. 49:26; cf. Num. 6:1-8, 22-27.
- B. This separated one has received the blessing of the whole universe; the universal blessing is bestowed upon the crown of the head of such a Nazarite.

**III. Joseph overcame his sufferings because he saw that everything was arranged by God to be a blessing to him—Gen. 49:24-25; 45:5; 50:20; 1 Cor. 3:21-22; Rom. 8:28; Eph. 5:20; 1 Thes. 5:18:**

- A. Joseph realized that his being betrayed by his brothers, his being falsely accused by Potiphar's wife, his being wrongly imprisoned, and his being inhumanely forgotten had all been blessings from God to him.
- B. Whether or not we would count such things as blessings depends on our point of view; if we see this, we will realize that we are under God's universal blessing and that everything is a blessing to us.
- C. Because Joseph was under God's universal blessing, he became a channel of blessing; Joseph reigned not with power but with food; when he was enthroned, he was given the key to the life supply, and he reigned by dispensing the life supply.