

Carry the Light

Gen. 41:46-52



Gen. 41:46 And Joseph *was* thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt.

47 And in the seven plenteous years the earth brought forth by handfuls.

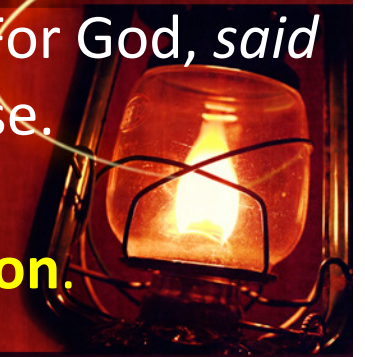
48 And he gathered up all the food of the seven years, which were in the land of Egypt, and laid up the food in the cities: the food of the field, which *was* round about every city, laid he up in the same.

49 And Joseph gathered corn as the sand of the sea, very much, until he left numbering; for *it was* without number.

50 And unto Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, which Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On bare unto him.

51 And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: For God, *said he*, hath made me forget all my toil, and all my father's house.

52 And the name of the second called he Ephraim: For **God hath caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction.**



Our new theme for 2017 is “Carry the Light.”

On January first, we looked the...

THE INTRINSIC POWER and THE ILLUMINATING PURPOSE
of light in regard to the woman taken in adultery in Jn. 8.

A couple of weeks ago we began looking at Joseph,
and how he “*carried the light*” into Egypt.

Carrying the Light from the Pit to the Palace

I. THE INDIVIDUAL PLAN FORETOLD

- The Inclusive Picture
- The Individual Purpose
- The Inspirational Performance



When we are introduced to the life of Joseph he is seventeen years old. What happened during the first seventeen years to prepare him for his future?

II. THE INDIVIDUAL PREPARATION FOR FAITHFULNESS

A. The Dedication of Parents

B. The Deception of Perception

- Trials of our faith are the challenging parts of our spiritual development.

C. The Development of Priorities

III. THE INDIVIDUAL PRESENCE OF FAILURE

A. The Reality of Failure

B. The Reaction to Failure

C. The Remedy for Failure

Failure is a setback that is only a delay to accomplishing the objective.



IV. THE INDIVIDUAL PERCEPTION FOR THE FUTURE

A. A FRIEND PROMOTES PERSONAL INSPIRATION

B. A FRIEND PROTECTS PRIVATE INFORMATION

C. A FRIEND PRODUCES POWERFUL ILLUMINATION

- Our hope for the future is encouraged by our Friendship with Christ.

But have you heard of **Edward Kimball**?

Edward Kimball was the lay Sunday School teacher who lead D.L. Moody to Christ when Moody was an 18 year old shoe salesman in Boston.



"I recollect that my teacher came around behind the counter of the shop I was at work in, and put his hand upon my shoulder, and talked to me about Christ and my soul. I had not felt that I had a soul till then. I said to myself: 'this is a very strange thing. Here is a man who never saw me till lately, and he is weeping over my sins, and I never shed a tear for them.' But I understand it now, and know what it is to have a passion for men's souls and weep over their sins. I don't remember what he said, but I can feel the power of that man's hand on my shoulder tonight. It was not long after that I was brought into the Kingdom of God."

(A Passion for Souls, Lyle Dorsett, pg. 47)

<http://tellsomeonetoday.blogspot.com/2011/03/sunday-school-teacher-who-led-moody-to.html>



V. THE INDIVIDUAL PROMOTION FOR FRUITFULNESS

A. The Pleasure of Promotions

Gen. 41:46 And Joseph *was* thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt.

Thomas Carlyle, a Scottish historian, once wrote, “Adversity is hard on a man; but for one man who can stand prosperity, there are a hundred that will stand adversity.”¹

<https://bible.org/seriespage/6-how-godly-leaders-handle-prosperity-and-promotion>




Deut. 6:10 And it shall be, when the LORD thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not, 11 And houses full of all good *things*, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full; 12 Then **beware lest thou forget the LORD**, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.



Jer. 9:23 Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise *man* **glory in his wisdom**, neither let the mighty *man* **glory in his might**, let not the rich *man* **glory in his riches**:
24 But **let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me**, that I *am* the LORD which exercise **lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness**, in the earth: for **in these things I delight**, saith the LORD.

B. The Purpose of Promotions

Joseph endured many disappointments, and suffered much heartache as a young man before his promotion by Pharaoh. God was preparing him for the challenging position of ruler over Egypt. The promotion was not so much for Joseph to enjoy, because God put him there to be the provider of many blessings to the nation of Israel.



Gen. 45:4 And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I *am* Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.

5 Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for **God did send me before you to preserve life.**

6 For these two years *hath* the famine *been* in the land: and yet *there are* five years, in the which *there shall* neither be earing nor harvest.

7 And **God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity** in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

8 So now *it was* not you *that* sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.



Gen. 50:20 But as for you, ye thought evil against me; *but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.*

21 Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.

- We were created for the glory of God – Isa. 43:7
- Sin caused us to fall short of the glory of God – Rom. 3:10, 23, 5:12
- When we humbly repent of our sins and trust Christ as our Savior, we bring glory to God, Phil. 2:5-11



- After salvation, we are to live our lives for His glory –
1 Cor. 10:31

1 Cor. 10:31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or **whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.**

Col. 3:23 And **whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord**, and not unto men;

- As we live our lives for His glory, we learn to accept all adversity.

Rom. 8:28 And we know that **all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.**

29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate **to be conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.



- Living for Christ is living with Christ, daily, for the purpose of fruitfulness.

Jn. 15:5 I am the vine, *ye are* the branches: **He that abideth in me**, and I in him, the same **bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. ...**

8 Herein is my Father glorified, **that ye bear much fruit;** so shall ye be my disciples.

- We are to be constantly involved in world evangelism.

Mt. 28:19 Go ye therefore, and **teach all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:



Acts 14:21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had **taught many**, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,

Original Word: μαθητεύω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: mathéteuó

Definition: I make a disciple of, **teach or train in discipleship**; pass: I am trained, disciplined, instructed.

Cognate: *mathēteúō* (from *mathētēs*, "disciple") – to disciple, i.e.

helping someone to progressively learn the Word of God to become a matured, growing disciple (literally, "a learner," a true Christ-follower); to train (develop) in the truths of Scripture *and the lifestyle* required, i.e. helping a believer *learn* to be a disciple of Christ *in belief and practice*. <http://biblehub.com/greek/3100.htm>



The Power of One Person:


Joseph, Edward Kimball, the Apostle Paul -----
YOU and I!






Conclusion

Perhaps the line most frequently attributed to Dwight L. Moody is the famous quotation: **“The world has yet to see what God can do with a man fully consecrated to him. By God’s help, I aim to be that man.”**




In fact, Moody did not originate the line. Henry Varley, a British revivalist who had befriended the young American in Dublin, recalled that in 1873 Moody asked him to recount words they had spoken in private conversation a year earlier, just before Moody's return to the United States. Varley provides this account (as recorded in Paul Gericke's *Crucial Experiences in the Life of D.L. Moody*):



“Ah,” said Mr. Moody, “those were the words sent to my soul, through you, from the Living God. As I crossed the wide Atlantic, the boards of the deck of the vessel were engraved with them, and when I reached Chicago, the very paving stones seemed marked with **‘Moody, the world has yet to see what God will do with a man fully consecrated to him.’** Under the power of those words I have come back to England, and I felt that I must not let more time pass until I let you know how God had used your words to my inmost soul.”

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/history/issues/issue-25/world-has-yet-to-see.html>



Ecc. 9:10 **Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might;** for *there is* no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

Phil. 2:14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, **in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;**

16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.