

THE PRIDE TEST

We are presently in a series highlighting the life of Joseph who was given a prophetic dream at the age of 17. We're looking at what happened from dream to destiny?

Psalm 105:17-19- Then he sent someone to Egypt ahead of them— Joseph, who was sold as a slave. ¹⁸ They bruised his feet with fetters and placed his neck in an iron collar. ¹⁹ Until the time came to fulfill his dreams, the Lord tested Joseph's character. (NLT)

- **Until the time that his** (spoken) **word** came to pass, The (literal) word of the Lord tested him. (NKJV)

Passing the Pride test

Genesis 37:5-7 – Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more. ⁶ He said to them, “Listen to this dream I had: ⁷ We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it.” (NIV)

Pride Talks Too Much

Pride always talks about itself...

Isa 14:12-14- How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! *How* you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! ¹³ For you have said in your heart: ‘**I will** ascend into heaven, **I will** exalt my throne above the stars of God; **I will** also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; ¹⁴ **I will** ascend above the heights of the clouds, **I will** be like the Most High.’ (NKJV)

John 14 :12 – Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. (NIV)

Ephesians 2:8-9 – For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. (NKJV)

Humility

1 Peter 5:6 – **Humble yourselves**, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. (NIV)

2 Chronicles 7:14 – if if my people, who are called by my name, will **humble themselves** and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. (NIV)

God says humble yourself...

- it is within your control to kill pride in your life
- Forgive when you know you are right...reconcile when you want others to suffer
- Rejoice when others win... Let others get credit....
- Intentionally stop talking and start listening

Romans 8:13 – For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. (NIV)

Matthew 20:25-28- You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them...**Yet it shall not be so among you;** but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. ²⁷And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave— ²⁸just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” (NKJV)

Matthew 16:24 – Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. (NIV)

Full Circle Moment

Genesis 45:7 - ...God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. ⁸ So now *it was not you who sent me here, but God* (NKJV)

2 Corinthians 5:18 – All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation... (NIV)