

## THE PIT TEST

We are presently in our 3<sup>rd</sup> week of looking at the life of Joseph from his dream to his destiny. In week one we discussed the **prophetic test**, last week we looked at the **pride test** and this week we discuss the **pit test**.

**Genesis 37:18-24** – Now when they saw him afar off, even before he came near them, they conspired against him to kill him. <sup>19</sup> Then they said to one another, “Look, this dreamer is coming! <sup>20</sup> Come therefore, let us now kill him and cast him into some pit; and we shall say, ‘Some wild beast has devoured him.’ We shall see what will become of his dreams!” <sup>21</sup> But Reuben heard it, and he delivered him out of their hands, and said, “Let us not kill him.” <sup>22</sup> And Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood, but cast him into this pit which is in the wilderness, and do not lay a hand on him”—that he might deliver him out of their hands, and bring him back to his father. <sup>23</sup> So it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the tunic of many colors that was on him. <sup>24</sup> Then they took him and cast him into a pit. And the pit was empty; there was no water in it. (NKJV)

## THE POSTURE OF THE PIT

*Everyone finds themselves in the pit from time to time*

## THE PURPOSE OF THE PIT

*God also has designs for the pit*

**Romans 8:28** – And we know [with great confidence] that **God [who is deeply concerned about us] causes all things to work together [as a plan]** for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to His plan *and* purpose. (AMP)

**John 16:33** – I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. (NIV)

**Philippians 2:13** – For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose. (NIV)

**Jonah 2:1** – Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly, <sup>2</sup>And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD... (KJV)

**Lamentations 3:55** – I called on Your name, O Lord, out of the lowest pit.

**Romans 7:24-25** – What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord! (NIV)

## FINDING REDEMPTION IN THE PIT

**Psalms 103:4** – Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—**3**who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, **4**who redeems your life from the pit. (NIV)

**Psalms 40:2** – He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the miry clay, **And He set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm.** (NASB)

*There is life after the pit*

**Hebrews 12:2** ... looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (NKJV)