**THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A LIFE**  
**GOD MEANT IT FOR GOOD-THE LIFE OF JOSEPH**

**(PASTOR JOHN MULLIGAN)**

## ****GENESIS 37-50 (ESV)****

 Genesis 37:5-8 (ESV)  
Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they hated him even more. 6 He said to them, “Hear this dream that I have dreamed: 7 Behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf arose and stood upright. And behold, your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf.” 8 His brothers said to him, “Are you indeed to reign over us? Or are you indeed to rule over us?” So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.  
  
1) **Joseph's life was providential, so is yours and mine.**  
  
  
Romans 8:28-29 (ESV)  
And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.  
  
John 14:15 (ESV)  
 “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.  
  
  
**2) Joseph's life was pure, so can yours and mine be.**

* **He passed the test of self pity**
* **He passed the test of sexual enticement**

Genesis 39:6-12 (ESV)  
So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge, and because of him he had no concern about anything but the food he ate.  
  
Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance. 7 And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, “Lie with me.” 8 But he refused and said to his master's wife, “Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge. 9 He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?” 10 And as she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not listen to her, to lie beside her or to be with her.  
  
11 But one day, when he went into the house to do his work and none of the men of the house was there in the house,12 she caught him by his garment, saying, “Lie with me.” But he left his garment in her hand and fled and got out of the house.

* **He passed the test of self indulgence**

Genesis 39:2-3 (ESV)  
The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master. 3 His master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord caused all that he did to succeed in his hands.  
  
Genesis 39:23 (ESV)  
The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge, because the Lord was with him. And whatever he did, the Lord made it succeed.  
  
Genesis 41:37-40 (ESV)  
This proposal pleased Pharaoh and all his servants. 38 And Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we find a man like this,in whom is the Spirit of God?” 39 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Since God has shown you all this, there is none so discerning and wise as you are. 40 You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command. Only as regards the throne will I be greater than you.”  
  
  
  
**3) Joseph's life was pivotal to the salvation of many, so is ours.**  
  
Genesis 41:56-57 (ESV)  
So when the famine had spread over all the land, Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe in the land of Egypt. 57 Moreover, all the earth came to Egypt to Joseph to buy grain, because the famine was severe over all the earth.