

Tonight, what should be one of the identifying characteristics of your Christian life:

You don't put yourself first, but your desire is to put others first, and yourself last; from your heart, you don't want to be thought of as the greatest, you simply want to be a faithful servant of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Matthew 20:20-28

In the end of Matthew 19, Jesus taught His apostles, "but many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first".

Then in Matthew 20, in the parable of the laborers in the vineyard, He again taught them that the last shall be first, and the first shall be last.

And then there was this, (2) of His disciples, James and John desired the greatness of sitting at Jesus' right and left hand in His Kingdom.

They had not yet learned from His example of Himself and of being a "Servant", though He was indeed their King and Promised Messiah.

READ Matthew 20:25-28 AGAIN.

In Matthew 23:11-12: "But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted".

Luke 22:24-27, Philipians 2:5-7

One of the greatest "lesser" examples of a faithful servant to Christ no matter his situation in life was in godly Joseph.

It didn't matter that his brothers hated him and sold him into slavery, it didn't matter that he was now in a faraway country where he knew noone, what mattered was that he was going to serve God no matter his circumstances, no matter what they had him doing, even if he was now a slave.

Genesis 39:1-6

It wouldn't be long that Joseph would lose his good testimony and be falsely accused by Potiphar's wife of an inappropriate relationship with her, so now Joseph went from being a slave, to a falsely accused prisoner in Egypt.

Genesis 39:7-20

But even in prison, Joseph was faithful in all that he did, and the Lord blessed him and prospered all that he did.

Psalm 1:3

You know what happened after that, the Lord raised Joseph to the greatest man in the Kingdom of Egypt under Pharaoh.

Joseph wasn't seeking for greatness, but wherever he found himself, he did his best to serve his God faithfully,

whether it was in Potiphar's house as a slave, or in jail as a prisoner.

Brethren, whatever your situation, whatever is given into your hand, serve your Lord with all your heart, but also with a "servant's heart. This is one of your first and greatest callings in your life as a Christian, to be, as was your Lord, when He walked in human flesh. Colossians 3:17-25

Remember AGAIN, the words of Christ to His apostles when they were arguing about who should be the greatest?

"I am among you as he that serveth"