

Morning Sermon February 28, 2021

“Did Not Know Joseph” – Exodus 1:8

⁸ Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. Exodus 1:8 (NKJV)

I. How, why in Egypt, where Joseph was and should have been a hero, was he not known?

1. Joseph is known to us, we have the benefit of Moses, a Hebrew, inspired by God to write this history, he was born under persecution and yet was by God’s grace put in a position of privilege, for a purpose – Exodus 2:1-10

As Bible believers and students, we have a knowledge of these things, from the God breathed Scripture – 2 Timothy 3:16-17

2. Ungodly people tend to have an aversion to history, and while the wording here could indicate this “new king” knew nothing at all about Joseph, what is likely is this king intentionally refuses to KNOW Joseph!

Abraham Lincoln is our President who fought and died to end slavery, yet his statutes are among those which are torn down, why? Because certain people want all of American history to be forgotten, it is politics, wicked politics that would erase history!

3. Joseph’s History was Jacob’s and could have brought God’s blessings to Egypt, but ungodly fight such blessings –

² This is the history of Jacob. Joseph, **being** seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers. ... Genesis 37:2 (NKJV)

- A. Joseph’s connection to Jacob, connects him also to Abraham and God’s promises to Abraham, probably most significant at the time for the Egyptians was –

³ I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” Genesis 12:3 (NKJV)

- B. Both Potiphar and later Joseph’s jailor found themselves blessed (according to these promises) by Joseph’s presence -

³ And his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD made all he did to prosper in his hand. ⁴ So Joseph found favor in his sight, and served him. Then he made him overseer of his house, and all *that* he had he

put under his authority. ⁵ So it was, from the time *that* he had made him overseer of his house and all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian’s house for Joseph’s sake; and the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had in the house and in the field. Genesis 39:3-5

²¹ But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him mercy, and He gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. ²² And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph’s hand all the prisoners who *were* in the prison; whatever they did there, it was his doing. ²³ The keeper of the prison did not look into anything *that was* under Joseph’s authority, because the LORD was with him; and whatever he did, the LORD made *it* prosper. Genesis 39:21–23 (NKJV)

- C. Surely Egypt as a nation was BLESSED by Joseph’s leadership when Pharaoh promoted him to second in command in Egypt.

Joseph guided Egypt through a crisis (the seven-year famine) in such a way that Pharaoh (who trusted Joseph) increased his wealth and power, while the people were cared for -

²³ Then Joseph said to the people, “Indeed I have bought you and your land this day for Pharaoh. Look, *here is* seed for you, and you shall sow the land.

²⁴ And it shall come to pass in the harvest that you shall give one-fifth to Pharaoh. Four-fifths shall be your own, as seed for the field and for your food, for those of your households and as food for your little ones.” ²⁵ So they said, “You have saved our lives; let us find favor in the sight of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh’s servants.” ²⁶ And Joseph made it a law over the land of Egypt to this day, *that* Pharaoh should have one-fifth, except for the land of the priests only, *which* did not become Pharaoh’s. Genesis 47:23-26

- D. These blessings were ultimately due to God’s blessing, and curses could and would come upon Egypt as well. The Ten Plagues are a great example of God’s curse -



The Ten Plagues of Egypt



Pharaoh’s fear rather than faith resulted in actions that brought the curse on him and Egypt – Exodus 1:9-16 & :22

These curses came because the Pharaoh did not know Joseph, Israel or Israel's God, he had cursed God's people and found himself cursed –

² And Pharaoh said, "Who *is* the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, nor will I let Israel go." Exodus 5:2 (NKJV)

II. Today it is through the Lord Jesus we are either cursed or blessed –

³⁶ He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." John 3:36 (NKJV)

1. Eternal life is attained through knowledge of God and Jesus Christ –

³ And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. John 17:3 (NKJV)

2. Jesus is our connection to the promises of Abraham, He is Abraham's Seed –

¹⁶ Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "**And to your Seed,**" who is Christ. Galatians 3:16 (NKJV)

²⁹ And if you **are** Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Galatians 3:29 (NKJV)

3. The greatest of the plagues upon Egypt was the death of the first born, the last plague. God's people were protected from this plague by the blood of sacrificed lambs –

⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take *it* from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶ Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight. ⁷ And they shall take *some* of the blood and put *it* on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. Exodus 12:5–7 (NKJV)

¹³ Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you *are*. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy *you* when I strike the land of Egypt. Exodus 12:13 (NKJV)

4. Jesus, through His death on the cross, is our Passover Lamb –

²⁹ The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! John 1:29 (NKJV)

⁷ Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 1 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)

III. The great purpose of the Lord's Supper is our "remembrance" of what Christ has done for us –

The Lord's Supper in the New Testament is the Covenant Sign that corresponds to the Passover in the Old; both signs point to Jesus Christ –

²³ For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the **same** night in which He was betrayed took bread; ²⁴ and when He had given thanks, He broke *it* and said, "**Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.**" ²⁵ In the same manner **He** also **took** the cup after supper, saying, "**This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.**" 1 Corinthians 11:23–25 (NKJV)

1. How importance remembrance of Christ's death is:

A. *It humbles us in regard to our sin(s) – 2 Corinthians 5:21*

B. *It shows us God's love – Romans 5:8*

2. Like Joseph purchased the people (and all they owned) for Pharaoh, so we are PURCHASED by Christ for God –

A. *Joseph's purchase – Genesis 47:23-26, note the people were thankful to be bought!*

B. *Christ's purchase – 1 Corinthians 6:19–20 (NKJV)*

3. Ignoring (or not knowing) Christ's death is even worse than Egyptians / Pharaoh not knowing Joseph –

¹⁸ By these three **plagues** a third of mankind was killed—...

²⁰ But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these **plagues**, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk.

²¹ And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts. Revelation 9:18–21 (NKJV)

⁹ And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these **plagues**; and they did not repent and give Him glory. Revelation 16:9 (NKJV)

⁴ And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her **plagues**. Revelation 18:4 (NKJV)

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