

Scripture Reading: Genesis 39-40

Singing: 52:1-4 – 100:1-4 – 209:1, 2, 3, 6, 7 – 439:1-3

- A. The Scripture is the record of God's hand in people's crisis in life
- B. The comfort of this hand is the privilege of those that fear His Name
But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him – but the LORD was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy. (Ps. 103:17; Gen. 39:21)

THE LORD'S PRESENCE WITH HIS PEOPLE

I. WHAT THAT IS II. WHAT THAT BRINGS

I. The Lord's Presence with His people: *what that is?*

- A. The key to Joseph's life story is *that the LORD was with him*
1. Yet often the question arises in our crisis: *where is God thy LORD?*
- B. The LORD's Presence with His people is *His Providential Hand Guiding'*
1. What is meant with God's *sovereign providence?*
 2. What are the evidences of God's *moving purposely* in Joseph's life?
- C. Learn to believe that *God has His hand upon all details of our life*
1. We are no 'accident' but a *uniquely created person*
 2. God is present with His people even in worst of circumstances
 3. God is present in the smallest details of His people's lives (Rom. 8:27; Matt. 10:29-31)

II. The LORD's presence with His people: *what that brings?*

- A. How was/is it evident that I am one of the LORD's people?
1. The evidence in Joseph's life
 2. What is the evidence in your life?

B. What does such a life of fearing God bring?

1. It will bring you many unexpected turns that seem *down-turns!*

a. obedience doesn't always bring your blessings (Ps. 105:18)

b. it appears Joseph gained nothing but trouble in following God

c. yet in all *the LORD was with Joseph and shewed Him mercy*

2. It will bring many unexpected turns that are all *up-turns!* (Heb. 12:11)

a. When God turns down the 'light of prosperity' it is only to show us new things we can't see until it is dark

b. Joseph's life was not *haphazard collection of unlucky events* but his life was *God's work in progress*

c. God needs 'iron saints' and there no other way to form hardened iron than in the furnace

C. Learn therefore, children of God, God is the Potter, we are the clay

1. Don't avenge yourself as Joseph also didn't (Gen. 40:15; 41ff)

a. he didn't *incriminate others* but *testified 'I did nothing wrong'*

b. he followed the step of his Savior: 1 Peter 2:18-25)

c. don't make the mistake of clearing yourselves but continue to do the right when all do the wrong

Truths About Providence

God's providences will fulfill His promises.

There are no accidents in the life ruled by the Almighty.

What God intends, He decreed; what God permits, He overrules.

If our circumstances find us in God, we shall find God in our circumstances
(G. Muller)