

## ***"The Problems of a Dreamer"***

*Sunday Morning Message by Ray Reynolds (September 22, 2013)*

Introduction: Since the third chapter of Genesis we have seen God's passion for the nation of Serpent Crushers. He has continually renewed His promise (**Genesis 3:15**). What we have seen in **The Story** is that God calls us to capture the upper story and its effects on our lives in the lower story. The story of Joseph is a crystal clear example of the intertwining of the two story lines in the Bible. Let's study together....

Discussion:

**I. *Joseph is Conceived in Adversity (Genesis 30-36)***

- A. His family was dysfunctional.
- B. His mother was dramatic.
- C. His father was a deceiver.

**II. *Joseph is Sold into Slavery (Genesis 37-39)***

- A. His parents showed favoritism.
- B. His dreams revealed favoritism.
- C. His owners exhibited favoritism.

**III. *Joseph is Imprisoned for Promiscuity (Genesis 39-41)***

- A. His integrity is compromised.
- B. His conviction is tested.
- C. His faithfulness is rewarded.

**IV. *Joseph is Promoted to Deputy (Genesis 41)***

- A. His gift becomes valuable.
- B. His wisdom reveals providence.
- C. His dream thwarts disaster.

**V. *Joseph is Reunited with Family (Genesis 42-50)***

- A. His position allows reparation.
- B. His compassion brings unity.
- C. His salvation assures restoration.

Conclusion: God is at work in the midst of our lives accomplishing His good purposes (**Romans 8:28**). In order to do that, God tests us to build our faith in Him and strong character in us at the same time. The issues that Joseph faced are not that indifferent from those we face in the world today. How will we respond when we are faced with similar trials? Are you ready to surrender to His will?