



Injustice Happens

Genesis 37-41:57

Message Notes by Dr. Mark Platt

Many things in life are not fair and people are often not nice. Unfair things happen to all of us: spouses leave, children sin, loved ones die, finances swindle, businesses fail, disease comes, markets change, and crimes happen.

Joseph shows us how God uses the unfair things and the injustices of life to accomplish His purposes. Joseph's life shows us how God's people can overcome the unjust and unfair events of life.

From Joseph's life and experiences with his brothers, Mrs. Potiphar, and the Pharaoh's cupbearer, we learn **three facts** about injustice:

I. Injustice comes unexpectedly

1. from family members Genesis 37:23-25
2. from the workplace Genesis 39:1-20
3. from friends Genesis 40:1-23

II. Injustice debases people

1. with violence Genesis 37:20, 28
2. with sex Genesis 39:7, 12
3. with lies Genesis 39:13-18
4. with abandonment Genesis 40:14-15, 23

III. Injustice brings opportunities

1. to serve in greater ways Genesis 39:22-23
2. to live in greater humility Genesis 40:8, 41:16, 28, 39
3. to trust in greater dependence Genesis 40:39; 41:1, 38-46
4. to thrive in greater measure Genesis 41:50-57
 - a. Manasseh = God made me forget
 - b. Ephraim = God made me fruitful

Your Response:

1. What are the injustices that happened in your life? How have they shaped your life for good and for bad?
2. Tell the truth now: has injustice and hard times made you bitter or better? What is your evidence? How could you have handled injustices better?
3. Give your hurts and injustice to God in prayer right now. Ask Him to give you the ability to rejoice and trust Him in the middle of them.
4. Are there people in your life who have wronged you? Do you still carry a grudge? Begin the process of forgiveness now.

Resources:

Joseph: Living a Life of Integrity by Gene Getz and Tony Beckett

Exposition of Genesis by H. C. Leupold

Suffering and the Sovereignty of God edited by John Piper and Justin Taylor

Affliction by Edith Schaeffer

Joseph by Charles R. Swindoll