

## **“Divine Companionship”**

**Text:           Genesis 39:1-23**

**Intro:**

- What we learn from this passage:
    - ☉ No matter what circumstance or situation, the believer will go through or find himself in.
    - ☉ He has the blessed promise of Divine Companionship with the Lord Jesus Christ.
    - ☉ This should be a comfort and blessing to us especially living in the end times.
  - Notice in Genesis 39 the statements made concerning **Joseph**
    - ☉ **V. 2**, “the LORD was with Joseph”
    - ☉ **V. 3**, “the LORD was with him”
    - ☉ **V. 21**, “the LORD was with Joseph”
    - ☉ **V. 23**, “the LORD was with him”
  - This morning we want to look at the situations or circumstances that Joseph found himself in.
  - And despite the circumstance, we want to notice that “**the LORD was with him**”
  - In other words, no matter how desperate the situation Joseph found himself in he had the “**Divine Companionship of the Lord.**”
- I.    HIS FAMILY WAS AGAINST HIM**
- **See Gen. 37:4, 18-28.**

- ☉ Joseph's brothers sold him into slavery.
- But despite this notice what the Word of God says in **Gen. 39:1-2.**
  - ☉ **"the LORD was with Joseph"**
  - ☉ Despite his circumstance Joseph prospered because the Lord was with him.
- My friend if <sup>you</sup> make a stand for God and things of God don't be surprised if your family goes against you.
  - ☉ Jesus said that he came to bring division.
  - ☉ **See Luke 12:51-53.**
- Despite this we need to remember our Lord's promise of divine companionship.
  - ☉ Jesus said in **Mt. 28:20**, "...lo, I am with you ~~always~~, even unto the end of the world."
  - ☉ **Heb. 13:5**, "...I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."
  - ☉ **Psalm 27:10**, "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up."
- We have to remember that the Lord's own family was against Him.
  - ☉ **See Psalm 69:8**, "I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children."
    - A prophecy of Jesus' that Israel and his own half brothers and sisters would reject Him.
  - ☉ **See John 7:5**, "For neither did his brethren believe in him."
    - Here we have the fulfillment of that prophesy.

- When our family is against us for living for the Lord, we must remember the Lord's promise of Divine Companionship.

## II. HIS MASTER WAS AGAINST HIM

- In **Gen. 39:7-20**, we are given the account where the wife of Potiphar, Joseph's master wants him to <sup>don't read</sup> ~~commit adultery~~ <sup>lie</sup> with her.

☉ Joseph refuses and won't compromise.

- **See Gen. 39:9**

- As a result Potiphar's wife falsely accuses Joseph and he is put in prison

☉ But despite Joseph's circumstance, notice what the Word of God says in **v. 21**, "**But the LORD was with Joseph.**"

- Again, the promise of divine companionship displayed.

- We can apply Joseph circumstance to the Christian today.

☉ Joseph's master, Potiphar was an Egyptian.

- Egypt in the scripture is a type of the world.

☉ So, the application we can make to the Christian is this –

- If you stand for the Lord and the things of the Lord not only will your family be against you but also the world.

- Be it co-workers, neighbors, business acquaintances, etc.

- For example –

☉ You may not get a job promotion because of your stand for the Lord.

☉ If business man, then you may lose business

- ☉ You probably will have few friends.
- ☉ You probably be the topic of conversation around the water cooler at work.
- However, you must remember, the Lord will not only be with you as He was with Joseph but also may prosper you like He did Joseph.
- Remember, the Apostle Paul said, “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer **persecution.**” – **2 Tim. 3:12**

### **III. CIRCUMSTANCES WERE AGAINST HIM**

- Joseph was a Jew and came from a family of shepherds.
  - ☉ **Gen. 46:34**, tells us the Egyptians hated shepherds.
    - “...for every shepherd is an abomination unto the Egyptians.”
  - ☉ What this pictures -
    - We know that the good shepherd in the Word of God is Jesus Christ.
    - The world (which Egypt is a type of) hates Christ.
    - Because it hates Christ, it will hate you and I.
- Joseph’s brothers had sold him into slavery in Egypt.
- Joseph was unjustly accused and cast into prison.
  - ☉ Despite all of this we read in **Gen. 39:23**, “...**the LORD was with him.**”
- The Word of God is just so rich with illustration after illustration of circumstances being against the believer but Lord being with them.
- For example:

- ☉ **Daniel Chapter 3** – Three Hebrew children, Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego refused to ~~bow~~<sup>bow</sup> down and worship the golden image of King Nebuchadnezzar.
- ☉ The result was they were thrown into the fiery furnace.
  - Despite their circumstances we see “Divine Companionship”
  - **See Dan. 3:25-27.**
- ☉ **Daniel 6** – Daniel continued to pray to the Lord, God Almighty even though to do so was against the King’s decree.
- ☉ The result was that he thrown into the Lion’s Den to be devoured.
  - Despite his circumstance we see “Divine Companionship”
  - **See Dan. 6:19-22.**
  - Notice **v. 22**, “My God hath sent his angel”
  - The Apostle Paul tells us in **Galatians 4:14**, that Jesus Christ is an angel of God.
- ☉ In Acts 27, Paul is in a storm at sea and he just about to be shipwreck and lost at sea.
  - There was among the men with him a great fear of the loss of ~~the~~<sup>their</sup> lives
  - **See Acts 27:21-26.**
  - **V. 23, “the angel of God”** – the same angel as mentioned in **Gal. 4:14, Jesus Christ.**
- Christian, you and I will be falsely accused and circumstances will be against us when we take a stand for the Lord. *our families will be against us*

- ☉ Remember what the Apostle Peter said in **1 Pe. 4:12-13**.
- ☉ “Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:  
But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.”
- ☉ Despite the circumstances that we might find ourselves in remember that **Divine Companionship** is promise to the saint of God.
- ☉ The prophet Isaiah said in **Isa. 43:2**, “When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.”

#### **IV. DEATH IS AGAINST US**

- Even in death my friend we are promised **Divine Companionship**.
- ☉ **Psalm 23:4**, “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.”
- ☉ In fact the believer has victory over death.
  - **See I Cor. 15:54-57**