

**GOD'S WAYS ARE NOT OUR WAYS**  
**Valuable Lessons from the Dungeon**  
(Genesis 40)

**A. Review:**

1. The *key truth* about *God* from the story of Joseph involves learning about His amazing sovereign and gracious \_\_\_\_\_ in preserving His \_\_\_\_\_ {the nation of Israel} in keeping with His \_\_\_\_\_. {Genesis 50:20}

2. The *key principle* for *You* to learn involves recognizing that regardless of your ADVERSE CIRCUMSTANCES, by God's grace you can \_\_\_\_\_ in God's unfailing PROVIDENTIAL CARE so as to be \_\_\_\_\_ to Him wherever you are.

3. The *key encouragement* to you is that God is willing to save you JUST AS YOU ARE, but He doesn't want to leave you JUST AS YOU ARE, though He is willing to work with you \_\_\_\_\_.

4. The *key instruction* to remember is that you can either daily RESPOND to life's trials by \_\_\_\_\_ on the Lord & \_\_\_\_\_ in His plan / promises or you can \_\_\_\_\_ AFTER THE FLESH.

**B. Three New Testament Principles before we examine an Old Testament Example {James 5:1-12}**

1. Believers are \_\_\_\_\_ from the mistreatment of others when doing God's will. (5:1-6; 1 Peter 2:19-25)
2. The right response to unjust suffering is one of \_\_\_\_\_ through waiting by faith on the Lord to accomplish His will in His time and letting His promises support you in the meantime. (5:7-8)
3. The wrong reactions to unjust suffering include \_\_\_\_\_. (5:9-12)

**C. Valuable Principles to Learn from Prison Time. {Genesis 39:21-40:23}**

1. If you seek to honor the Lord by standing firm on a \_\_\_\_\_, it may result in \_\_\_\_\_ consequences initially instead of a temporal favorable outcome. (39:20; Ps. 105:18-19; 2 Tim. 3:12; 1 Peter 4:12-17) What is God doing through this? How was Joseph tested?
2. If you experience unjust suffering, you can trust that the \_\_\_\_\_ will be with you, as also will His \_\_\_\_\_ to go through the trial. (39:21a; Lam. 3:22-26) Do you understand the difference between deserve & undeserved suffering? With every trial, what can you expect from the Lord and what is He offering you?
3. If you respond to the Lord in your unjust suffering, God may give you \_\_\_\_\_ with others, even those in \_\_\_\_\_. (39:21b-22; Prov. 21:1; 1 Peter 2:18-20) Had this happened before?
4. If you respond to the Lord in your unjust suffering, you will spiritually \_\_\_\_\_ as might what you \_\_\_\_\_. (39:23) What made the difference?

5. If you respond to the Lord instead of reacting after your flesh in your unjust suffering, you will be able to see beyond yourself to \_\_\_\_\_ others that don't deserve it. (40:1-7)
  
6. If you are responding to the Lord in your unjust suffering, you will be quick to give \_\_\_\_\_ and not steal it for yourself and be a godly \_\_\_\_\_. (40:8; 1 Pet. 3:15)
  
7. If you are responding to the Lord in your unjust suffering, God can & may \_\_\_\_\_ you for His glory & purposes in ways you never imagined. {40:9-19}
  
8. If you are responding to the Lord in your trials, you may be forgotten by MAN but never by GOD. (40:20-23) So did Joseph's interpretations prove to be true & accurate?

**D. Some Closing Applications:**

1. When God wants to mature & equip you for service, you can be assured of His \_\_\_\_\_.
  
2. Though God's ways are not your ways, He is always \_\_\_\_\_ to deliver you from or through your trials & His grace is always \_\_\_\_\_ for you in the meantime so you must \_\_\_\_\_ on Him.
  
3. You must remember to ultimately trust the \_\_\_\_\_ and not put your ultimate confidence in \_\_\_\_\_ who will at times fail you.
  
4. You need to remember to be \_\_\_\_\_ to whatever God has called us to do or say – only by His grace.