Joseph

In every human choice there is a human intention and a divine intention.

**1. Joseph’s life demonstrates this truth.**

*Joseph’s dreams* (Genesis 37:5-11)

*Jacob’s command* (37:12-14)

*The empty cistern* (37:18-24)

*The traders* (37:25-28)

*Potiphar & his wife* (39:1-21)

*Pharaoh’s anger* (40:1-3)

*Pharaoh’s dreams* (41:1-8)

**2. We ought to accept this truth.**

A. Because *the Bible* teaches it

B. Because our *moral sanity* requires it

**3. We need to meditate on this truth.**

A. To see God’s hand *in our lives*

B. To learn to *trust* the Lord

Romans 8:28

C. To learn to *fear* the Lord

D. To learn not to fear *our mistakes*

**For Private Meditation or Family Discussion**

1. How did the Lord speak to you through the message? Did He put His finger on any habits or attitudes that you need to change? Did He encourage you regarding some difficulty, move you to undertake some new challenge, or open your heart to some truth you hadn’t seen before?

2. What were the human intentions and the divine intention in the following passages?

Isaiah 10:5-16 (Assyria)

Acts 4:24-28 (Pilate and the Jewish leaders)

3. What aspects of our lives does the Lord plan and bring about according to the following passages?

Job 1:20-22 (read vv. 6-19 to get the context)

Psalm 139:16

Psalm 75:6-7

Proverbs 21:1

Ephesians 2:10

Philippians 2:13

4. Yet Scripture also teaches that we are responsible for our choices because we make them freely; we are not forced to choose as we do.

Joshua 24:14-27

Isaiah 66:3 (last part) & 4