

## Luke 12:42-44

***And the Lord said, "Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his master will make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. Truly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all that he has."***

When I first read Jesus' words here, the first person I thought of was Joseph. If you don't know the story, I would encourage you to read it in the book of Genesis, starting in chapter 37. But really quick, Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers. He then became the slave of Potiphar, who was an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, and an Egyptian. Then Potiphar's wife had the hots for Joseph and wanted him to sleep with her, but he was a man of God and he refused to. So, because he was obedient to God and not his flesh, he ended up in prison, where he maintained his walk with God and became in charge of the other prisoners. Then Pharaoh had a dream and God used Joseph to interpret his dream, which after he did, Pharaoh made him second in command, only second to himself (Pharaoh). So, what does all of this have to do with today's devotional verses? Well, in regards to Potiphar the bible says:

† **Genesis 39:4** *So Joseph found favor in his sight, and served him. Then he made him overseer of his house, and all that he had he put under his authority.* (underlined for emphasis)

Then when he was in prison, the bible also says that:

† **Genesis 39:22** *And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners who were in the prison; whatever they did there, it was his doing.* (underlined for emphasis)

Final after he interpreted Pharaoh's dream the bible says:

† **Genesis 41:41** *And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."* (underlined for emphasis)

Now put all of those together and look at this from today's devotional verse:

† ***Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his master will make ruler over his household.***

Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers, wrongly accused of attempted rape by the over sex starved wife of his boss and was wrongly thrown into prison, where he would eat the worse food

and probably had to drink dirty water, along with smelling the stink of prison and having to deal with murders and the worst of the worst every day in the prison.

Then he had a chance to make a name for himself by God using him to interpret Pharaoh's dream. If you think about it, he could have said, "Yep I interpreted your dream Pharaoh, so I should be in charge of this project to help out in the famine that's coming." But he didn't. Instead he said:

† **Genesis 41:16** *So Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace."*

Through it all, regardless how good or how bad things were going for Joseph, he was always a man of God, and God used him.

Yet how much do we whine when we are wronged or bad things happen to us? I know, I have done it just like you have, so I say "we".

Maybe it's time to be men and women of God, and instead of whining, we should be praising God for being with us and being our God through the good and hard times.

† **Acts 5:40-42** *And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.*