

**Genesis 50:15-16 (NIV)**

**[15] When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" [16] So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died:**

## **Genesis 50:17-18 (NIV)**

**[17] 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept. [18] His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.**

**Genesis 50:19-21 (NIV)**

**[19] But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? [20] You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. [21] So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.**

**God INTENDED it  
for GOOD!**

**Genesis 49:29 - 50:26**

# **Very Impressive Procession**

- **VIP's** - Officials and dignitaries of Pharaoh's court and Egypt
- **Family** - his own household & his brothers
- **Military** - chariots and cavalry

## Genesis 15:5-6 (NIV)

...Look up at the heavens and count the stars - if indeed you can count them. Then he said to him, "**So SHALL YOUR OFFSPRING BE.**" [6] **Abram BELIEVED the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.**

**Genesis 15:13, 18 (NIV)**

Then the LORD said to him, "Know for certain that **your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be ENSLAVED and mistreated four hundred years.**

...[18] On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, "**To your descendants I GIVE this land...**

## **Jacob Made it Clear that he...**

- had **FAITH** God would make them into a **NATION**
- understood that they would be **IN** Egypt for **MANY** years
- believed God had **ALREADY GIVEN** them the Land of Promise
- trusted God to **LEAD** them **OUT** of Egypt

## 2 Corinthians 4:16-17 (NET)

Therefore we do **not DESPAIR**, but even if our physical body is wearing away, our **INNER PERSON** is being renewed day by day. [17] For our **MOMENTARY**, light **SUFFERING** is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison

2 Corinthians 4:18 (NET)

[18] because we are **NOT** looking at what

**CAN be seen** but at what

**CANNOT be SEEN.**

For what can be seen is temporary, but what

**CANNOT BE SEEN IS ETERNAL.**

## **JOSEPH'S REACTION...**

- **WEPT** when he heard the
- told them **NOT** to **FEAR**
- you **INTENDED** it if for **EVIL**
- God **INTENDED** it for **GOOD**
- promised to **CARE** for them  
**REASSURED** them

Hebrews 11:22 (NIV)

**By FAITH Joseph**, when his end was near, **spoke about the EXODUS** of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions about his bones.

## **We see Joseph's Trust and Faith he...**

- Never **GAVE UP** Hope
- **FORGAVE** His Brothers
- Trusted **GOD** with the **FUTURE**
- Believed God had a **PLAN**
- **TRUSTED** God to Keep His **PROMISES**

## Jeremiah 18:1-4 (NLT)

The LORD gave another message to Jeremiah. He said, [2] “Go down to the potter’s shop, and I will speak to you there.” [3] So I did as he told me and found the **potter working at his wheel.** [4] **But the jar he was making did not turn out as he had hoped, so HE CRUSHED it into a lump of clay again and started over.**

**Jeremiah 18:5-6 (NLT)**

**[5] Then the LORD gave me this message: [6] “O Israel, can I not do to you as this potter has done to his clay?**

**As the clay is in the potter’s hand,**

**SO ARE you in MY HAND.**

In Joseph we see that to leave **ALL** the righting of wrongs to God, to see God's **PROVIDENCE** in man's evil, and to **REPAY EVIL** not only **WITH FORGIVENESS** but also with **AFFECTION** and **CARE**, are attitudes which anticipate the description **“Christ-like”**.

## Psalm 11:1-3 (NLT)

**I trust in the Lord for protection.**

So why do you say to me, "Fly to the mountains for safety! [2] The wicked are stringing their bows and setting their arrows in the bowstrings. They shoot from the shadows at those who do right. [3] The foundations of law and order have collapsed. What can the righteous do?"

Psalm 11:4 (NLT)

But the Lord is in

**HIS holy Temple;**

the Lord **STILL RULES**

from heaven...

# Questions

1. How can focusing on Eternity and God's promises help when we are struggling here and now?
2. Why is it important for us to remember God is the POTTER and we are the clay?
3. How can we make sure that God is RULING in our hearts each day?