

Genesis 39:1-5

¹ Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an Egyptian officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the bodyguard, bought him from the Ishmaelites, who had taken him down there. ² And the LORD was with Joseph, so he became a successful man. And he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian. ³ Now his master saw that the LORD was with him and *how* the LORD caused all that he did to prosper in his hand. ⁴ So Joseph found favor in his sight, and became his personal servant; and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he owned he put in his charge. ⁵ And it came about that from the time he made him overseer in his house, and over all that he owned, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house on account of Joseph; thus the LORD's blessing was upon all that he owned, in the house and in the field.

What is important for every believer to understand is if God's favor is upon a person, then that favor can overflow into every area of their lives. We learn here that the Lord blessed the home of Potiphar because of Joseph. Perhaps God has you working where you are, in order to bless your employer. Have you ever seen that you may be carrying the favor of God everywhere you go? Our problem is perspective! Because we as humans tend to single out and focus on the one negative issue in our lives; we become blind to the abundant blessings that surround us. Our Heavenly Father can dote on us with blessings and favor; but we become blind and indifferent to them, because of one area of discomfort. It is certainly human nature to dwell on the negative, that's why a person who lives above their circumstances stands out so much today. A clear scale to determine a believer's maturity is for them to see which has more of an impact in their life, their blessings or their hardships.

Satan's goal is to blind every follower of Jesus Christ, from the abundant blessings that our Heavenly Father showers down upon His people. He does it so easily by getting us to focus on anything other than the Lord. Recently a man that I know said that he doesn't believe it is possible for a person to truly make the Lord first in their life. I couldn't disagree more! Making the Lord first is not only possible, He commands it. Sometimes we look at our situation, and we would never believe that God's favor is upon us; because of the circumstances that we are facing. Yet, often the Lord is most honored in our lives, when we remain faithful to Him, despite such difficult situations. If only most believers understood just how important every decision that we make is. Our society is trying to teach us that everything is OK, as long as you do it in moderation; but when God calls sin, sin, then moderation is not an option. The Lord doesn't require perfection in order to receive His favor, but He does require a heart that is sold out to Him. So the question is who or what is first in your life? If God isn't first in your life, if you aren't sold out to Him, then can you see why His favor is not resting upon your life? I have seen over and over again, people sold out to the Lord in every area, but one. That hidden or rebellious sin is something that they are unwilling to part with. Many believers live out their entire life unwilling to relinquish what God is requiring them to lie down. If only we truly understood how those simple decisions disqualify us from His very best! Once each of us come to that place where we acknowledge that God is sovereign, and once we truly surrender every area of our life to Him; then we can begin to live above our circumstances.