

“Having God’s Perspective”

“Everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms—to choose one’s attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one’s own way.”

Viktor E. Frankl, Holocaust survivor

Philippians 1:12-14

Genesis 50:15-22

Genesis 37

You cannot control the circumstances of your life, but you can control your response to them.

But, God has given us the tools we need to overcome adversities and prevent them from becoming stress within our soul.

The solution is not to continue being the victim, feeling sorry for yourself, knowing that you will determine your own future by the choices you make.

**YOU ARE A SLAVE TO WHATEVER RUINS YOUR PEACE OF MIND.**

We either actively move toward the goal of intimacy with Jesus Christ by renewing our mind with the Word of God (even giving thanks in suffering) or we choose to focus on our problems and continue to live in misery.

Joy is not a choice or an attitude but a spiritual fruit produced in our hearts when Jesus Christ is treasured above all.

Paul wants to take their focus away from his circumstances to what God has done because of his circumstances.

The chains meant for confinement became the means of spiritual freedom for many!

Paul knows his life is nothing compared to the advancement of the Gospel and the mission of God cannot be stopped by men or even the devil because

God is sovereign over all!

Joseph’s brothers do not understand grace; they have no nobility of character.

In all of this, Joseph kept his eyes on the Lord; consistently looking at life from the divine viewpoint, living by the Word and so his reaction is only grace.

Don’t get in the Lord’s way because we can never do as good a job as He can on someone who has wronged us.

When Joseph puts a matter in the Lord’s Hands, he forgets it!

But what happens when we put our life in the Lord’s hands and operate based on the faith-rest life?

Who but God can turn cursing into blessing? GRACE!

The second hope is blessing in life and as soon as the maturity barrier is cracked, it’s no longer a hope, it’s a reality.

Did they deserve it?

No, but God worked all these things together for good through His grace.

Joseph is ruling Egypt and Egypt is prospering and now, he’s ruling his family and they are also prospering.

The Lord Jesus Christ is so central in Paul's life that while in prison, he has abundant joy because the Gospel is advancing.

Paul knew that the evil toward him was good for the Gospel and focusing on the right things allows us to have the same confidence and patience to be assured that God is at work in our lives and the lives of others through us.

Romans 8:28 is for those that love God and no one loves God until he grows up spiritually. Paul recognizes that he will have students in every generation for the rest of the Church Age and forever, so he wants all of the royal family to comprehend this very important point.

It's obvious, that for anyone who is positive toward biblical truth, operating within the framework of the plan of God, that all things are working in the proper direction.

While our circumstances vary in life, our position in Christ never changes.

You can't have anything in life that is worthwhile without authority, even if it's only your own self-discipline.

The fact that Paul is in prison awaiting a very serious trial has not intimidated him at all.