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An Encounter With God

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AN ENCOUNTER WITH GOD........Matt. 22:37.

INT: Time approaching when MT will have a CHALLENGING encounter with God!!! "FACE TO FACE," HEART TO HEART!!!

MUST CONSIDER: Matt. 22:37. How much is that???
Matt. 6:33. How much is that??
Matt. 20:16. How MANY is FEW????

I Cor. 2:9. "HOW MANY WILL EVER KNOW...???

LESSON IN FOUR PARTS:
1. A man whom God put through the RINGER!!!!
2. A man who had more misfortunes than Noah, Job, Jonah and Moses combined.
3. A man who had many BLESSINGS interwoven in his miserable life.
4. A man who PLEASED GOD as much as any man in the Bible who had AN ENCOUNTER WITH GOD!!!

I. A REMARKABLE MAN IN HOLY SCRIPTURES. Gen. 37-45.

1. Son of a Patriarch's favorite wife. 37:3
2. Special gift: Coat of many colors. 3
3. 10 bros. Hated him. Spiteful. Ugly. 4
   (JOSEPH, son of Jacob and Rachel.)Gen. 30:24
4. Dreamed haughty dreams. Drew more ire. 37:5
5. 20 shek5. Sold, as slave, by own blood bros (W.G?) 12-28
6. Re-sold to Potiphar. (Where's God?) 37:36
8. Two dreams in prison. FORGOTTEN. (W.G?) 40:1-
10. Age: 30! Made Egyptian Prime Minister. 41:37

II. UNFORTUNATE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR ONE SO YOUNG:

2. Brothers hated him to the point of Murder!!!
3. Unexplained dreams increased the strife.
4. SOLD to strangers going to a strange land.
5. SOLD to a powerful & unreasonable task-master.
6. Unjustly imprisoned----for doing GOOD! Ran!!
7. FORGOTTEN 2 years by the Chief Butler.

(Question: How many of US would have said "I don't think God cares about ME. And quit????")

See the WHOLE picture!!!!

III. MORE BLESSINGS THAN MISFORTUNES. Count them

1. Parents LOVED him, Child indulgence, not abuse
2. Never went HUNGRY, NAKED nor DESERTED!!!!

3. BLESSED in Potiphar's house; till prep. needed for something GREATER.
4. BLESSED in Prison; till fully prepared for something GREATER.
5. Seasoned, matured and toughened for 2nd greatest job in the world!!! 13 years traini
6. ELEVATED to job of Prime Minister of world.
7. UNITED with his family. Dreams came true!!!!!
8. BLESSED the world with GOD'S wisdom. Top man!

(NOW: how mistreated and abused to YOU feel he was??? Powerful! Wealthy! Could write
his own ticket!! DID!!!)

IV. JOSEPH EXPLAINED HIS ENCOUNTER WITH GOD:

1. * GEN. 45:5-8. You have been USED.
   GOD did it !!!!
   God has His PLANS and uses US !!!! All of us!

APPLICATION:

1. One 17 yr. old boy AND GOD made a MAJORITY. Took time to work the great plan through!!!

2. WHEN THE TIME COMES//......
   a. WILL you seek the kingdom of God first....
   b. CAN you love GOD most? M. 22:37.
   c. DARE YOU: TO HAVE AN ENCOUNTER WITH GOD in GIVING YOU AND YOURS TO BLESS THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS IN THE FUTURE. JOSEPH DID!!!

DO YOU HAVE A SPR. NEED THIS MORNING?

Sinful! Lost! Need help. Acts 2:38...
Sinful! Out of duty—in trouble with God. R-P NEED A CH. HOME: Here it is!!! Welcome to MT