

Message: ***"I Will Provide for You"***

Scripture: Genesis 45:4-11

(11-10-24 Pastor Tony Hao)

In Genesis 45, Joseph pulled back the narrative veil and allowed us to see what has been going on behind the scenes. It was not the brothers who sent Joseph to Egypt; rather it was God. And God had a purpose for it all. We have seen numerous clues throughout the narrative that this has been the case; but now the central character reveals the divine plans and purpose behind it all. Joseph, who could discern the divine plan in the dreams of Pharaoh, also knew the divine plan in the affairs of his brothers. Through it all he saw God's plan to accomplish a "great deliverance" (v. 7).

Too often the fog of the flesh blocks out our ability to see God's plan. Our selfishness pushes away His hand because we want our way. Our location and our situation become irksome assignments, and life becomes a barren, cold, and lifeless. Joseph shows us that the only way to find happiness in the grind of life is to do so by faith. A faith-filled life means all the difference in how we view everything around us. It affects our attitudes toward people, toward location, toward situation, toward circumstances, toward ourselves. Only then do our feet become swift to do what is right.

GROWING DEEPER (Reflection & Application)

1. Has Joseph truly forgiven his brothers? Why do you think so?
2. As Joseph reveals himself for who he really is. How does he also make God known for who he is, has been, and will be?
3. When in your life have you enjoyed 'God's provision' – sovereignly, redemptively, or materially?
4. What is one thing you have learned from Joseph's story that would be most helpful to share with someone experiencing tough times?