

# Church in Regina

## The Enjoyment of Christ and Our Growth in Life unto Maturity—Week 5

### Joseph Becoming Qualified in Age After the Further Suffering of Two Years

When some read Genesis chapter forty, they may have the desire to speak to the Lord on Joseph's behalf and ask the Lord why He kept Joseph in prison for such a long time. Joseph was seventeen or eighteen years of age when he was first put into prison, and he was about twenty-eight years of age when he interpreted the dreams of his two companions in prison. Although he had been in the dungeon for at least ten years prior to the release of his companions, his own dreams still had not yet been fulfilled. Perhaps you would say, "Lord, this is too much. You have tested Joseph for ten years already. Why didn't You release him when You released his two companions? After Joseph had interpreted the dream of the cupbearer, he asked the cupbearer to remember him. But the cupbearer forgot Joseph, and nothing happened. Lord, it is easy for men to forget. But You are God, and You cannot forget things. **Why did You keep Joseph in prison for another two years?**" One day I was enlightened to see that Joseph remained in prison for another two full years (41:1) because **it was necessary for him to reach the age of thirty** (41:46).

Today many young people expect to be released from their cage as soon as they turn eighteen. But according to the Bible, **we need to reach the age**, not of eighteen or even twenty-eight, but of thirty. Those who served God as priests began to do so **in a full way** at the age of thirty (Num. 4:3). The ones under thirty were apprentices, not fully functioning priests (Num. 8:24). When the Lord Jesus began to minister, He also was thirty years of age (Luke 3:23). Thus, if Joseph had come to the throne at the age of twenty-eight, he would not have typified Christ in this matter. He had to be thirty years of age. After I saw this, I was convinced that these further two years were necessary for Joseph to be qualified. If he had not stayed there for two additional years, he would have been under age.

Young people, **no matter how long your trial may be, do not be disappointed**. You need to **recognize that your trial is of God**. No one can be enthroned without being tried and tested. Although we like to be enthroned immediately, God would say, "The time is not yet. Do not talk to Me about enthronement. You need to be put into the dungeon." If you seek the Lord, the Lord will put you into a dungeon. Perhaps all who are around you—your wife, your children, the elders, and the brothers and sisters—intend to respect you; however, whatever they do only serves to put you into a dungeon. We have nothing to say about this. **Without the dungeon, we cannot ascend to the throne**. Do not be a dungeon dropout; stay in the dungeon until you graduate and receive the crown. You need the last two years.

Madame Guyon was one who could praise the Lord in her dungeon. She even wrote a poem in which she likened herself to a bird in a cage. Here is the first stanza: A little bird I am / Shut from the fields of air, / And in my cage I sit and sing / To Him who placed me there; / **Well pleased a prisoner to be**, / Because, my God, it pleaseth Thee. / Madame Guyon grew to love her cage, which was her dungeon.

If Joseph had not stayed in the dungeon for twelve years, he would not have been qualified to rule over the land of Egypt. For this, he had to be thirty years of age. Those twelve years in the dungeon accomplished a great deal for him, **not through objective education but through subjective suffering and discipline**. **Be patient**; eventually you will be qualified to rule. But in order to be qualified, you need to stay in the dungeon for another period of time (Excerpts from The Life-Study of Genesis Msg 114).

### Local Announcements:

1. Prayer Mtg—June 4—Group 1 by Zoom; Group 2 in person
2. Blending Conference in Winnipeg—June 8 to 9

### Conferences and Trainings Information:

1. Chinese-Speaking Blending Conference—Feb.10-11, Taipei, Taiwan
2. International Training for Elders & Responsible Ones—Apr.12-14, Anaheim, CA
3. Memorial Day Blending Conference—May 24-27, Bellevue, WA
4. Summer Training—July 1-6, Anaheim, CA
5. International Training for Elders & Responsible Ones—Oct.4-6, Warsaw, Poland
6. Thanksgiving Blending Conference—Nov.28-Dec.1, Atlanta, GA
7. Winter Training—Dec.23-28, Anaheim, CA

# Prayer Burdens

1. Lord, give us an eternal view through the divine telescope as a matured saint to see the members of the Body as sheaves full of life and as stars full of light. May we all experience the reigning aspect of life in this age today.
2. Train us to be kingdom people. Subdue our anger and conquer our lust. We daily need Your presence and be ruled with Your authority. May we all live under the heavenly vision of the kingdom life.
3. Thank You, Lord for putting us in the “dungeon”. Encourage us to speak the vision we have seen regardless of how we feel. May we all take the opportunity to speak not only in the meetings but also in our daily interactions with others.
4. Lord, clothe us with the signet ring, garments, and golden chain. Subdue our will by the Spirit and cause us to be fruitful. You are the fountain, the source of fruitfulness, and we are your branches running over the wall, magnifying You.
5. Lord, bring us under the rulership of the Spirit. Make us those who are under restrictions denying ourselves so that the kingdom life may be realized in a practical way. Save us from any kind of looseness and vain excuses.
6. Lord, enlighten us to realize that we are here for Your purpose, for the Lord’s recovery, that we shall know that whatever happens to us is for You and Your people. Supply us with all Your spiritual riches more and more, until we all gain You fully, grow and reach maturity.

## North America/Europe/Other Burdens

1. Please pray for the upcoming Bible distribution at the 2024 Summer Olympic Games in Paris. Please pray in particular for the fresh and detailed consecrations of all the saints who will go out and that the fire of the gospel will be cast on French-speaking Europe, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Switzerland.

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1. Pray for the college students who will be joining the College Training.
2. Pray for the propagation work in Foam Lake and Moose Jaw. Strengthen the saints who are there to be a shining testimony. Remember their whole families and open them that there will be household salvation and lampstands in these places.
3. Pray for positive and immediate approval of all the immigration papers of the newcomers and their settling down, that their personal lives will be blessed and that their church life will be enriched:
  - > Alforte Family (Radam and Rosalina)
  - > Orolfo Family (Wilson and Jenny and their three children)
  - > Jerome Family (Pravin and Abinaya and their two children)
  - > Miranda Family (Ann Margarette and her family)

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

- Lord’s Table & Prophesying—Lord’s Day 10:00-12:00PM
- Prayer Meeting—Tuesdays 7:00-8:00PM
- Home Meeting—Wednesdays 6:00-7:00PM
- Chinese-Speaking Bible Reading—MW 8:30-9:00PM
- College Meetings—Fridays 7:30-8:30PM
- YP Meetings—Fridays 7:00-8:00 PM
- Children’s Meeting—Saturdays 10:00-11:00AM
- Small Group Meetings—Fridays/Saturdays 7:00-9:00PM

## CONTACT US:

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