

THIRTEEN YEARS OF HOPE



GENESIS 40

I. God personally gave Joseph reasons to have hope (Genesis 37:5-11).



- **Whatever would happen to him for the next 13 years, what assurance did he have?**

- **Whatever happens to you in your life, what assurances do you have?**

II. When rejected by his brothers and sold as a slave, he needed hope (37:23-28).



- **In that cistern, how desperately would Joseph need hope?**
- **When you have been rejected by your loved ones, what is your source of hope?**

III. When falsely accused and punished, he needed hope (Genesis 39:6-23**).**



- **What would sustain Joseph when he was wrongly punished for things he never did?**

- **What sustains you when you are wrongly accused of things you have not done?**

IV. When forgotten by a blessed cupbearer, he still needed hope (40:5-22).



- **As years of frustration pile up, why would these two years be the hardest?**
- **When lingering problems seem to never end, where do you find hope?**
- **Where can we find the hope to avoid complaining, as Joseph did for 13 years?**

V. God made Joseph's hope tangible

(Genesis 41:39-46; 45:7-8).



- How does the happy ending for Joseph show us that God is always just?
- How well do the biblical promises help you to be sustained by hope?

(Hebrews 13:5b; I Corinthians 10:13)

Call to Action: To develop and strengthen a hope that keeps sustaining us.



- **What has helped you to have hope, even through your trials?**
- **When you feel rejected, where is your hope?**
- **Where is your hope when you are falsely accused?**
- **How do you find hope when you feel forgotten by those you have blessed?**
- **How tangible is your hope?**

-How can we help?