

Title: God meant it for Good  
Text: Genesis 37:12-36

Would you take your Bibles, please, and turn to Genesis chapter 37. I want to begin where we left off last Sunday morning. We are looking at the life of Joseph as a beautiful type of Jesus. It is really amazing how the circumstances of Joseph's life become beautiful types in the life of our Lord. For the things that happened to Joseph, also, happened to Jesus.

Now, like I said last Sunday morning, I have one objective in mind in this study of Joseph. I WOULD HAVE US SEE JESUS. I want us to get our eyes off of self and onto Jesus. I want us to "fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith." And I hope that will happen this morning.

Genesis chapter 37..beginning with Vs 19..(READ Vs 18-36)

Prayer

(1) Now, last week we saw Joseph as a type of Christ in the Devotion that Jacob had for his son. It says <sup>Vs 4</sup> that Jacob loved Joseph more than his other sons. And this becomes a type because the Bible tells us that the Father loves the Son. And we learn something about the Love of God for Jesus in Jacob's love for Joseph.

(2) Also, last Week, we noticed the dreams of Joseph. And in these dreams Joseph saw his authority over family. His family would bow down before Joseph. And this becomes a type of Christ. Because in the N.T. we read that all "authority under heaven and on earth" will be given to Jesus. "That at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord."

*Here, Today, we Come To The*

(3C) There is a third area in which you see Joseph as a type of Christ.  
And that is in the determination of his brothers to get rid of him.

And I am sure you saw that in our reading. The determination of his brothers to get rid of Joseph is a tremendous type of Christ.

(1D) I would like you to notice in Chapter 37:19-20 THE REASON behind ~~all of this~~ *their determination to get rid of Joseph.*

Vs 19 says, "here comes this dreamer." And Vs 20 after they had said that there were going to throw him into a pit and kill him, in the last phrase we read, "then we shall see what will become of his dreams.

Remember ~~from last week~~ that it was the dreams which indicated his authority over his brothers and over his father and mother. These dreams indicated that ~~he~~ his family would bow down to him. And because of that, the brothers plotted to do away with Joseph.

And I am reminded that that is the same thing that happened in the life of our Lord. The very same thing.

You know, you could summarize the doctrine of Christ in the Bible as "Christ preaching Himself....He preaches himself all the time. "I am the bread of life. Come to me and you will never hunger....I am the water. Come to me and you will never thirst....He preached and wanted all men to worship Him....Do you think that was a popular message?

Listen, my friends, you read the Gospel of John in one setting and you will notice that on the one hand there are a few people who are believing in him. But, on the other hand, the masses are moving away in disbelief. And it gets stronger and stronger until finally they cry "Crucify Him, Crucify him." And they nail him to a wooden cross.

And the charge that puts Christ on the cross was His claim to be God.

~~3-~~  
~~not~~  
The claims of Jesus

You see, they were ~~mistaken~~ about ~~Jesus claim~~, as some of us are today. Listen, don't make any mistake about it. Jesus claimed to be God. He preached himself. He said, "Listen, I am the answer to the worlds problems. Come to me....And they weren't mistaken as to what he was claiming...They were clear on it...They just didn't believe it. And so they crucified him for his claims.

A lot of us are fusses. We try to water donw Jesus. Make him ~~like~~ like something we want him to be. You can't do that. He is Lord of all. <sup>He is God</sup>

(2D) Notice the reactions toward Josheph in vs 20 ....Let us kill him.... That is what ~~they~~ <sup>These Brothers</sup> wanted to do.

And you look at yourself and you say, "If Jesus were here, I wouhnd't want to kill him.....We have a picture of a man who is loving and sweet and wondefful. How could anyone want to kill him?

But, I remaidd you that that same loving, sweet ~~and~~ persons <sup>who lived</sup> ~~who has~~ <sup>on the</sup> face of ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> earth was also the soverign God who demands totall subjection from people in absolute obedience and rependence from sin. And that is what hurts.....

I read in John 1:11 that he came unto his own and his own received him not.....You say, how could his own <sup>people</sup> ~~brothers~~ put Jesus on the Cross? Well, my friends not only the Jews but everybody put Jesus on the Cross. Your sins and mine, the sins of the whole world put him on the cross.

6a

John 7:30 says that men were seeking to lay their hands on ~~Christ~~ <sup>Jesus</sup> but no one touched him for his hour had not yet come.

Men were seeking to lay hands on ~~Christ~~ <sup>Jesus</sup>. Just like those brothers were seeking to kill Joseph...

In J<sub>o</sub>hn 10:39 it says, "therefore they sought again to take him. But he escaped out of their hands.

And from the time of the raising of Lazarus from the dead the Bible says, "they sought ways to put him to death." And the Sanhein covented together a way to kill Jesus. ~~And his brothers sought to kill Joseph.~~

And his brothers sought to kill Joseph. Reuben, who was the oldest son and was responsible, had to intervene. But he lost out as they finally sold him into ~~the~~ slavery. *The ...*

(4C) And that is the fourth area that you see a beautiful type of Christ. The deliverance into the hands of the Ishmaelites

In Vs 25-28, we are told that they sold Joseph. It is very interesting that Judah, the Hebrew counter part of the Greek term Judas, the betrayer. Judah is the one who ask that they might sell Joseph.

And in the N.T., Judas sold Christ. How much did they sell Joseph for? It says ..20 pieces of silver. The price of a slave in those times.

How much did they sell Jesus for?...30 pieces of silver. That was the price of a slave in Jesus' time. The price of a slave.

Will you turn in your Bibles to Matthew chapter 26. *clear* Matthew 26 and beginning with Verse 14. Just as those brothers turned on their own brother so one of the twelve turned on Jesus. 12 men inwhom Jesus poured his life and his teaching and his love. One of them betrayed him.

*Matt 26:* Vs 14. *my* Then one of the twelve, named Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests, and said, 'what are you willing to give me to deliver Him up to you?' And they weighed out to him thirty pieces of silver. And from then on he began looking for a good opportunity to betray him."

Judas had his price, you see....Greed griped his heart and he looked for opportunity to betray him.

*Matt* Look at chapter 27 verse 1. *my* "Now when morning had come, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put Him to death; and they bound Him, and led him away, and delivered him up to Pilate the governor. Then when Judas who had betrayed him, saw that he had been condemned, he felt remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver."

You know, that is just what we do. We compromise our methods to get away with our guilt. He brought the money back.. Hay, maybe I can make things right...We try to make things right, the sin in our life, the same way....We compromise all the time...

Vs 4: Judas said, I have sinned by betraying innocent blood. But they said, What is that to us? See to that yourself."

Imagine that? Chief Priest. The religious leaders. And they say to a man who is broken hearted, and has said, "I have sinned." They should have said, "Repent"....But they did not. They said, "What is that to us. Who cares."

Vs 5...."And he threw the pieces of silver into the sanctuary and departed; and he went away and changed himself."

Now, some people see a weak man there. I see a strong man, there. Oh, he did not turn to God.....But, he went out and did what was common in light of the circumstances. He had betrayed the son of God. He deserved everything he got.....Do you understand that message?.....

Jesus loved him so much that as they sat at the table and he passed the bread to him. At that last moment, he said to Judas "What you must do go do."....All of his disciples thought he was going out to buy supplies because he was the treasurer, of the group. But he wasn't. He was going out to betray him. And Jesus knew it. And you can imagine what it must have looked like when Judas looked into the eyes of Jesus as he offered him that bread.....

One last invitation to this man who was about to betray him.....Or... what must it have been like when Judas planted that kiss on the cheek of Jesus. And Jesus heard him say, "Friend".....Simple word "comrad"

And Jesus said, "Why, do you call me Friend.".....

Judas betrayed him.....Many of us would say, "I wouldn't do that." Maybe we are like Peter, who said, "Listen, Lord, if all these men here betray you, you can count on me. I will never deny you."

Jesus said, "Listen, before the cock crows ~~the~~ times you will deny me three times."

And after Peter had denied Jesus he went out and wept and then said to the others, "I am going fishing."....."I don't know about you. But I have to get away. I am tired and I must get away. I am going fishing."

*But* And Jesus loved him so much that after the resurrection Jesus came out there were Peter was fishing. Do you remember the story. And Jesus showed Peter how to caught fish. And that big strong fishermen pulled in a net with 123 fishes. *Do you think* Do you think he was excited? ~~You bet your bottom dollar he was~~...He was jumping around, praising the Lord.. *Oh*, know he wasn't. He was still a broken man. And Jesus said to him, "Peter, do you love me more than these?....Not these fish....It is masculine in the Greek. It means "these men".....

Because you see, Peter had said, "I love you more than them. I will never betray you *for*. If they do, don't worry, I will not...

Jesus said, "Listen, do you love me now, more than all these men do?" He said it to him three times, and Peter couldn't even answer with the right word.....He changed the word "love" to a word meaning "fondness". Peter couldn't even use the word "love" that Jesus used.

*out* In English there is one word for "love". In *greek* there are <sup>5</sup> different words. And the Bible says that Peter was grieved in his heart. Because he ask him the third time....WHY?.....Because Jesus was putting his finger on the sore spot.

You see, just like many of us. *Jesus said* Do you really love me? You mean that you will never betray me? You would never be like Judas? You would never be like those brothers who delievered over ~~their~~ *Joseph* brother into the hands of the Ishmaelites? You would never sell your testimony for a price?

Oh, ~~yes~~, we would. It is only by the grace of God that we don't. Now, Peter turned the world upside down for Jesus. But he had to learn, first, how to love Jesus. Do you love Jeus? Really, do you?...

Or, is it some sentamental thing for what he does for us? That is not what God wants.....The Father loves the son....Everything centers in Him... And God calls us to love Him....To give him all praise, honor and glory.

*To submit our life to Him* But, what do we do? We walk out and take it all for ourselves as we try to run our own life.... *That is what we do.*

~~Accept his~~

(5C) Well, we see the dipping of the coat in blood as another type of Christ  
Coming back to Genesis<sup>31</sup> and looking at verse 29-31 they took the varicolored  
coat of Joseph and dipped it into the blood of an animal.

And I think this is amazing. Those brothers were doing this in sin.  
It was deception. They were going to go back and tell their own father  
that Joseph had been killed by an animal.

And I got to thinking about that. They dipped the coat in blood.  
And our word immersion in the N.T. carries the same idea. They just  
immersed that coat in blood. They really did.

And its isn't that the irony of it all? That they gave a wonderful  
type to the entire world of Jesus' death on the cross. The very thing that  
they used ~~to~~ to deceive ~~the~~ their Dad becomes a wonderful type of what Jesus  
did for us. Because His life was given for us on the cross. The Bible  
tells us in I John 1:7 that the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

Do  
Did you think that there was something else that can cleanses your life  
Nothing else can clean you up. Nothing else can purify you. Nothing else  
can bring peace to an your life, except the precious blood of our Lord Jesus  
Christ. Nothing else can.

*of sin*  
Hebrews 9:22 says "without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness  
No forgiveness at all.

Hebrews 10:19 says "we have confidence to enter the holy place by the  
blood of Jesus."

The only way I can go into the prences of God is because of the blood  
of Christ *that has been put to my account. Thus God declares me Righteous.  
and I change into his presence*

And I thought, what a beautiful thing, those brothers coming into the  
presence of their Father with the coat dipped in blood.

(6C) And then finally, the distress of Jacob over Joseph is a tremendous  
type fof Christ. In Verses 32-35 of Genesis 37 it tells us that they  
tried to comfort their father. All of a sudden they wanted to comfort him  
And they couldn't do it.

And Jacob said, "I am going to go to the grave crying for him,"  
*Can you understand*  
 Do you know now, that when Jacob saw Joseph, if you remember the story, when the final reunion came, they wept like babies, they cried and threw their arms around each other: now do you know why?

Because for all this time he had been crying over a dead son....  
 He refused to be comforted. He mourned for him.

And do you know that in John 16:19-22 Jesus said, "Listen, in a little while you are not going to see me anymore. And you are going to sorrow for me like you have never sorrowed."

But he said, "Listen, be of good comfort. Because your sorrow will become joy. You are going to see me again.

And just like in this story in Genesis. There was sorrow in Jacob's heart. Mourning after his son Joseph.

*and* in Revelation 1:7 it says when Christ comes again "all the tribes of the earth will mourn over him .

In Zechariah 12:10 it says that when God pours out his grace and supplication on the house of David, they will look on him whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for him, as one mourns for an only son."

*(nothing else would)*  
 And Revelation says when Jesus comes the whole world is going to cry. We will cry....There he is. The resurrected Christ with his nail prints in his hands and the wound in his side. They will look on him whom they have pierced.

*✱*  
 Listen, if that message doesn't get to you, something is wrong. Something is really wrong. The Bible teaches us that it is Jesus that is the object of God's plan. If you think that Christianity is a way of doing things, or a system, or something else, then forget it....It centers in Jesus. That is God's plan.....

The Father loves Jesus, and he wants you to love him. And he loves you so much that he ~~will do anything~~, wants you to live with him in a place called heaven where God will wipe away every tear from our eyes, all sorrow, all pain, there be no more death, no suffering, ~~nothing~~.



*in the death and resurrection of*

And heaven can be yours by just believing that ~~Christ is the saviour.~~

Just ask him, in your own way, in your own heart to come into your life.

May God help you to ~~do that.~~ *see Jesus this morning*

Let us close n in prayer.....

Our Father we thank you for your Word. We thank you for the tremendous types of Christ that we see in the life of Joseph. ~~And~~ we realize that even though those brothers meant evil, you meant it for good. etc

Have Time of Enabling - people go to each other

Have <sup>(1)</sup> Deacons <sup>(2)</sup> Deacons empowered to receive new members - a new converts