

STUDY THIRTY SIX

THE GRAIN OF WHEAT

Genesis 41

Introduction

Joseph has gone through many difficult experiences in his young life. It must have been very discouraging for him to sit in jail day after day. But in this story we have a change. Joseph is remembered.

Questions for Discussion

1. Imagine Joseph sitting in jail month after month wondering whether the cupbearer would ever remember him.

a) How many years have passed since the last story?

b) What temptations would Joseph have had to deal with?

c) How do you deal with disappointment?

2.a) What dreams did the Lord give Pharaoh?

b) Why did God give the dream in two forms (v.32)?

c) When did Joseph last receive a dream in two forms (Gen. 37:5-9)?

d) In what other prophetic events had God sought to encourage Joseph (Gen. 39:2-6 & 20-23)?

e) How did these dreams help Joseph?

3. What do Joseph's statements tell us about his view of God?

4. Read John 12:24-25. Joseph is a great example of a planted grain of wheat.

a) In what way can we say that Joseph died?

b) How was Joseph fruitful (Gen. 41:52)?

c) How can we be fruitful in our own situations?

5. Is there anything in the story of Joseph that suggests he is a 'shadow' of Christ?

For Further Thought And Action

Think about how you can bear fruit in the coming week.

Memory Verse

I tell you the truth, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

John 12:24