

Where's Your Chair?

Genesis 40 12-23



'My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

Make your face to shine upon your servant, and save me for your mercy's sake.'

Psalm 31:15-16

Praising:

- let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still, above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will.
- speak to reassure me, to hasten or control:
- speak and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

Reading:

Genesis 40:12-23

Two dreams to interpret

Joseph is crystal clear about what the two dreams are foretelling: release and a second chance for the cupbearer but judgment and death for the baker. We can only wonder how seriously they took what Joseph told them over the next three days. What Joseph seems less clear about, at least in this moment, is that God is still overseeing the whole situation.

No one could blame Joseph for begging the cupbearer to remember him when he gets out of prison and is restored to power. But from the fact that the cupbearer promptly forgets about Joseph when he is released, we can conclude Joseph is not to be exalted by his own hand, only by God's. Joseph's fortunes will not be propelled by anything he manages to make happen, only by what God makes happen.

Listening:

Praying:

- Lord when we're tempted to nudge the arm of providence
- grant us trust that you are watching over us completely as our heavenly Father
 - grant us gratitude that our most important victory has been won for us in Christ
 - grant us patience that you will show us when the time is right by your Spirit

Father: so often I want to make things happen on my terms and in my time. Pull me back Lord, to await your moment, for not a second before counts for anything. Amen

Doing:

Monday, 18 January 2016