

SERMON STUDY NOTES

24 Sunday 2019
Speaker: Martin Armstrong

The Prophetic Test – Dream to Destiny (Robert Morris)

1. The prophetic test is described in **Psalm 105:17-19** *But he sent a man ahead of them, Joseph, who had been sold as a slave. His feet were kept in chains, and an iron collar was around his neck, until the time that his word came to pass, the word of the LORD tested him*. The NLT puts it like this: *'Until the time came to fulfil his dreams, the Lord tested Joseph's character'*. Do you know people who have failed in ministry, because their character has let them down?
2. All who are involved in Christian ministry come under spiritual attack. Joseph's trials could have led him to give into despair & hopelessness. Some people give up when the going gets tough. Discuss.
3. God revealed through dreams *that Joseph would be given great authority and that God would use him for His glory. His brothers would bow before him and he'd save the lives of many people*. But the circumstances in Joseph's life were just the opposite. He was the servant: he was the one who had to bow. How could he believe that he would save the people when he was a slave or a prisoner? Describe a time in your life when things weren't going the way you expected.

4. God has a plan for each of our lives, just as He had a plan for Joseph. The Prophetic Test involves finding, believing & obeying the specific words God has spoken over our lives. Have you had a dream or prophetic word that you would like to share with the group?
5. God reveals Himself to us through the Bible. His Word tests our character, strengthens our faith, and brings us into our destiny. We can read through the whole Bible in a year by reading just 3 chapters a day. Do you have a regular bible reading plan?
- 6.1 Corinthians chapters 12-14 contain many verses about spiritual gifts and prophecy. In 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21 we are warned "*Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good*". There is a human element to prophecy. Too often we just choose the prophecies we like, For this reason 1 Corinthians 14:29 tells us to judge and test all prophecies. Discuss how do we do this? (Rom. 8:16)
7. Read Isaiah 38:1-5 and discuss how a prophetic word can be conditional and can change.
8. A baptismal service is a time when the Lord often speaks prophetically to people. Share about an occasion when God spoke prophetically to you.

9. **Charles E. Raven** said *Most people have at some time or another, to stand alone and to suffer, and their final shape is determined by their response to their probation: they emerge either the slaves of circumstance or in some sense captains of their souls."*

Has that happened to you?

Pray for each other and encourage each other to fulfil God's call on your lives.