

**The Awakening of Conscience**

**050201-3**

*Hello! This is Dorothy -*

I want to talk to you again about Joseph. If you have a Bible, please open it. It is so important that we see it is the Word of God speaking to our hearts that literally gives us spiritual life. If you think by just knowing a story in your mind that you are going to walk and grow in the things of God, you are mistaken. Oh, may you have a hunger for the Lord and His Word! Back in the very first book, in **Genesis chapter 42**, we read -

**6 And Joseph was the governor over the land. . . -Egypt.**

**7 And Joseph saw his brethren, and he knew them . . . but they did not know him - . . . but made himself strange unto them, and spake roughly unto them, Whence come ye? And they said, From the land of Canaan to buy food.**

**9 . . . and (Joseph) said unto them, Ye are spies . . .** Oh, what a frightening position: to be called a spy! You know, if you were called a spy when on a little holiday in another country, you wouldn't expect to be going home on the next little boat or the next plane or the next bus or the next car; you would expect to be in prison while they sort whether or not you are a spy! You can imagine what this meant to be so accused. But it is interesting. Go back a long way. Perhaps this is why Joseph said this. When

Joseph had been looking after the sheep and he had been with his two half-brothers, the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah. They had resented the fact that he had brought to his father their evil reports. We read that in **Genesis 37:2**. They probably considered he was a spy, while they were doing very, very evil things. Therefore, it was necessary that this evil should be known to the head of the family. Therefore, not only did they resent him, they envied him. They could not speak peaceably about him. Now, this is the family background toward the one who is now turning against them and they do not know he is Joseph. He says, . . . **Ye are spies.**

They also hated him because Joseph had had two dreams and in those dreams he had spoken about the fact they would be bowing down before him, for this was what these dreams were about.

**37:8 And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words.** So with all the things, they just hated Joseph. This was added and added.

**9 . . . and (Joseph) said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold the sun and the moon and the eleven stars -** *you remember, he was one of twelve brothers-* **made obeisance to me.**

**10 And he told it to his father -Jacob - and to his brethren:**

**and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to the earth?**

You see, there was a big family feud about this, but these dreams were given by God and I believe these dreams helped Joseph in the dark day.

**42:6 . . . and Joseph's brethren came, and bowed down themselves before him with their faces to the earth.** And

Joseph severely tried and punished his brothers by calling them spies and he put them in prison for three days. Oh, that is a little bit like what happened to him when his brothers said, "Look, we don't believe him that he is coming from our father to find out how we are. Let's just get rid of him. Let's throw him in this pit!" There was an empty pit near by. It was like a prison; he couldn't get out of that place and there was no water there. Joseph threw his brothers in prison for three days. You cannot tell me that suddenly something from their past began to get to them. Suddenly, their consciences were being awakened. All this pretense. By then they were married and had children, and even some of them had grandchildren.

What about your conscience? How is God speaking to you by His Spirit right now? In **Isaiah 1:18** , we read - **Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet,**

**they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.** Yes, God might be speaking about something in the past and God is saying, *Get it right with Me now. Come, confess it; let Me cleanse you. This is possible, because I took your place on the Cross of Calvary. I died; my Blood was shed for you.*

In **Genesis 42**, we read -

**23** **And they knew not that Joseph understood them, for he spake unto them by an interpreter.**

**21** **And they said one to another - now could you imagine Joseph hearing it - We are verily guilty concerning our brother, - that is Joseph - in that we saw the anguish of his soul, when he besought us, and we would not hear; therefore is this distress come upon us.**

**22** **And Reuben answered them saying, Spake I not unto you - don't you remember? - saying, Do not sin against the child; and ye would not hear? therefore, behold, also his blood is required.**

**24** **And he -Joseph - took from them Simeon, and bound him before their very eyes.** In other words, God was using Joseph for them to relive that they had done, to awaken their consciences and repent and get right. He is doing that in Christ Jesus' Name for you right now.

*Amen.*

