

**Theme:** DIVERS LESSONS FROM JOSEPH’S MEETING WITH PHARAOH (I)

**Memory Verse:** *Romans 8:28 “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose”.*

**Texts:** Proverbs 3:5-8; Mathew 5:10-12

When Joseph was brought before Pharaoh, he did not know whether the meeting would lead to his release or not. He came as he was summoned. Also, he did not make any request for himself. He freely gave the interpretation of the dreams and his counsel. We can say that at this point, Joseph has learnt to depend on the Lord only (Proverbs 3:5, 6). There are several lessons we can learn from Joseph’s attitude before Pharaoh.

1. Joseph was loosed from prison without any reference to his unjust imprisonment. He did not bring up the matter. Obviously, he must have considered his unjust treatment a trivial matter in view of God’s overall design for him and his people.
  
2. Joseph shaved himself and changed his garments in order to make himself presentable to Pharaoh. Believers have a spiritual application in this act. We should approach God, either in private or public devotion, in presentable spiritual clothing. This principle of being properly clothed before God is seen in Exodus 19:10, 11; Zechariah 3:1-5. This principle also applies to our physical clothing. Worldly dressing before God is presumptuous and unscriptural. Believers are to “be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints” (Revelation 19:8). To appear before Pharaoh, Joseph needed to be clean. To be at the marriage supper of the Lamb, we must be holy and righteous, (Revelation 19:7-9).
  
3. Pharaoh ascribed power of interpretation to Joseph. But Joseph immediately ascribed the gifts to God, saying, “It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.” This is a mark of true humility and self-effacement. Whereas, the Egyptian wise men claimed for themselves power to reveal secrets, Joseph gave God the credit for whatever grace he had. This is how to respond whenever men try to confer on us the glory and honour which are due to God only.

	<b>DAILY BIBLE READING</b>	
	<b>MORNING</b>	<b>EVENING</b>
SUNDAY	Acts 2	Acts 3
MONDAY	Acts 4	Acts 5
TUESDAY	Acts 6	Acts 7
WEDNESDAY	Acts 8	Acts 9
THURSDAY	Acts 10	Acts 11
FRIDAY	Acts 12	Acts 13
SATURDAY	Acts 14	Acts 15