

# **JOSEPH'S UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE**

**GENESIS 50:15-21**

**What do you think would be  
a primary reason for a  
person to NOT be thankful?**

# FOUR STAGES IN JOSEPH'S LIFE

- THE DREAMER
  - Privilege is often envied
  - Wronged by his own family
- THE SLAVE
  - Success brings temptations from admirers
  - Slandered by master's wife
- THE PRISONER
  - Thoughtful service is often not returned
  - Forgotten by those he served
- THE RULER
  - Power brings out fear in the wrong doers.
  - A remarkable perspective

# GENESIS 50

15 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong which we did to him!"

16 So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father charged before he died, saying,

## GENESIS 50b

17 'Thus you shall say to Joseph,  
"Please forgive, I beg you, the  
transgression of your brothers and their  
sin, for they did you wrong.'" And now,  
please forgive the transgression of the  
servants of the God of your father."  
And Joseph wept when they spoke to  
him. 18 Then his brothers also came  
and fell down before him and said,  
"Behold, we are your servants."

## GENESIS 50c

19 But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, **for am I in God’s place?** 20 As for you, **you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good** in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive. 21 So therefore, do not be afraid; **I will provide for you and your little ones.**” So he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

## ROMANS 8:28

28 And we know that God **causes all things to work together for good** to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. 29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

# A THINKING QUESTION

**Can EVIL happen to a Christian who loves God?**

....YES

....NO

# A SECOND QUESTION

**Can EVIL happen to a Christian who loves God?**

....YES

....NO

**Should we still call "evil," what God is using in His plan to produce Good?**

# **THE BASIS FOR BITTERNESS AND UNFORGIVENESS**

**Having received and experienced evil  
at the hand of another**

**Slander and Gossips**

**Hatred and Injury**

**Blamed and Accused**

**Stolen and Cheated**

**Ignored and Isolated**

# GRATITUDE

Gratitude comes from recognizing the Good state we are in.

Offering Thanksgiving is a response to being blessed, by God's Grace.

Loving

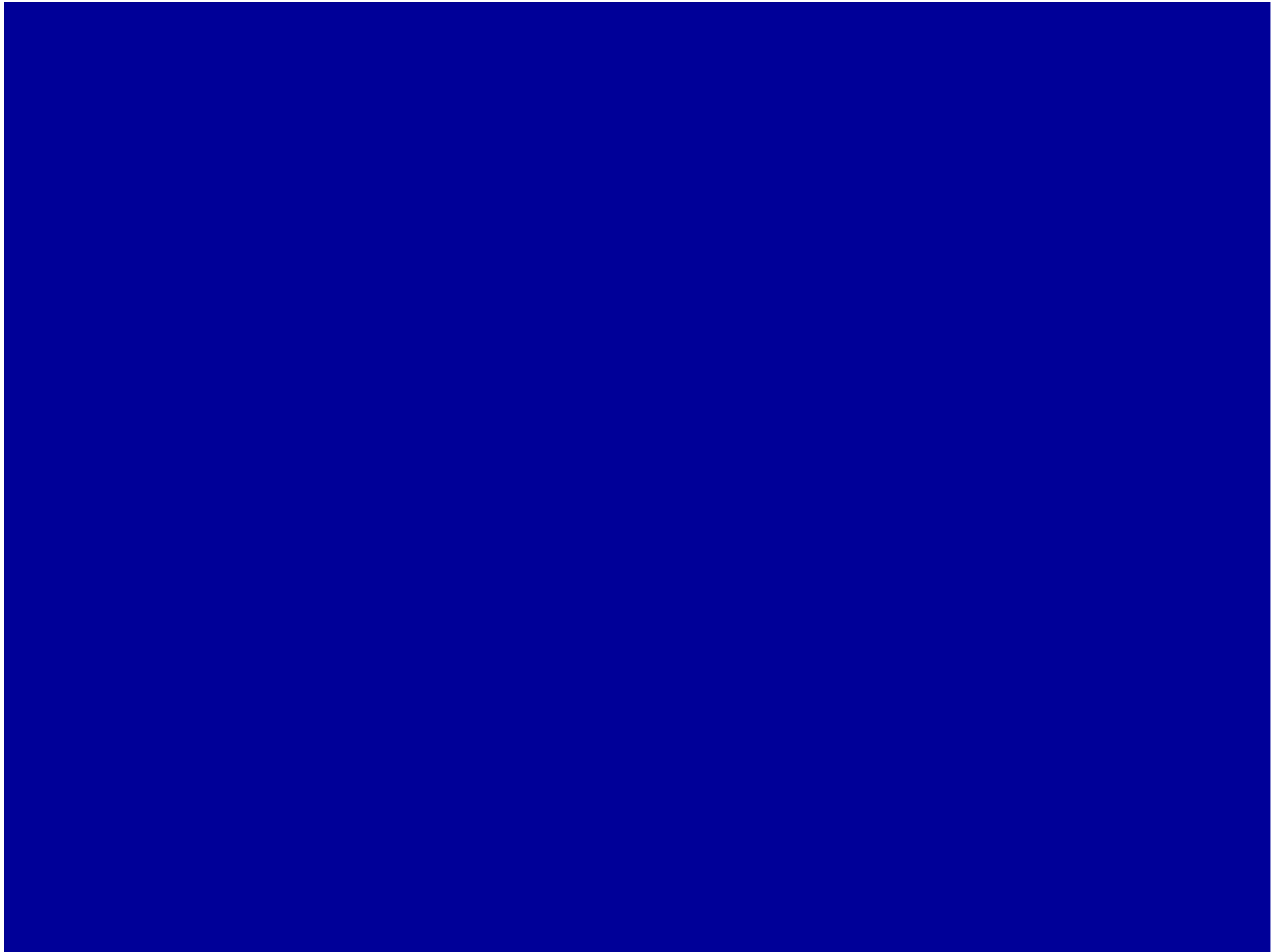
Wise

Almighty

# ROMANS

**8:18** For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us

**5:3** And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;  
**4** and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;



Gratitude comes from recognizing the Good we've received.

Receiving or witnessing Injustice, Insults, Injuries.

Bitterness is from Evil things in our lives, we can not change.

