

THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the
Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction,
so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

A person stands on a dark, silhouetted hill under a vast night sky. The Milky Way galaxy is visible as a bright, colorful band of stars stretching across the sky, with a purple and pink hue near the horizon. The person is positioned centrally at the bottom of the frame, looking up at the stars.

John 3

16 For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 8

28 And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose.

WHAT IF... this is actually true?



Romans 8

28 And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose.

WHAT IF... we believed this is true?



Romans 8

28 And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose.

**WHAT IF... we lived like this
is true?**

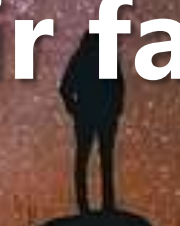
A silhouette of a person stands on a dark rock in the foreground, looking up at a vast night sky. The Milky Way galaxy is visible as a bright, glowing band of stars stretching across the center of the frame. The sky is filled with numerous stars, and the horizon is dark with some low-lying vegetation visible in the foreground.

Genesis 37

1 Now Jacob lived in the land where his father had resided, the land of Canaan.

2 This is the account of Jacob.

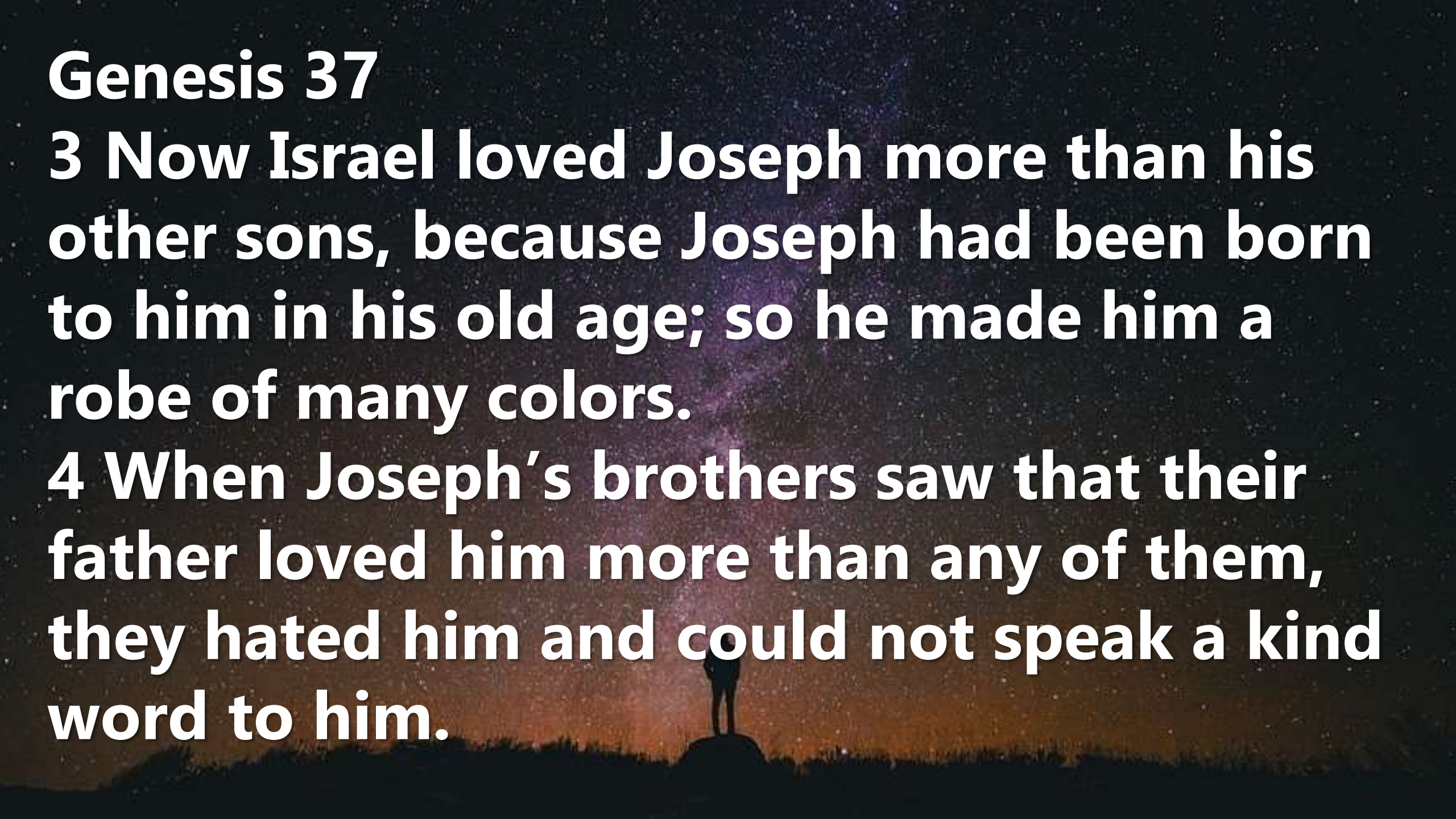
When Joseph was seventeen years old, he was tending the flock with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them.



Genesis 37

3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than his other sons, because Joseph had been born to him in his old age; so he made him a robe of many colors.

4 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

A silhouette of a person standing on a rock, looking up at a starry night sky with a visible galaxy. The person is positioned in the lower center of the frame, looking towards the upper right where a bright, colorful galaxy is visible. The sky is dark with many stars, and the horizon is a dark line with some grass visible.

Genesis 37

5 Then Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more.

6 He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had:

7 We were binding sheaves of grain in the field, and suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around and bowed down to mine."

Genesis 37

8 “Do you intend to reign over us?” his brothers asked. “Will you actually rule us?” So they hated him even more because of his dream and his statements.

9 Then Joseph had another dream and told it to his brothers.

“Look,” he said, “I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me.”



Genesis 37

**10 He told his father and brothers, but his father rebuked him and said,
“What is this dream that you have had? Will your mother and brothers and I actually come and bow down to the ground before you?”**

11 And his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept in mind what he had said.



Genesis 37

12 Some time later, Joseph's brothers had gone to pasture their father's flocks near Shechem.

13 Israel said to him, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flocks at Shechem?

Get ready; I am sending you to them."

"I am ready," Joseph replied.



Genesis 37

14 Then Israel told him, "Go now and see how your brothers and the flocks are faring, and bring word back to me."

So he sent him off from the Valley of Hebron.

**And when Joseph arrived in Shechem,
15 a man found him wandering in the field and asked, "What are you looking for?"**


Genesis 37

16 "I am looking for my brothers," Joseph replied.

"Can you please tell me where they are pasturing their flocks?"

17 "They have moved on from here," the man answered.

"I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph set out after his brothers and found them at Dothan.



Genesis 37

18 Now Joseph's brothers saw him in the distance, and before he arrived, they plotted to kill him.

19 "Here comes that dreamer!" they said to one another.

20 "Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits.

We can say that a vicious animal has devoured him.

Then we shall see what becomes of his dreams!"

Genesis 37

21 When Reuben heard this, he tried to rescue Joseph from their hands.

“Let us not take his life,” he said.

22“Do not shed his blood.

Throw him into this pit in the wilderness, but do not lay a hand on him.”

Reuben said this so that he could rescue Joseph from their hands and return him to his father.



Genesis 37

23 So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe—the robe of many colors he was wearing—

24 and they took him and threw him into the pit. Now the pit was empty, with no water in it..



Genesis 42

21 Then they said to one another, "Surely we are being punished because of our brother.

We saw his anguish when he pleaded with us, but we would not listen. That is why this distress has come upon us."

22 But Reuben replied: "Didn't I tell you not to sin against the boy? But you would not listen. Now we must account for his blood!"

23 They did not realize that Joseph understood them, since there was an interpreter between them.

24 And he turned away from them and wept.

Genesis 37

25 And as they sat down to eat a meal, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead.

Their camels were carrying spices, balm, and myrrh on their way down to Egypt..



Isaiah 46

9 Remember what happened long ago, for I am God, and there is no other;

I am God, and there is none like Me.

10 I declare the end from the beginning, and ancient times from what is still to come,

saying: 'My purpose will stand, and all My good pleasure I will accomplish.'

11 I summon a bird of prey from the east, a man for My purpose from a far-off land.

Truly I have spoken, truly I will bring it to pass. I have planned it, I will surely do it.



Genesis 37

26 Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit will we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood?

27 Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay a hand on him; for he is our brother, our own flesh." And they agreed.

28 So when the Midianite traders passed by, his brothers pulled Joseph out of the pit and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.

Genesis 37

**29 When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was not there, he tore his clothes,
30 returned to his brothers, and said, "The boy is gone! What am I going to do?"**

31 Then they took Joseph's robe, slaughtered a young goat, and dipped the robe in its blood.

32 They sent the robe of many colors to their father and said, "We found this. Examine it to see whether it is your son's robe or not."

Genesis 37

33 His father recognized it and said, "It is my son's robe!

A vicious animal has devoured him. Joseph has surely been torn to pieces!"

34 Then Jacob tore his clothes, put sackcloth around his waist, and mourned for his son many days.

35 All his sons and daughters tried to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted.

"No," he said. "I will go down to Sheol mourning for my son." So his father wept for him.



Genesis 37

36 Meanwhile, the Midianites sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh and captain of the guard.



Joseph Interprets Romans 8:28

Joseph was on God's side (not that God was his side)



Romans 8

**28 And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him,
who are called according to His purpose.**




Romans 8

28 And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him,
who are called **according to His purpose.**



Psalm 105

**7 He is the LORD our God;
His judgments carry throughout the earth.
8 He remembers His covenant forever,
the word He ordained for a thousand
generations—
9 the covenant He made with Abraham,
and the oath He swore to Isaac.
10 He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree,
to Israel as an everlasting covenant:**



Psalm 105

**11 "I will give you the land of Canaan
as the portion of your inheritance."**

**12 When they were few in number,
few indeed, and strangers in the land,
13 they wandered from nation to nation,
from one kingdom to another.**

**14 He let no man oppress them;
He rebuked kings on their behalf:**

**15 "Do not touch My anointed ones!
Do no harm to My prophets!"**

Psalm 105

16 He called down famine on the land and cut off all their supplies of food.

17 He sent a man before them—

Joseph, sold as a slave

18 bruised his feet with shackles and placed his neck in irons,

19 until his prediction came true and the word of the LORD proved him right.

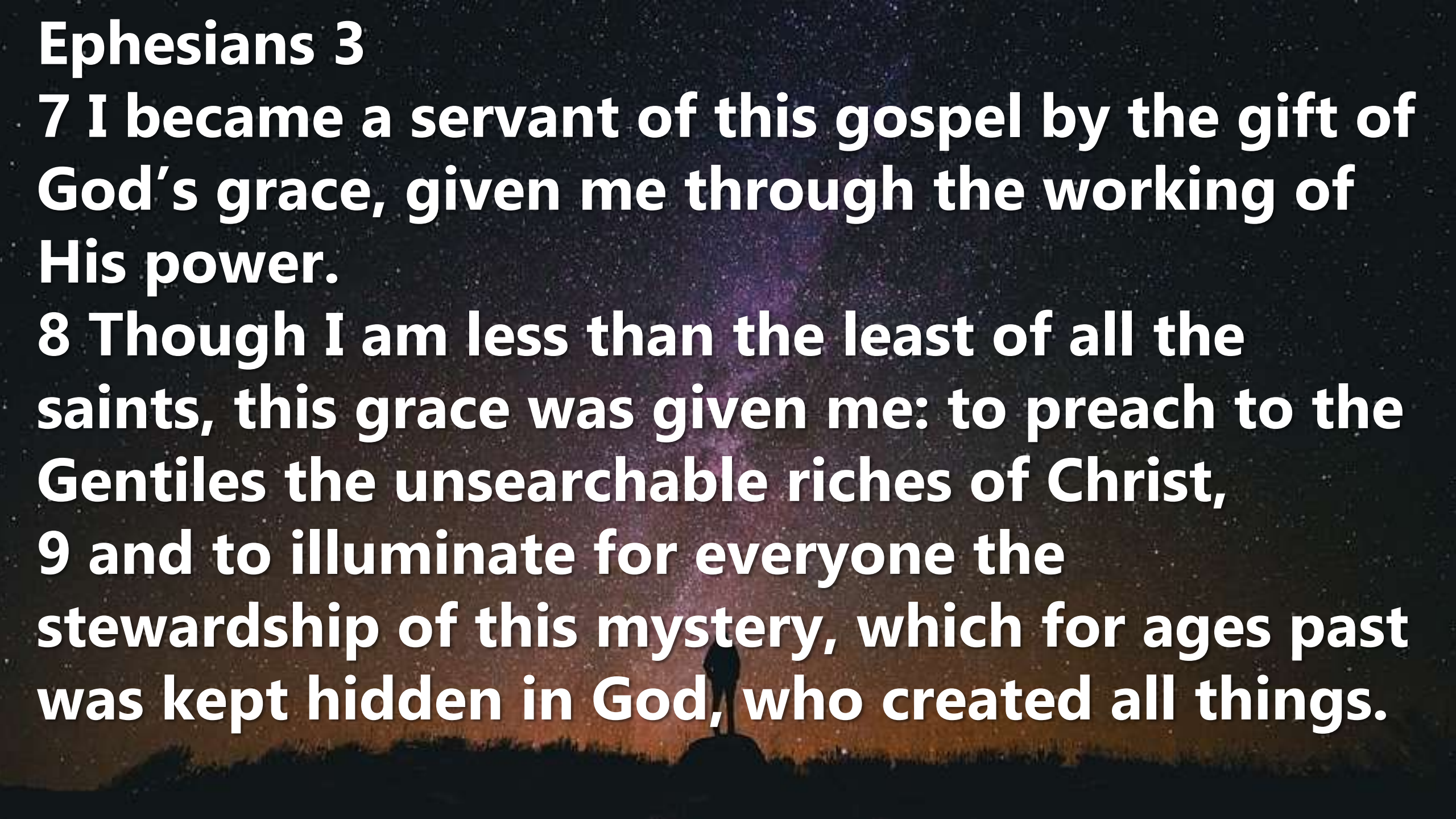


Ephesians 3

7 I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace, given me through the working of His power.

8 Though I am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,

9 and to illuminate for everyone the stewardship of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.



Ephesians 3

10 **His purpose** was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms,
11 according to the **eternal purpose** that He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Joseph Interprets Romans 8:28

Joseph was on God's side (not that God was his side)

Joseph understood that "good" means "my eternal good" (earthly life has hardships)



Romans 8

17 And if we are children, then we are heirs: heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ—if indeed we suffer with Him, so that we may also be glorified with Him.

18 I consider that our **present sufferings** are not comparable to the glory that will be revealed in us.

22 We know that the whole creation has been **groaning together in the pains of childbirth** until the present time.

23 Not only that, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, **groan inwardly** as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

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Joseph understood that "good" means having the good character of Jesus Christ



Romans 8

28 And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose.

29 For those God foreknew, He also predestined **to be conformed to the image of His Son**, so that He would be the firstborn among many brothers.

Joseph Interprets Romans 8:28

Joseph was on God's side (not that God was his side)

Joseph understood that "good" means "my eternal good" (earthly life has hardships)

Joseph understood that "good" means having the good character of Jesus Christ

Joseph understood that God works through our work



Romans 8

12 Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation, but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it.

13 For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.



Acts 4

24 When the believers heard this, they lifted up their voices to God with one accord. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "You made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them.

25 You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of Your servant, our father David:

'Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?

26 The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against His Anointed One.'

Acts 4

27 In fact, this is the very city where Herod and Pontius Pilate conspired with the Gentiles and the people of Israel against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed.

28 They carried out what Your hand and will had decided beforehand would happen.



Acts 4

29 And now, Lord, consider their threats, and enable Your servants to speak Your word with complete boldness,

30 as You stretch out Your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of Your holy servant Jesus.”

31 After they had prayed, their meeting place was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly

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