

Passing the Test (Joseph) Part 3- The Test of Having It All

Series theme: When you pass a test, you become stronger.

If you falter in times of trouble, how small is your strength! **Proverbs 24:10**

Today's message: **When you enjoy prosperity, pass the test!**

1. Prosperity puts us in an advantageous position

- a. Prosperity is a gift from God
- b. Prosperity gives us special opportunities

*³⁹ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. ⁴⁰ You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you." ⁴¹ So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt." ⁴² Then Pharaoh took his signet ring from his finger and put it on Joseph's finger. He dressed him in robes of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck. ⁴³ He had him ride in a chariot as his second-in-command, and men shouted before him, "Make way!" Thus he put him in charge of the whole land of Egypt. ⁴⁴ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I am Pharaoh, but without your word no one will lift hand or foot in all Egypt." **Genesis 41:39-44***

Joseph's promotion brought him:

- 1) Influence
- 2) Recognition
- 3) Privileges
- 4) Wealth

2. Prosperity puts us in a dangerous position

*⁹ People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs...¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. **1 Timothy 6:9-10,17-19***

Dangers of prosperity:

- 1) Temptation
- 2) Pride
- 3) Indulgence
- 4) Independence from God

- Making It Personal