

NO, YOU CAN'T PT. 4

Genesis 50:15-21

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I. Sin's Brokenness Runs Deeper than You Know vv. 15-18

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- I. Sin's Brokenness Runs Deeper than You Know vv. 15-18**
 - A. You Can't Do What You Want To Do. v. 15**

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Justice runs deeper than justifications.

Injustice cries to be made right.

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You Must, You Will, but the Remedy is Not With You.

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You Must, You Will, but the Remedy is Not With You.

- I. Sin's Brokenness Runs Deeper than You Know vv. 15-18**
 - A. You Can't Do What You Want To Do. v. 15**
 - B. You Can't Restore Relationships vv. 16-18**

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You Must, You Will, but the Remedy is Not With You.

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You Must, You Will, but the Remedy is Not With You. There is a Remedy, and it is both Personal and Transcendent.

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- I. Sin's Brokenness Runs Deeper than You Know vv. 15-18**
 - A. You Can't Do What You Want To Do. v. 15**
 - B. You Can't Restore Relationships vv. 16-18**
- II. God's Restoration is More Complete than You Could Imagine. vv. 19-21**

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Then they said to one another, **“Truly we are guilty concerning our brother, because we saw the distress of his soul when he pleaded with us, yet we would not listen; therefore this distress has come upon us.”** 22 Reuben answered them, saying, **“Did I not tell you, ‘Do not sin against the boy’; and you would not listen? Now comes the reckoning for his blood.”**

Genesis 42:21–22

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The LORD was with Joseph, so he became a successful man. And he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian. **3 Now his master saw that the LORD was with him and how the LORD caused all that he did to prosper in his hand.**

Genesis 39:2-3

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“There is no one greater in this house than I, and he has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. **How then could I do this great evil and sin against God?”**

Genesis 39:9

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Then they said to him, “We have had a dream and there is no one to interpret it.” Then Joseph said to them, “**Do not interpretations belong to God?** Tell it to me, please.”

Genesis 40:8

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“Only keep me in mind when it goes well with you, and **please do me a kindness by mentioning me to Pharaoh and **get me out of this house.** 15 **“For I was in fact kidnapped** from the land of the Hebrews, and even here I have done nothing that they should have put me into the dungeon.”**

Genesis 40:14–15

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Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.
Genesis 40:23

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 - 1. There is Something BEYOND Your Intent**

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“Do you not understand that everything that goes into the mouth passes into the stomach, and is eliminated? 18 “But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. 19 “For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.

Matthew 15:17–19

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The LORD descended in the cloud and stood there with him as he called upon the name of the LORD. 6 Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, **“The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; 7 who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations.”**

Exodus 34:5–7

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How blessed is he **whose transgression is forgiven**, Whose sin is covered! **2 How blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity**, And in whose spirit there is no deceit!

Psalms 32:1-2

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 - 2. Worship God's Providence**

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“How chill and withering is the breath of that noxious philosophy, that would detach our minds from viewing God in His works of Providence! The Christian who lives in this atmosphere, or on the borders of it, will be unhealthy and unfruitful in true works of righteousness. This malaria destroys all spiritual life.”

Alexander Carson in Treasury of David on Ps. 104:32

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“When I use the word "providence"...I mean that wonderful, strange, mysterious, unguessable way Yahweh has of ruling His world and sustaining His people, and His doing it, frequently, over, under, around, through, or in spite of the most common stuff of our lives or even the bias of our wills.”

Dale Ralph Davis

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“The selling of Joseph was a crime detestable for its cruelty and perfidy; yet he was not sold except by the decree of heaven. For neither did God merely remain at rest, and by conniving for a time, let loose the reins of human malice, in order that afterwards he might make use of this occasion; but, at his own will, he appointed the order of acting which he intended to be fixed and certain. **Thus we may say with truth and propriety, that Joseph was sold by the wicked consent of his brethren, and by the secret providence of God.”**

John Calvin

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“ . . . he both governs the counsels of men, and sways their wills and turns their efforts at his pleasure, and regulates all events: but if men undertake anything right and just, he so actuated and moves them inwardly by His Spirit, that whatever is good in them, may justly be said to be received from him: but if Satan and ungodly men rage, he acts by their hands in such an inexpressible manner, that the wickedness of the deed belongs to them, and the blame of it is imputed to them. For they are not induced to sin, as the faithful are to act aright, by the impulse of the Spirit, but they are the authors of their own evil, and follow Satan as their leader. Thus we see that the justice of God shines brightly in the midst of the darkness of our iniquity. For as God is never without a just cause for his actions, so men are held in the chains of guilt by their own perverse will.” John Calvin

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 - 2. Worship God's Providence**
 - a) Keep God Above You.**

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“There is unquestionably a great mystery here as to how a holy God who cannot even look upon evil (Hab. 1:13) can work His will through evil, but that He does is the clear teaching of Scripture. If something could get outside the will of God, it would become a god unto itself and a rival to God. Such can never be the case. God alone is God; there is no other.”

Walter Elwell *Evangelical Dictionary of the Bible*

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“The longer I live, the more faith I have in providence, and the less faith in my interpretation of providence.”

Jeremiah Day

President of Yale in early 1800's, following Timothy Dwight

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“More secret than diplomacy, deeper than the investigations of the wise, and mightier than all the kingly power, is the providence of God.”

John Broadus

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 - b) Don't Exclude Evil from God's Providence.**

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Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I have had a dream, but no one can interpret it; and I have heard it said about you, that when you hear a dream you can interpret it.” 16 Joseph then answered Pharaoh, saying, **“It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer.”**
Genesis 41:15–16

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for behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and lo, my sheaf rose up and also stood erect; and behold, **your sheaves gathered around and bowed down to my sheaf.**” 8 Then his brothers said to him, **“Are you actually going to reign over us? Or are you really going to rule over us?”** So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words. 9 Now he had still another dream, and related it to his brothers, and said, “Lo, I have had still another dream; and behold, **the sun and the moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me.**” 10 He related it to his father and to his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, **“What is this dream that you have had? Shall I and your mother and your brothers actually come to bow ourselves down before you to the ground?”** 11 **His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the saying in mind.** **Genesis 37:7-11**

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“Even where no man could imagine it, God had all the strings in his hand. But this guidance of God is only asserted; nothing more explicit is said about the way in which God incorporated man’s evil into his saving activity.”

Gerhard von Rad

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All honey would harm us; all wormwood would undo us – a composition of both is the best way to keep our souls in a healthy constitution. It is best and most for the health of the soul – that the warm south wind of mercy, and the cold north wind of adversity – do both blow upon it. And though every wind which blows, shall blow good to the saints; yet certainly their sins die most, and their graces thrive best, when they are under the frigid, drying, nipping north wind of calamity, as well as under the warm, nourishing south wind of mercy and prosperity.

Thomas Brooks The Mute Christian Under the Smarting Rod, 1659

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“The experiences of my life are not such that I could infer from them that God is good, gracious and merciful necessarily. To have had one husband murdered and another one disintegrate, body, soul and spirit, through cancer, is not what you would call a proof of the love of God. In fact, there are many times when it looks like just the opposite.” “My belief in the love of God is not by inference of instinct. It is by faith. To apprehend God’s sovereignty working in that love is—we must say it—the last and highest victory of the faith that overcomes the world.”

Elisabeth Elliot

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I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living. 14 Wait for the LORD; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the LORD.

Psalm 27:13-14

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 - b) Don't Exclude Evil from God's Providence.**
 - 3. Worship God's Power**

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who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the **exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.** Philippians 3:21

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who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the **exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.**

Philippians 3:21

The wonder of wonders to me is not just the miracle where God instantly invades and just interrupts and violates the flow of everything, **to me the greater wonder is that God can take it all and still make it work for His will.** That's astounding to me. The diversity of an innumerable number of events, circumstances and attitudes that occur within the limited freedom of men and demons and God pulls it all together to accomplish exactly what He wants done. **Incredible not only to conceive that it can be done but to make it happen.** But that is precisely what God does. So that the world with what we assume to be an almost infinite number of random choices is doing nothing more than acting out that which is predetermined by God. John MacArthur

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And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; 3 And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. **And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."**

Genesis 12:2-3

Therefore there was born even of one man, and him as good as dead at that, as many descendants AS THE STARS OF HEAVEN IN NUMBER, AND INNUMERABLE AS THE SAND WHICH IS BY THE SEASHORE.

Hebrews 11:12

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But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:4-7

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- C. It Lives with Freedom to Serve v. 21**

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“Let the impious busy themselves as they please, let them rage, let them mingle heaven and earth; yet they shall gain nothing by their ardour; and not only shall their impetuosity prove ineffectual, but shall be turned to an issue the reverse of that which they intended, so that they shall promote our salvation, though they do it reluctantly.” So that whatever poison Satan produces, God turns it into medicine for his elect.”

“If human minds cannot reach these depths, let them rather suppliantly adore the mysteries they do not comprehend, than, as vessels of clay, proudly exalt themselves against their Maker.”

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“Take care that we do not fly in confused and erratic circuits, as fanatical men are wont to do.” John Calvin

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“Comfort, O comfort My people,” says your God. 2 “Speak kindly to Jerusalem; And call out to her, that her warfare has ended, That her iniquity has been removed, That she has received of the LORD’S hand Double for all her sins.”

Isaiah 40:1-2

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