The Dreamer's Clothes

Ken Chapman · Genesis 37

INTRODUCTION

- Clothes are important, and they tell us a lot. You might be surprised that the Bible has a lot to say about clothes.
- I'd like for us to talk about the life and the ups and downs of Joseph that can be typified by the clothes that he wore.
- If you read that story in its entirety, there will be three times in which Joseph's clothes are mentioned.

1 The Coat of Many Colors

James 4:13–16; 1 Corinthians 10:12; Ecclesiastes 9:11–12

- One is that our fortunes can change.
- Joseph's life was a life of ups and downs, a life of change. His fortune certainly changed, and ours can too.
- We need to be humble in regard to the circumstances of our life and how quickly they can change.
- Another lesson that we learned from his coat of many colors that was stripped from him is that sometimes life isn't fair.
- The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to men of understanding, nor favor to men of skill. But time and chance happen to them all.
- Life isn't fair. And get used to it. And more importantly, don't let that reality destroy your faith.

2 The Garment Left in Potiphar's Wife's Hand

Genesis 39:13; Ephesians 6:13

- And so it was when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and fled outside.
- Number one is temptation is real. And it's dangerous.
- What we're impressed by is Joseph's lack of naivete. And what we're endangered by is our own naivete. To think that temptation won't affect me.
- The next lesson we learn from this garment is our integrity must be guarded.
- Take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, having done all to stand.
- You do whatever it takes to make sure that your spiritual integrity is intact.

3 The Garments of Fine Linen

Genesis 41:42; Genesis 50:20; Hebrews 11:13–16

- He clothed him in garments of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck.
- One lesson that Joseph learned and tried to help his brothers to learn is that God can mean it for good.

- You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good. In order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.
- Open your eyes to the possibility of God's providence and working in your lives, even in the darkest days, even when you're in that pit.
- And then lastly, we learn from his garments of fine linen is that the story is not over till it's over.
- He's talking about leaving our Egypt and going to our promised land.

THE CHALLENGE

Remember, life's not fair. It's going to change. But God can mean it for good if we'll live by faith.

MY NOTES