



DEVOTIONAL:  
WHAT THE ENEMY MEANT  
FOR HARM

“You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.”— Genesis 50:20

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Before Joseph rose to a great position of power in Egypt, there is a part of his story that is easy to overlook. Before he ever became second-in-command in Egypt, before the famine, before the restoration. Joseph was a man gifted by God with dreams. This gift painted a target on his back. The blessing that God gave Joseph, would be the ultimate reason for his brothers to betray him. The people that were supposed to love and care for him the most, ended up hating, resenting, and betraying him beyond he could have ever imagined.

What led Joseph to a pit of despair would also lead him to living to the palace. The gift that caused rejection became the gift God used to rescue nations.

But there is more to this story than we often let ourselves see. It wasn't just about the famine, it is also about the heart posture of Joseph. His unknowing brothers stood begging for food before the very brother they wanted to kill. Joseph had every reason to retaliate. Years of pain, injustice, and abandonment could have fueled a desire for revenge.

Yet Joseph chose forgiveness.

Imagine how differently the Old Testament would have panned out if Joseph let unforgiveness win. Families would've remained divided, the future of God's people would've been starved of the very blessing God intended for them.

But Joseph chose to move forward. He didn't let the weight of past sins crush the blessings and joys God intended. Instead of letting his past become a curse for his life, he allowed God to redeem the evil to save nations.

He declared, “You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good.”



