A SEASON OF EAR TINGLING - JOSEPH

¹ The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.

I Samuel 3:1

⁶ No one from the east or the west or from the desert can exalt themselves. ⁷ It is God who judges: He brings one down, he exalts another.

Psalm 75:6,7

¹⁶ He called down famine on the land and destroyed all their supplies of food; ¹⁷ and he sent a man before them--Joseph, sold as a slave. ¹⁸ They bruised his feet with shackles, his neck was put in irons, ¹⁹ till what he foretold came to pass, till the word of the LORD proved him true. ²⁰ The king sent and released him, the ruler of peoples set him free. ²¹ He made him master of his household, ruler over all he possessed, ²² to instruct his princes as he pleased and teach his elders wisdom.

Psalm 105:16-22

²² "Joseph is a fruitful vine, a fruitful vine near a spring, whose branches climb over a wall. ²³ With bitterness archers attacked him; they shot at him with hostility. ²⁴ But his bow remained steady, his strong arms stayed limber, because of the hand of the Mighty One of Jacob, because of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel, ²⁵ because of your father's God, who helps you, because of the Almighty, who blesses you with blessings of the skies above, blessings of the deep springs below, blessings of the breast and

womb. ²⁶ Your father's blessings are greater than the blessings of the ancient mountains, than the bounty of the age-old hills. Let all these rest on the head of Joseph, on the brow of the prince among his brothers."

Genesis 49:22-26

- I. Joseph: When God counts by ones. / The fourfold process. When God puts one down, and then lifts one up.
 - A. God always sends the supply before the demand.
 - B. God always sends a person not a principle.
 - C. The person God sends is rarely who the people expect.
 - D. God always sends a famine to call forth his chosen vessel in due season.

II. The blessing of Joseph

- A. Joseph is a fruitful bough. His influence is transcendent, and he cannot be hemmed in.
 - * This speaks of his depth of character and width of influence
- B. The archers all shot at him, but he did not shoot back in kind.
- C. God personally blesses Joseph with the double portion of the inheritance of the firstborn.
- D. Joseph's blessings come from five great titles of God.
 - * The mighty God of Jacob.
 - * The Shepherd.
 - * The Stone of Israel.

- * The God of your father.
- * The Almighty.
- E. Joseph will be uniquely fruitful and protected.
- F. Joseph will receive every soil and body blessing above that of all his brothers.