

- Such providence can only be _____.

HEBREWS 11 ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible....

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as *in* a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; ¹⁰ for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God....

¹³ These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced *them* and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

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PSALM 105 ⁸ He remembers His covenant forever, the word *which* He commanded, for a thousand generations, ⁹ *the covenant* which He made with Abraham, and His oath to Isaac, ¹⁰ and confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, ¹¹ saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan as the allotment of your inheritance," ¹² when they were few in number, indeed very few, and strangers in it.

¹³ When they went from one nation to another, from *one* kingdom to another people, ¹⁴ He permitted no one to do them wrong; yes, He rebuked kings for their sakes, ¹⁵ *saying*, "Do not touch My anointed ones, and do My prophets no harm."

¹⁶ Moreover He called for a famine in the land; He destroyed all the provision of bread. ¹⁷ He sent a man before them— Joseph— *who* was sold as a slave. ¹⁸ They hurt his feet with fetters, he was laid in irons. ¹⁹ Until the time that his word came to pass, the word of the Lord tested him. ²⁰ The king sent and released him, the ruler of the people let him go free. ²¹ He made him lord of his house, and ruler of all his possessions,....

GENESIS 44 ¹ And he commanded the steward of his house, saying, "Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put each man's money in the mouth of his sack. ² Also put my cup, the silver cup, in the mouth of the sack of the youngest, and his grain money." So he did according to the word that Joseph had spoken. ³ As soon as the morning dawned, the men were sent away, they and their donkeys. ⁴ When they had gone out of the city, *and* were not *yet* far off, Joseph said to his steward, "Get up, follow the men; and when you overtake them, say to them, 'Why have you repaid evil for good?' ⁵ *Is* not this *the one* from which my lord drinks, and with which he indeed practices divination? You have done evil in so doing.' "

⁶ So he overtook them, and he spoke to them these same words. ⁷ And they said to him, "Why does my lord say these words? Far be it from us that your servants should do such a thing. ⁸ Look, we brought back to you from the land of Canaan the money which we found in the mouth of our sacks. How then could we steal silver or gold from your lord's house? ⁹ With whomever of your servants it is found, let him die, and we also will be my lord's slaves."

¹⁰ And he said, "Now also *let* it *be* according to your words; he with whom it is found shall be my slave, and you shall be blameless."

¹¹ Then each man speedily let down his sack to the ground, and each opened his sack. ¹² So he searched. He began with the oldest and left off with the youngest; and the cup was found in Benjamin's sack. ¹³ Then they tore their clothes, and each man loaded his donkey and returned to the city.

¹⁴ So Judah and his brothers came to Joseph's house, and he *was* still there; and they fell before him on the ground. ¹⁵ And Joseph said to them, "What deed *is* this you have done? Did you not know that such a man as I can certainly practice divination?"

¹⁶ Then Judah said, "What shall we say to my lord? What shall we speak? Or how shall we clear ourselves? God has found out the iniquity of your servants; here we are, my lord's slaves, both we and *he* also with whom the cup was found."

¹⁷ But he said, "Far be it from me that I should do so; the man in whose hand the cup was found, he shall be my slave. And as for you, go up in peace to your father."

¹⁸ Then Judah came near to him and said: "O my lord, please let your servant speak a word in my lord's hearing, and do not let your anger burn against your servant; for you *are* even like Pharaoh. ¹⁹ My lord asked his servants, saying, 'Have you a father or a brother?' ²⁰ And we said to my lord, 'We have a father, an old man, and a child of *his* old age, *who is* young; his brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother's children, and his father loves him.'

²¹ Then you said to your servants, 'Bring him down to me, that I may set my eyes on him.' ²² And we said to my lord, 'The lad cannot leave his father, for *if* he should leave his father, *his father* would die.' ²³ But you said to your servants, 'Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you shall see my face no more.'

²⁴ "So it was, when we went up to your servant my father, that we told him the words of my lord. ²⁵ And our father said, 'Go back *and* buy us a little food.' ²⁶ But we said, 'We cannot go down; if our youngest brother is with us, then we will go down; for we may not see the man's face unless our youngest brother *is* with us.' ²⁷ Then your servant my father said to us, 'You know that my wife bore me two sons; ²⁸ and the one went out from me, and I said, "Surely he is torn to pieces"; and I have not seen him since. ²⁹ But if you take this one also from me, and calamity befalls him, you shall bring down my gray hair with sorrow to the grave.'

³⁰ "Now therefore, when I come to your servant my father, and the lad *is* not with us, since his life is bound up in the lad's life, ³¹ it will happen, when he sees that the lad *is* not *with us*, that he will die. So your servants will bring down the gray hair of your servant our father with sorrow to the grave. ³² For your servant became surety for the lad to my father, saying, 'If I do not bring him *back* to you, then I shall bear the blame before my father forever.' ³³ Now therefore, please let your servant remain instead of the lad as a slave to my lord, and let the lad go up with his brothers. ³⁴ For how shall I go up to my father if the lad *is* not with me, lest perhaps I see the evil that would come upon my father?"

45 ¹ Then Joseph could not restrain himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Make everyone go out from me!" So no one stood with him while Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ² And he wept aloud, and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard *it*.

³ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I *am* Joseph; does my father still live?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed in his presence. ⁴ And Joseph said to his brothers, "Please come near to me." So they came near. Then he said: "I *am* Joseph your brother, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ But now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For these two years the famine *has been* in the land, and *there are* still five years in which *there will be* neither plowing nor harvesting. ⁷ And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. ⁸ So now *it was* not you *who* sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE

GENESIS 45 ⁴ ... "I *am* Joseph your brother, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ But now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for **God sent me before you to preserve life**. ⁶ For these two years the famine *has been* in the land, and *there are* still five years in which *there will be* neither plowing nor harvesting. ⁷ And **God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth**, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. ⁸ So now *it was* not you *who* sent me here, but God; and **He has made me** a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

PROVIDENCE: the act of providing or preparing for future use or application; foresight accompanied by the procurement of what is necessary for future use; i. e. suitable preparation.

Many troubles are caused by the lack of providence.

- His providence can fully be _____.

GENESIS 50 ¹⁹ Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for *am* I in the place of God? ²⁰ But as for you, 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. ²¹ Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones." And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

PROVERBS 16 ⁴ The Lord has made all for Himself, yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.

ACTS 2 ²³ Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; ²⁴ whom God raised up,....

ACTS 4 ²⁷ "For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together ²⁸ to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done.

1 PETER 1 ²⁰ He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you...

REVELATION 13 ⁸in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

- Such providence can only be understood by faith.

HEBREWS 11 ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible....

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as *in* a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; ¹⁰ for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God....

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- This providence can often be fuel for pushing ahead.

PSALM 105 ⁸ He remembers His covenant forever, the word *which* He commanded, for a thousand generations, ⁹ *the covenant* which He made with Abraham, and His oath to Isaac, ¹⁰ and confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, ¹¹ saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan as the allotment of your inheritance," ¹² when they were few in number, indeed very few, and strangers in it.

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