

"Hope and Restoration" Making Peace with Your Past Series

The Story of Joseph
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A. Hope and restoration come from trusting that God, in His sovereignty, is going to bring good out of your past. (Genesis 45:1-8, 50:15-21)

"If I am going to trust God for my *future* then I must trust His sovereignty over my *past*. He could have prevented it. He allowed it to happen. He makes no mistakes. He hath done all things well.

To consider the life of Joseph makes it impossible to complain about the 'injustices' in our lives. Human injustice is a mere chisel in the hand of God. The instrument may seem sharp and cruel but the Sculptor is the epitome of kindness and love."

Elisabeth Elliot, *A Path Through Suffering*,
Servant Publications, Ann Arbor MI, 1990, p.190.

B. In order to experience this hope and restoration, it will involve:

1. Faith

2. Submission

3. Forgiveness

For further reading and reflection on the sovereignty of God:

1 Chronicles 29:10-20
Psalm 33:1-22, 47:1-9
Proverbs 16:9, 19:21
Isaiah 40:10-31, 45:1-25
Daniel 4:20-21