

# The Master of Dreams: Resentment

Dreams are important.

Dreams can change lives.

- Story of my dad.

Dreams can change the world. (MLK)

There's also a special dream that **defines** your life.

- God's plan and purpose for our lives. Our God given Dream.
- Each of us has a God-given Dream and it relates to our destiny. **Our destination.**

A God-given Dream isn't a fantasy that makes life easy.

- God's values many things above your comfort.
- Any God-given Dream must reflect the heart of the Dream giver:
  - To confront evil. To heal brokenness. To save lives.
  - God gives dreams to his people, dreams that inspire and compel us to make a difference

We see this in the story of Joseph.

- Joseph's life is defined by dreams. But it is also defined by the evil he encounters.
- Evil he could have avoided if he just would have accepted a comfortable life!
  - But then the dream wouldn't have been fulfilled and the world wouldn't have been changed.

**Genesis 37 2** *This is the account of Jacob. Joseph, his seventeen-year-old son, was taking care of the flocks with his brothers. Now he was a youngster working with the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives. Joseph brought back a bad report about them to their father.*

*3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his sons because he was a son born to him late in life, and he made a special tunic for him. 4 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, **they hated Joseph and were not able to speak to him kindly.***

*5 Joseph had a dream, and when he told his brothers about it, **they hated him even more.** 6 He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had: 7 There we were, binding sheaves of grain in the middle of the field. Suddenly my sheaf rose up and stood upright and your sheaves surrounded my sheaf and bowed down to it!" 8 Then his brothers asked him, "Do you really think you will rule over us or have dominion over us?" **They hated him even more because of his dream and because of what he said.***

*9 Then he had another dream, and told it to his brothers. "Look," he said. "I had another dream. The sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me." 10 When he told his father and his brothers, his father rebuked him, saying, "What is this dream that you had? Will I, your mother, and your brothers really come and bow down to you?" 11 **His brothers were jealous of him,** but his father kept in mind*

what Joseph said. 19 They said to one another, “Here comes this **master of dreams!** 20 Come now, let’s kill him, throw him into one of the cisterns, and then say that a wild animal ate him. **Then we’ll see how his dreams turn out!**”

Joseph has a dream and tells his brothers.

- Joseph had a dream – involving moving wheat – and everyone knew what it meant
- Joseph had another dream – involving the stars, moon and sun – and again everyone knew what it meant
- They just didn’t like the implications of the dream
- The brothers especially were offended at the dreams of Joseph. They already had reason to hate Joseph and this added another reason.
- After they **sarcastically call him the master of dreams** in v 19, they plot to kill him, but eventually sell him into slavery.

How did Joseph feel?

- Given a dream by God, yet resented by those around him.
- Given a dream of power and influence and authority but his life moving in exactly the opposite direction to poverty, no influence and no authority: to becoming property
- Dreams must advance in the face of resentment.
  - From those that love us. From those that hate us
  - Maybe you can relate. I know I can.

You are called to share our dream. Even in the face of resentment.

- Those who resent now might thank you with their lives later.

You are called to celebrate with others the dream that’s been given to them.

- What others are given doesn’t mean something has been taken from us.
- We can celebrate when we know that we all have a God given dream individually.
- We can celebrate when we see that all of our God given dreams come together corporately.

## **Conclusion**

You have a God-given dream

- If you think you have a God-given Dream but it does not confront evil then you are mistaken.

- If you think you have a God-given Dream and it seems you are getting further away from it due to resistance and resentment, you might be correct.

You have a God-given Dream

- Maybe you know it maybe you don't but you have one. There was a time I didn't know it and I sought it. I was 19 years old.

#### We have a God-given Dream

- The 2020 Vision and beyond. To make a disciple of this city and the nations in it.
- It's not easy or comfortable but because it is a God given dream
  - It must advance against evil
  - It must advance against resentment
    - The resentment of those who should love us
    - The resentment of those who hate us
- Things spoken sarcastically over us will be our titles of honour.

Let me pray.