



**Dr. Joseph Webb**  
1934 - 2022

## DEAR FRIENDS,

A podcast is available for your listening or study by Dr. Joseph Webb that presents an energetic study using “travel” and relating it to our progress or forward movement in our Christian walk.

Pastor Webb brings forth several biblical examples in his teaching. Joseph and his personal growth and progress, are presented to strengthen his point. You may wish to follow the book of Genesis on the development of Joseph and his leadership!

## TRAVELING WITH CONFIDENCE

### *Becoming a leader*

Although some individuals have greater natural gifts than others, nearly all skills of leadership can be learned and improved. But that process doesn’t happen overnight. The good news is that you can grow in your ability to lead. Regardless of your starting point, you can improve.

Joseph was a foolish kid, too arrogant for his own good. When God gave Joseph a dream revealing that he would one day lead his family, Joseph thoughtlessly told everyone about it. His father rebuked him! His brothers wanted revenge! And they got it!

Joseph didn’t know how to skillfully work with others. He lacked experience, wisdom, and humility – three qualities gained only with the passage of time. We must realize:

- We don’t know what we don’t know. Everyone starts out in a state of ignorance. That’s where Joseph began. His ignorance caused him more than two decades of alienation from his family.
- We know we don’t know. It took a life-changing incident to capture Joseph’s attention and start him on the road to change. Eventually, he recognized God as his source of blessing and power.
- We know and grow. It starts to show. Leaders who show great skill with opportunities, arise shining only because they have paid the price of preparation.

- I go because of what I know. During seven years of plenty, Joseph executed his leadership plan with great skill. He filled the cities of Egypt with grain, and prepared the country for a famine.

- Every effective leader needs time to develop, but time alone, cannot make someone an effective leader.

- Last, Joseph could trace God’s hand over all the years of his life, and he understood the Lord’s long-term plan for his people, a plan, Joseph, helped fulfill by growing into the leader God desired him to be.



**CPR Ministries International, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 520729  
Longwood, Florida 32752-0729  
Phone: 407-834-5233  
[info@cpr-ministries.com](mailto:info@cpr-ministries.com)  
[www.cpr--ministires.com](http://www.cpr--ministires.com)

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Joseph takes effective action in a crisis, **Genesis 37:5-36; 39:1-41**

(1) The significant vision from God. As a youth Joseph knew God had something special in mind for him. **Genesis 37:5; 6:9-11**

(2) A vital relationship with God. Scripture says that the Lord was with Joseph **Genesis 39:2; 21:23**

(3) Strong character developed through difficulties. With each new trial, Joseph gets stronger **Genesis 39:7-8**

(4) Practical experience. Through life he grew in ability and experience when he took charge of the prison. **Genesis 39:22**

(5) Special gift from God! Joseph's ability to interpret dreams, enabled him to make a difference in many lives. **Genesis 41:15-16.**

(6) A unique blessing from God. Four times the Bible expresses God's blessing of Joseph with some version of whatever he did the Lord made it prosper, **Genesis 39:3-5.**

Joseph made one comeback after another and proved himself trustworthy as a leader. Consider the ways he earned trust along the way: Joseph's setback. #1 was that he was sold into Egyptian slavery, #2 he was framed as an adulterer, #3 he was forgotten in prison, #4 he endured seven years of famine, #5 he faced the return of his treacherous brothers. Now let's look at the picture of his resulting growth. #1 he developed the competence and organization in the palace. #2 he used his ability to disarm, discern dreams and to solve problems. #3 he displayed the wisdom to interpret Pharaoh's dream. #4 he prepared to save the country and bring Pharaoh great wealth. #5 he showed patience and integrity in dealing with others. He was able to follow each setback with a comeback.

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### *1 Peter 5:5-6*

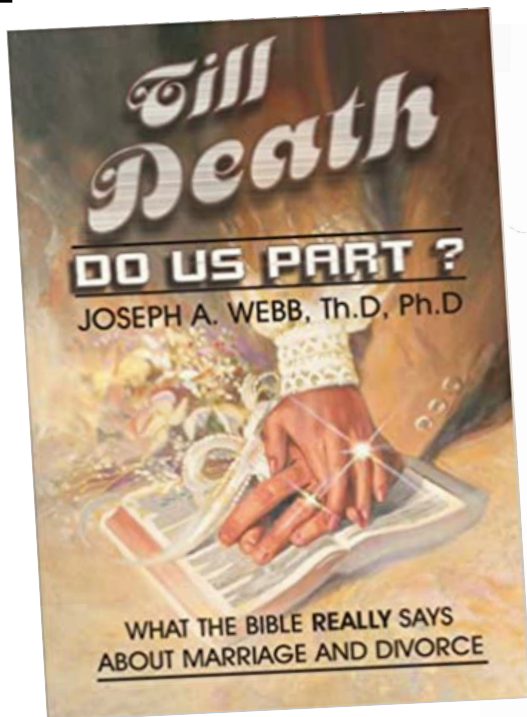
*"Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time."*

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I have been privileged to partner with two great leaders of men. As noted, most men do not begin with great leadership skills God works in and through them, using detours, dead ends, difficulties, and other factors to develop their abilities to lead in the race, we all must run!

Everyone today complains about the condition of the churches. The primary reason is a lack of leadership! The church is failing this generation. The churches today are dying for a lack of leadership. The bride of Christ is suffering! God himself causes every believer to be a leader. From the beginning of **Genesis 1:26**, also **Romans 12:8** urges our pro active stature in the bride of Christ. From the beginning people have been called to leadership. Let's pray, let's pray for the churches today for strong leadership.

Patricia Lane Webb



*Page 233  
from the Book  
Till Death Do Us Part?  
by  
Joseph A. Webb, Th.D., Ph.D.*

## QUESTION

If what you have shown us from the Scriptures is true, why hasn't the church taught it, and why is divorce and multiple marriages so widespread in the churches themselves?

## ANSWER

What we have seen happening in our churches has been a gradual change of attitude that has evolved over a period of many years. It has been said that backsliding is never a **blowout**, but just a **slow leak**. Several decades ago, the church experienced an influx of couples who had divorced their first spouses and married again. These couples had remained with their second or third partners for an extended period of time before they entered the church doors. To make an issue out of their present long-term relationship, therefore, caused much dissent in the churches by well-meaning churchgoers. The defenders of these couples said that the church should "learn to forgive" and not to treat these unfortunate people as "**second-class citizens**." That term "**second-class citizens**" became the offensive phrase and buzzword, around which supporters rallied. A real struggle ensued, and no one came forth with a strong doctrinal position on this issue, because it was so volatile. One needs only to examine most commentaries pastors use today to find that passages dealing with divorce and subsequent marriages were, and are, virtually skipped over, or very lightly touched upon. You will find, however, the older the commentary, the stronger the teaching.

The result of this compromise in the church reads like the parable of the Arab's camel. Remember how the camel stuck his nose in the Arab's tent and asked, "May I just keep my nose inside the tent to keep it warm?" When given approval, the camel stuck his whole head into the tent and asked if it was all right to keep his ears warm, because it was so cold outside. The evident end of the parable was that, inch by inch, the camel moved into the tent, until he was all the way in, and the Arab was out. It happened slowly, but it happened.

Likewise, through compromise and faulty doctrine, the **camel of adultery** is not only in the tent (the church), but he has now made it easier for more camels of unrighteousness to enter into the tent (the church).

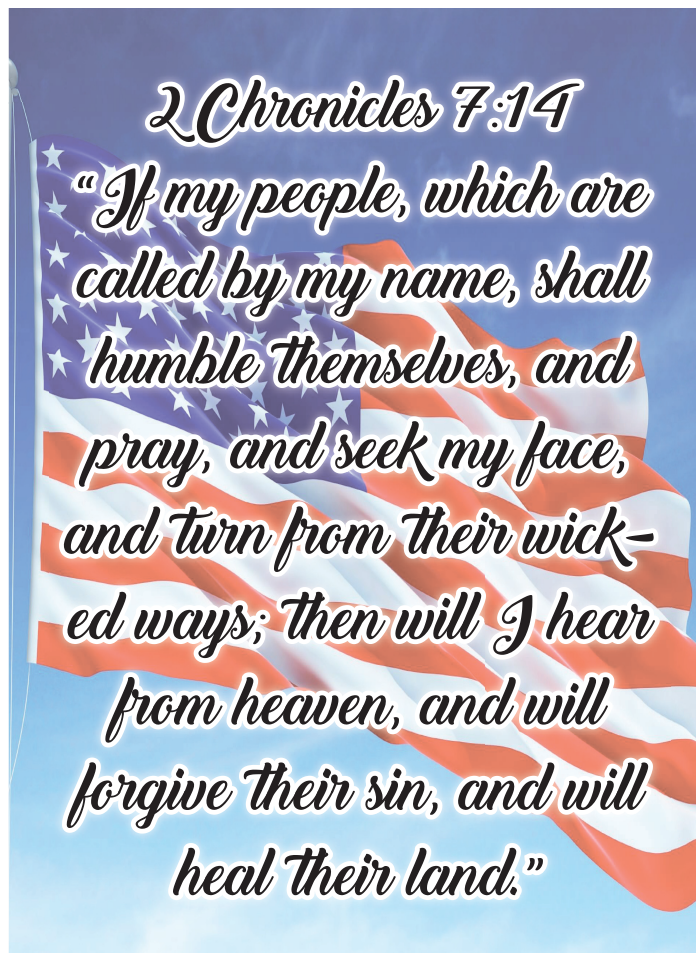


## Note:

God has given us His Word in which we can thrive if we will only follow His leading. We strive to reach individuals, as many as possible with our communication assets. We currently have the Marriage Seminar by Dr. Joseph Webb on our website and it is available in other languages as well. The hundred or more messages by Dr. Webb are also available for listening and contain many subjects based on Biblical principles.

I encourage you to access these messages so that they will be a tool for you to pass along to others who would benefit from the Biblical teachings in yours and others lives. God's word does not return void. Paul's challenge to Timothy reads: *"Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus, And the things that thou has heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also"*, II Timothy 2:1-3.

Just as in Paul's time we Christians need to be faithful and to teach others the truth of Scripture in obedience to God's word. It is our treasure which we should share with others rather than bury it as written in the example of the talents as stated by the Lord in Matthew 25:14-30.



# HEARTBEAT

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P.O. Box 520729

Longwood, FL 32752-0729