



REVELATION BY THE SLICE

Bruce Birch

Last week Dr. Faisal talked about how REVELATION IS PROGRESSIVE and we looked at the life of Abraham and how God revealed things slowly to him. But today I want to just kind of come at it from a little different angle and *I want to juxtapose two things*. Juxtapose means to put side by side and see how they fit.

- So one of those is, God's picture perfect complete plan that He has for each one of us.
God has a picture perfect complete plan.
- The other thing I want to juxtapose that is the question,
Why does He give it to us in pieces?

If it's a complete plan written before the foundation of the world, God has it all laid out—Why is He releasing it in little bits and pieces here and there?

👉 The title of this message is **REVELATION BY THE SLICE**.

The story of Joseph

We're going to another Old Testament guy there, **Joseph**, and I'm sharing what the Holy Spirit said to me about that. It's sort of like some phases.

FOUR PHASES WE GO THROUGH AS GOD REVEALS DESTINY FOR US

I think the first and the last stay basically where they are, but two and three are kind of fluid, they can move around, depending on who you are and what God's doing.

Hebrews 10:36 (NLT)—Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised.

PATIENCE has to do with CHARACTER—ENDURANCE means Getting through something.

"Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will." It means you have to be doing it. You're continuing it. Not starting it. You're already CONTINUING IT. "Then you will receive all that He has promised."

I won't do the entire story of Joseph. It goes from chapter 37-50 of Genesis. Except for chapter 38, which is interesting, it's like a completely different narrative. Just know that there was some time that passed between when Joseph got sold as a slave and when he ended up at Potiphar's house and things happened. *The first phase, when God starts to REVEAL THINGS*, I'm going to call it the *Launch and Protection*.

PHASE 1

THE LAUNCH AND PROTECTION

Genesis 37:5-8 (NLT)— One night Joseph had a dream, and when he told his brothers about it, they hated him more than ever. 6 "Listen to this dream," he said. 7 "We were out in the field, tying up bundles of grain. Suddenly my bundle stood up, and your bundles all gathered around and bowed low before mine!"

Joseph was feeling pretty about this, right?

8 His brothers responded, "So you think you will be our king, do you? Do you actually think you will reign over us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dreams and the way he talked about them.

It wasn't just the dream that irked them, it's *the way he presented it, the way he shared it with them*.

Soon he has another dream. Now God comes in, gives him another dream, **another little peak of REVELATION, another glimpse IN HIS DESTINY**. And here's what happened.

Genesis 37:9-10 (NLT)—Soon Joseph had another dream, and again he told his brothers about it. —{This guy doesn't learn}— "Listen, I have had another dream," he said. "The sun, moon, and eleven stars bowed low before me!" 10 This time he told the dream to his father as well as to his brothers, but his father scolded him. "What kind of dream is that?"

he asked. ***“Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow to the ground before you?”***

There are some things here that happened. **He had A GLIMPSE OF DESTINY.**

WHEN GOD GIVES YOU **A GLIMPSE OF DESTINY**
THE IDEA IS TO MAKE YOU DISSATISFIED WITH YOUR LIFE

➡ It's to **INITIATE** some **MOVEMENT** so that you don't want to just sit.

➡ Now something's **STIRRING** within you.

And you go, I need to move away from that—I need to move toward—I need to do something—I've got to go. Right?—That's what we saw with **Abraham**. He got up and he moved.

This is interesting. And now we go, well, okay, but **why didn't God give the whole picture? Why didn't he just dump it all** and say, “Hey, here's the dream. *That's what's going to happen.*”

If you know Joseph's life and you think about it, **if God had revealed everything to him, it would not have INITIATED MOVEMENT, except to run.**

God is **PRUDENT** to only give A GLIMPSE because the entire thing is **OVERWHELMING**

IF GOD IS JUST GIVING YOU **A GLIMPSE OF SOMETHING**
REALIZE **THERE'S MORE BEHIND IT**—**BUT YOU'RE NOT READY** FOR IT YET
AND IT WILL PROBABLY FREAK YOU OUT

So God's being KIND and LOVING, saying, ***“I'm going to give you enough to get you moving.”***

Now, there's another thing that's really cool, right? ➡ **ENOUGH TO GET YOU MOVING.**

And that's good.—But there is a **danger** in this **incomplete VISION**, **incomplete REVELATION**. The danger is this because we don't have a complete grasp. *We sometimes get focused on us*, which is what Joseph did. It was focused on me.—“*My sheaves rose up. Your things bowed down. I was elevated.*” And what happens is that, because we get **selfish** and **self-centered** with what we are *doing* and we start sharing it, what we can do is we can *alienate people*. We can even get them *angry at us* and *jealous*. That's not a good thing.

If you have a REVELATION and you start telling people, “Hey, look, this is what's going to happen”—People that are *not spiritually mature* can easily get offended by that. And that offense can spread in and go, “Well, I don't know why the pastor's doing this and he's saying that. This church is crazy. I'm getting out of here because God's not doing anything for me. I don't see anything.”

It's all about you and you and you. We've got to WATCH.

⚠ YOU HAVE TO BE CAREFUL WHO YOU SHARE REVELATION WITH

Genesis 37:11 (NLT)—But while his brothers were jealous of Joseph, his father wondered what the dreams meant.

Joseph's father reprimanded him because of the PRESENTATION—**the way he presented** this dream to his father.

IF GOD'S GIVING YOU A DREAM **IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU**
YOU MIGHT BE IN IT—**BUT THERE'S MORE TO IT**

His father had the **SPIRITUAL MATURITY** to say, “Okay, I'm going to just calm down. Let me think this through. Let me pray about this. Let me process what's going on.”

➡ So if you have VISION, you have a REVELATION of something of DESTINY that you have 🙌 Be careful who you share it with. And I would say, the one to share was his father not his brothers.

Who's our fathers? *Our fathers in the spiritual realm are the pastors, the leaders, the people that God has put over you that have SPIRITUAL MATURITY to sit down with them and say, "Hey, I'm struggling. This is what I got. Can we pray for this together? Can you help me? Can you guide me on this so that I don't go off?"* Okay, that's the launch. With a little bit of a disclaimer there. Now, the other thing is this. I said it was **LAUNCH and PROTECTION**.

So, how does PROTECTION fit into an INCOMPLETE PICTURE? 

It is fantastic, really, because satan cannot make an accurate or effective counterattack to God's plan because he doesn't know what it is—he is blinded. And so he steps in and tries to do something. You can just picture this.

"Uh, satan, master, we just got word Joseph had this dream. God's going to make him elevate him. All his brothers and his father and mother are going to bow down"... "Oh, this is not good. Anything God's going to do, we got to thwart this, don't we?" "His mother and father bowing down? I know how to do this. Let's take him, put him in Egypt, get him as far away from this as possible. That will stop what God's doing."

What do you think of that? God says, "Yeah, perfect, you walked right into it, didn't you, man?"

**WHATEVER EVIL PLAN satan PUTS IN PLACE TO PREVENT
GOD'S PLAN FROM COMING TO FRUITION CAN BE USED BY GOD
TO ACHIEVE THE FULL REVELATION OF DESTINY FOR YOU**



- Whatever satan comes up with to try and stop God's plan,
GOD CAN USE to actually bring HIS PLAN out

But I want to put a little caveat here—Depending on your character, your response.

➡ **RESPONSE IS BUILD ON CHARACTER**

Depending on your character and your RESPONSE to the situation and what's going on.—We're going to get into that in phases 2 and 3

➡ **CHARACTER determines how long and whether REVELATION will be fulfilled.**

Your're going, "Where are you getting this stuff from? What are you doing?—Okay, let's just have a look at the **Israelites** for a minute. God brought them up to the PROMISED LAND and said, *There it is. You're going to **cross the river**—You're going to **take that land**—That's your DESTINY—**That's where it's going.***"

⚠ Their CHARACTER and their RESPONSE to that situation caused a **40 year delay !!** of that REVELATION coming about—And some of the people missed it completely and it was moved on to their children. It jumped right over them.

➡ **God can use anything—but we need to make sure we RESPOND the right way.**

This was phase 1, LAUNCH AND PROTECTION. Now, we're going to get into phase 2. Now, phase 2 and three kind of blend, but anyway, I just do them in one order because we got to do it somehow. So this is the GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

PHASE 2 GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Genesis 39. Joseph goes from Pharaoh's house and he gets promoted. Everything's going good—and then he ends up in jail. That's what's coming up, right? So Joseph's journey was kind of a rough one. And I'll tell you he started out as a slave. He tried to work his way up. He's serving. He's doing things. God's blessing him.

➡ **It's easy to get frustrated when what you're doing right now does not seem to align with the VISION of what **GOD SAID** your PURPOSE is going to be, and your DESTINY is going to be.**

Sometimes we're in a place, we're in a situation, we're doing things, we're living, and we're trying to get things done, and we're going, "God, this doesn't make any sense. Why am I here when you called me to that?"

Personal Testimony

I'll tell you, God told me when I was about 17—I have a lot in common with him here, 17—that I would be called to be a pastor. I never saw that for 40 years. So what was that about?

And God brought me at one point, he brought me into a church as a custodian and a cleaner. And I said, "Okay, God, maybe I got the vision wrong. Maybe I got it wrong. Maybe this is what I'm supposed to be doing, and my ministry is praying and worshiping in here and cleaning this up and serving in that way. —And then God moved me into school. I said, "Wow, maybe this was it, God."

But see, really what was going on is God was giving me opportunity to **LEARN SOME SKILLS**, so learn some **HUMILITY**, to **BUILD SOME CHARACTER**—so that I would be **READY** to step into **the next phase** of REVELATION, the next part of things.

So when this happens, when you find yourself in a situation, and you go, "Hey, this doesn't seem to fit," we have a couple of options open to us.

➡ When it doesn't fit we have the following OPTIONS...

- **Belly aching and complaining**, "This is not what I'm supposed to be. I hate this boss I have. Why am I doing this? And I'm way better than all this stuff. If they only knew my potential"

But if we start collecting complaints and we start gathering them up and building them, you know what it does?

- It infects our soul
- It opens the door to our critical spirit
- it poisons us

👉 **that we can not receive the DESTINY REVELATION from God.**

It would be ridiculous to do that

GOD LOVES YOU TOO MUCH TO RELEASE SOMETHING TO YOU
THAT'S GOING TO DESTROY YOU

👉 SO UNTIL YOU HAVE THE CHARACTER AND THE SKILL SET YOU NEED
HE'S NOT GOING TO DO IT.

The other OPTION (that's a good one) is...

- **BELIEVING THAT GOD IS IN IT** 👉 and **celebrating** your way through it 🎉

*James 1:2-4 (NLT)—Dear brothers and sisters, **when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.** 3 For you know that **when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.** 4 So let it grow, for **when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.***

Remember that verse we did in the beginning—You need to **stick with** the ENDURANCE and **do** GOD'S WILL 👉 so that the PROMISE is FULFILLED. Your ENDURANCE has a chance to grow. Let it grow. Because **when your ENDURANCE is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.** Why? Because the **DESTINY God has given you**—EVERYTHING IS THERE 📖

👉 **It will fall into place.**

The Bible says in Isaiah 40:31, "But those who WAIT ON THE LORD shall renew their strength..." And I tell you this...

REVELATION OFTEN DOES NOT CONTINUE UNTIL WE
LEARN THE SKILLS AND DEVELOP THE CHARACTER
THAT GOD NEEDS FOR US IN THE NEXT STEP

REVELATION often doesn't continue until we **learn the skills and develop the character** that God needs for us in the next step.

*Romans 5:4 NLT)—And **endurance develops strength of character**, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation.*

We can rejoice too when we run into problems and trials. For we know that they help us develop endurance and develop strength of CHARACTER.

We're building the things we need so that God can use us

Personal Testimony (cont.)

When God called me at 17, I was not the man that He needed. He saw the POTENTIAL. I got the call and thought, "I'm in God, where? Well, show me the church and I'll get up there. Why aren't they letting me preach?" No. No. I wasn't ready. I wasn't. I had POTENTIAL. God saw that, but he said, "You're not the man I need yet. You need to do a few things first, like scrubbing some toilets." Actually, I did out-houses, but that was another story.

But listen, Joseph served with **HONOR** and **INTEGRITY** when he was with Potiphar. **He began to experience PROMOTION and BLESSING**, and then—just when it seemed that everything was going right—Potiphar's wife steps in, "Hey, what about a secret twist? It could be fun. What do you think? You don't need to stay close to God"—satan is already saying, "There's something going on, i thought we stopped things. But it seems like it's still building over here. Listen, they always fall for this on, send Potiphar's wife in. That will do it. It will kill this whole thing..."

Joseph stood up and stayed true to God. That's his CHARACTER.

Why? Because **HIS CHARACTER HAS BEEN BUILD UP.** His character was **STRONG**.

So he **DID THE RIGHT THING** and it resulted in him going to prison—unjustly. 🙌

"God... what?" And when that happened, **when you thought everything has been going right, and you think we're moving in the right direction, and then everything collapses around you**, and you go, "Now, what is going on?"—Often this is what we do. We ask this question, "God what are you doing?. What are you doing, God?" — Wrong question! It's the wrong question.

The question is...

➡ **God, what should I be doing right now?**

➡ *Show me how I respond to this—Show me how I work in this*

➡ **What do I do to honor You through this disaster that's coming my way?"**

And now we are going to the next phase.

PHASE 3

PRACTICE AND POSITIONING 🏃

So Joseph is stuck in jail. And what does he do there? Well, he's already learned, "I'm taking chose one, God is in this. I will please Him through it." So he does exactly what he did for Potiphar. He does his best and he actually ends up being **PROMOTED** in a jail. — **He's doing everything he should.** — Now let's look what happens here in Genesis 40.

*Genesis 40:1-4 (NLT)—Some time later, Pharaoh's chief cup-bearer and chief baker offended their royal master. 2 Pharaoh became angry with these two officials, 3 and he put them in the prison where Joseph was, in the palace of the captain of the guard. 4 **They remained in prison for quite some time, and the captain of the guard assigned them to Joseph, who looked after them.***

Now you got to think this. These are two high officials. *They've been honored* and, you know, *had power and authority all their life*. They could be a little bit spoiled. They come into the prison and the guy says, "Hey, *Joseph will take care of your need.*" They're going to be bossing him around, right? He's got to deal with these guys, but he steps into it and *he does what he needs*.

And the need thing is this. **He avoids unforgiveness.** Because UNFORGIVENESS leads to bitterness—Bitterness leads into anger—Anger leads into sin—And sin leads into destruction. Joseph is not walking that path. He says, "I'm going to do the right thing."

GODLY CHARACTER IS GROWING IN JOSEPH 🙌 He is in prison because of his CHARACTER

But while he is there, God says, "Okay, you've been learning some skills. You've been doing some things. I gave you some giftings way back. **We're going to try it again and see how you do.** I gave you some **dreams** and **your interpretation** of them caused a chaos in your family and ended up you being sold. Right? Let's do this again. I'M GOING TO SEND SOME DREAMS YOUR WAY."

God is sending some dreams to Joseph again...This is the butler and baker.

Genesis 40:8 (NLT)—And they replied, “We both had dreams last night, but no one can tell us what they mean.” **“Interpreting dreams is God’s business,”** Joseph replied. **“Go ahead and tell me your dreams.”**

What a SHIFT from, “Hey, I had a dream. Let me tell you what it’s about. I’m going to be honored. I’m going to be raised up. You guys are going to bow down to me.” That was him.—Now it’s **“God interprets dreams. Tell it to me and I’ll take it to HIM and I’ll find out what it means.”**

There’s a SHIFT there, isn’t there?—So listen, here is the *practical part*.



YOU PRACTISE 🏆 and you USE THE SKILLS and the GIFTING 📁 God gave you
Now where you are—in the situation you are in—YOU DON’T WAIT.

Some people I think wait they go, “Well, you know, when God puts me into this ministry that He’s told me I’ll have, then I’ll walk in the giftings He’s given me.” No, no, no.

👉 **Use them now!**—Use them wherever you are—Develop them. This is the **PRACTICE PHASE**, practicing this stuff. And it’s **POSITIONING** because it builds character. And what’s happening is

👉 **Now you’re being POSITIONED** into a person who is **READY TO RECEIVE** and **WALK OUT** what God has for you.

- You can’t WALK IT OUT until you know what it is
- And you won’t KNOW what it is until you WALK THE PARTS you know now

GOD WON’T RELEASE MORE **REVELATION**
TILL YOU WALK OUT WHAT YOU ALREADY HAVE

So now we get to the final stage of this—HUMILITY AND HONOR.

PHASE 4

HUMILITY AND HONOR

Genesis 41:14-16 (NLT)—Pharaoh sent for Joseph at once, and he was quickly brought from the prison. After he shaved and changed his clothes, he went in and stood before Pharaoh. 15 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I had a dream last night, and no one here can tell me what it means. But I have heard that when you hear about a dream you can interpret it.” 16 **“It is beyond my power to do this,”** Joseph replied. **“But God can tell you what it means and set you at ease.”**

Pharaoh’s dreams translate into Joseph’s dreams being established. It’s interesting. Okay, it may have seemed like God was moving slow. Did it seem that way when you’re reading this? “Man, God, You’re moving so slow.” Have you ever felt that way in your life? “God, you told this and it’s moving so slowly. Why is it going so slow? Why can’t you speed things up?”



TIME WORKS DIFFERENT WITH GOD

Time doesn’t work the same with God as it does for us.

2 Peter 3:8-9 (NLT)—But you must not forget this one thing, dear friends: **A day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day.**

God is OUTSIDE OF TIME. It’s not functioning like it does for us.

9 The Lord isn’t really being slow about his promise, as some people think.

And there are people in this world that might think that. And you might be thinking that yourself. “God, why is this going so slow?”—No. **HE IS BEING PATIENT**—Why? **FOR YOUR SAKE.**

- He doesn’t want anyone to be destroyed
- He wants **EVERYONE TO REPENT**

Now, that verse is talking about the END TIMES and God returning but it fits too with where you are and what you’re doing.—So Joseph, for the second time in a row now, actually, it’s been a couple years since he had the butler and the baker there, I think. But he stands up before Pharaoh.

Now think about this. **This is why we had to HAVE CHARACTER BUILT. This is why we had to have these things in place and because he's standing before Pharaoh.** Pharaoh is a man who can say, "You know what? I like you. Let him free. He just shouldn't be in jail. Get him out."

- He has the **POWER TO RELEASE HIM**, to vindicate him

So when he stands up and Pharaoh says, "Hey, I had this dream. Can you tell me what it means?" He could have said, "Yeah, let me tell you because if I tell him what it means, it's going to be good for me."—No, that's not what he does.—He comes before Pharaoh and Pharaoh gives his dream and he says, "**Only the LORD can interpret dreams.**" He gives the **PRAISE and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** to where it belongs.

- **IT'S GOD**—It's not me and my dreams and what I want and all this stuff
- No, it's God. **GOD will give you the answer to this**

And he shares the dream and what it means with Pharaoh, God raises him up and says, "Okay, now it's time. I'm going to give you" Remember that dream you had way back then that you got so confused?—**You thought it was about you getting HONOR and PRAISE.**

- No, it's about you **PROTECTING THINGS**
- It's about you **PROVIDING**
- It's about **ME USING YOU TO SAVE PEOPLE**

And there was the personal plan. Yes, Joseph RECEIVED what it showed in that first dream. There was a global or a **CORPORATE PLAN** to save the Nation of Israel, and there was a **GLOBAL PLAN**.—Why do we save Israel? Because Jesus is coming through there to save the entire world.

THERE IS A **PERSONAL PLAN**, THERE IS A **CORPORATE**, AND THERE IS A **GLOBAL PORTION**
TO EVERY **REVELATION** AND **PLAN** THAT GOD HAS IN PLACE

That's important to know. IT'S BIGGER THAN US. And I tell you, when you have that, it's very humbling. And the Bible tells us, **Humble yourself therefore under the mighty hand of God, and he will exalt you in due time** (James 4:10)

- When we learn the **SKILLS**
- When we develop the **CHARACTER**

SO GOD'S REVELATION IS PROGRESSIVE

- **LAUNCH**
- **PROTECTION**
- There's **MOTIVATION** to get started—There's **COVERAGE** as you do
- In the midst of trials, there's **OPPORTUNITY** for **GROWTH** of **CHRIST-LIKE CHARACTER** and **DEVELOPMENT**
- There's **PRACTICE**—What we practice is we learn and we go through things and we **'GET POSITIONED FOR GOD TO USE US**
- Resulting in us **WALKING IN HUMILITY** and **HONOR**

So let's just go through those four things one more last time here in closing.

GOD'S REVELATION IS PROGRESSIVE

- ➡ It provides us with **MOTIVATION TO LAUNCH AND PROTECTION** while we do
- ➡ It provides **OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH and DEVELOPMENT**
- ➡ It gives time for us to **GET PRACTICE** and **POSITIONED WHERE GOD WANTS US**
- ➡ **Resulting in HUMILITY** so that God honors us

And lastly, just remember that...

!! GOD WON'T RELEASE MORE REVELATION UNTIL YOU WALK FAITHFULLY IN WHAT YOU ALREADY HAVE

29:07

Dr. Faisal Malick

UPDATE- WHERE WE ARE

God has always intended to bring His plan to fruition and fulfillment.

Tomorrow September 1 is the beginning of a NEW SEASON.

As we look at September God has been stirring our hearts to prepare for...

God wants to prepare ourselves to TRANSITION EFFICIENTLY.

If you prepare yourself now, you are already on course when the New Year starts.

God's plane is taking off...

God is saying, I'm giving you another opportunity.

If your heart is right...

Joshua 3:5—And Joshua said to the people, "Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you."

God wants to separate ourselves as His sons and daughters.

Do you need to adjust how you look at your past...

Spend some time to open up the Bible.

God is saying, "I am about to do something..."

SET YOURSELF APART — CONSECRATE YOURSELF

Joshua 3:5 —And Joshua said to the people, "Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you."

The degree of our separation determines how we experience...

The day Joseph was in prison and Pharaoh wanted to see him,...

God wants you to...

God wants you to hone in and put your eyes on Him.

Scripture says, "Before there is HONOR there is HUMILITY."

Watch out what's trying to distract you.

Get ready for September 7 - CONSECRATION SERVICE

September 14 Clive Pick is coming here to minister.

September 21 Beverley Watkins will minister to us prophetically

GO CONFERENCE/RISE UP and RUN—September 26-28 > Setting the course, getting ready

Beverley Watkins

PROPHETIC PERSPECTIVE

I'm excited about where God is taking us.

We're often good in getting into the new thing. But we're not so good in finishing the old thing.

We have to finish the last season.—Tomorrow the new season begins.

Today was the day where the old door shuts and the new door opens.

As we look towards the future...

The day is here prophetically that...

But we have to shut the door...

Today it stops! It's finished! It's enough.

Today is the day where we will rising up and say NO.

August 31, 2025 - CLM Sunday Experience

Today we shut the door to the past!

Today we shut the door to these doubts and fears.

It's a choice to make!

Get happy about where you are!

We got to FINISH WELL—so that we can START WELL.

PRAYER

Reference