

**Jacob's Life is Following a**

**Disturbing but Familiar Pattern**

- Lying and cheating
- Taking advantage for personal gain
- No accountability
- Favorites in the family
- Going to get worse
- "Everything is against me!"

**Jacob's Life is Following a Disturbing but Familiar Pattern**

Was This Inevitable? Are We Solely a Product of Our Past?

Joseph: -spoiled -orphaned -dysfunction -despised -threatened -sold -jailed -forgotten

Joseph: "How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?"

*-Genesis 39:9*

Joseph: "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt."

*-Genesis 45:8*

## What Made The Difference Between Jacob and Joseph

### Jacob:

“**If** God will . . .

. . . **then** the Lord will be my God.”

-Genesis 28:20-21

- Goal was his own well being
- God was a means to that end

### Joseph:

“**You intended** to harm me, but **God intended** it for good.”

-Genesis 50:20

- Recognized and embraced God’s purpose
- Followed and responded to God’s lead

## **The Outcome of Your Life Is Not Determined By Your History, But By Your View Of God’s Role In Your History**

### How Do You See God’s Role In Your Life

God Is Sovereign – I Submit To His Plans

“though there are no sheep in the pen, and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.”

-Habakkuk 3:17-18

God Is Powerful – I Rely On His Ability

“I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted.”

-Job 42:2

God Is Good – I Am Thankful

“But while Joseph was there in the prison, the Lord was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden.” -Genesis 39:20-21

God Is Forgiving – I Believe

“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

*-Romans 8:1*

Attitudes Are Forged In Difficulty, But Flourish In Abundance

*-Psalm 18; Psalm 86*