

Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28

Matthew 21: 33-43, 45-46

It seems to me that today we are given two examples, but two of many from scripture, that reflect clearly what it means to put our trust in God. We can identify two types of people; Type A and type B.

In the Old Testament Reading, we hear about the life of Joseph, and in the Gospel, Jesus talking to the chief priests and elders of the people.

A: Speaks of honesty and integrity. Having a desire to live in the way that God intended. 'Joseph went after his brothers and met them at Dothan.' And...Jesus said, in his parable, "(The king) 'sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce.' "

B: A life of fear and uncertainty. '...before he reached them, they made a plot among themselves to put him to death.' And... 'But the tenants seized his servants.'

A: A life knowing the assurance of greatness no matter what troubles prevail. As written in the Psalm, 'Remember the wonders the Lord has done.' Joseph was sold as a slave and, later, was thrown into prison.' And... '...they seized him (The king's son) and.....killed him.'

B: Relying on your own resources to gain power or riches. Fearing change and those that proclaim the truth. A life that will bring only emptiness and end badly. "Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites." And... "Let us kill him and take over his inheritance."

Clearly, Joseph's brothers and the chief priests and elders fit into category B. Their fears, jealousies and self-seeking desires blinded them to the truth. Joseph and Jesus, on the other hand, act with integrity, seeking only God (good) and to trust in him. Perceived failure, pain and loss, led Joseph to be ruler in Egypt, second only to Pharaoh; and the king would bring the tenants to a wretched end. Jesus was arrested, tortured, and killed but God would raise him high, and

through his death and resurrection, would be Saviour of the world and sit at God's right hand forever.

In which category might we be? Thank God for his forgiveness and compassion when we turn to him in repentance for our sins. Thank God for always answering our prayers in the way HE sees best for us.