

# The God Whose Sovereign Plan Doesn't Fit Into a Sitcom

- A. The LORD God Almighty isn't a screenwriter in Hollywood.
1. Thanks to Hollywood, we've come to expect stories—even the most complex and heartbreaking of stories—to be neatly wrapped up and completely resolved in bite-sized, easily digestible portions.
  2. Within the span of 2 hours, 1 hour, perhaps even 30 minutes, justice is realized, mysteries are solved, problems are resolved, and all that was out of alignment is beautifully realigned.
- B. But the sovereign plan of the God we serve doesn't fit into a sitcom, and that's okay.
1. His stories take years, decades, centuries, even millennia to unfold.
  2. He intentionally leaves certain things achingly unresolved.
  3. Some threads of the plot seem to disappear, only to reappear at the most unexpected moments.
- C. The LORD God Almighty isn't a Hollywood screenwriter, but He *is* real. God is willing and able to change what matters most, redeem what money cannot buy, and secure what will last forever.

## Real-Life Examples:

- \_\_\_\_\_ is 75-years-old when God calls him and makes the “*great nation*” promise (*Gen 12:1-4*). Isaac won't be born for another \_\_\_\_\_ years (*Gen 21:1-7*).
- \_\_\_\_\_, one of Abraham's great-grandson's, is sold at 17 by his brothers to Midianite traders and carried down to Egypt (*Gen 37*). He resists the sexual advances of his master's wife and gets thrown in prison (*Gen 39*). “*Some time after this*” (*Gen 40:1*), Joseph interprets the dreams of two prisoners... and is forgotten (*Gen 40:23*)... for “\_\_\_\_\_ *whole years*” (*Gen 41:1*).
- “*The people of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly*” (*Exo 1:1-7*), but it had been \_\_\_\_\_ years since God made the promise that a great nation would be made of Abraham (*Gen 12:2*). The children of Israel were slaves in Egypt for \_\_\_\_\_ years (*Gen 15:13; Acts 7:6; Exo 2:23-24; 12:40-41*).
- Meanwhile, \_\_\_\_\_ had been living as an exile in Midian for \_\_\_\_\_ years (*Acts 7:23-30*).
- Moses would patiently endure \_\_\_\_\_ years' worth of wandering in the wilderness between Egypt and the Promised Land because of Israel's unbelief (*Num 32:7-15*).
- The LORD eventually gave Israel all the land that he had sworn to give to their fathers (*Josh 21:43-45*), but it had been \_\_\_\_\_ years since God had made his land promise to Abraham (*Acts 7:2-5*).
- Time would fail to tell of \_\_\_\_\_ and his family (\_\_\_\_\_ days in the ark), \_\_\_\_\_ (*Judges 6:13*), \_\_\_\_\_ (*Ruth 1:20-21*), \_\_\_\_\_ (*1 Sam 1:6-7*), and \_\_\_\_\_ (*Dan 9:2*).
- Most significant of all, “*The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ*” spans \_\_\_\_\_ years (*Matt 1*)!

## Vital Conclusions:

1. At pivotal moments in life, these people had no idea what God was \_\_\_\_\_. Neither will we.
2. At many points in life, we won't understand \_\_\_\_\_ God is allowing certain things to happen.
3. And yet, the clear testimony of Scripture is that God \_\_\_\_\_ you and he \_\_\_\_\_ what he's doing.
4. Therefore, we should spend less time fretting, worrying, and agonizing over things we cannot \_\_\_\_\_, and more time \_\_\_\_\_ the LORD while he may be found (*Isa 55:6-9*).