

JOSEPH

Standing Strong in Turbulent Times
Matthew 1:18-19, 7:24-27
Week 2 of 3

June 6, 1994, was the 50th anniversary of the Allied invasion of Normandy, which began the historic World War II battle to liberate continental Europe from Nazi control. All the major television networks ran anniversary programs that included interviews with aging veterans.

One of the programs paired two contrasting interviews back to back. The first interview was with a marine who had landed on Omaha Beach. He recalled horrors that sounded like scenes from Steven Spielberg's Academy Award-winning movie *Saving Private Ryan*. The aging veteran recalled looking around at the bloody casualties surrounding him and concluding, "We're going to lose!"

The next interview was with a U.S. Army Air Corps reconnaissance pilot who had flown over the whole battle area. He viewed the carnage on the beaches and hills, but he also witnessed the successes of the marines, the penetration by the paratroopers, and the effectiveness of the aerial bombardment. He looked at everything that was happening and concluded, "We're going to win!" [Leith Anderson, *Leadership That Works*, (Minneapolis, Bethany House, 1999), pp. 164-165]

Sometimes our perspective in the midst of difficult circumstances can make all the difference on whether or not we will trust God for the outcome. Our Daily Bible Reading will show us some Bible characters who were in difficult circumstances and how they handled their situation.



northeast daily reading

December 12, 2010

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- DAY ONE – Matthew 1:18-2:23 (Joseph)
- DAY TWO – Exodus 1-2:10 (Jochabed)
- DAY THREE – Judges 4 (Barak)
- DAY FOUR – Ruth 1-4 (Ruth)
- DAY FIVE – Acts 6:5-7:60 (Stephen)

Memory Verse:

"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:18)



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