

Joseph Imprisoned in Egypt

1 Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt, and Potiphar, Pharaoh's eunuch and captain of the guard, an Egyptian, had bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him down there.

2 The Lord was with Joseph, and he was a successful man; and he was living in the house of his lord the Egyptian. 3 So his lord saw that the Lord was with him and the Lord made all he did to prosper in his hand. 4 Thus Joseph found grace in his sight and was pleasing to him. Then he made him overseer of his house, and put everything he had under Joseph's authority. 5 So it was, from the time he made him overseer of his house and all he had, that the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the Lord was on all he had in the house and in the field. 6 Thus he left all he had in Joseph's hand, and did not know what he had except for the bread he ate. Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance.

7 Then it came to pass after these things that his lord's wife cast longing eyes on Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me." 8 But he refused and said to his lord's wife, "Look, my lord does not know what is with me in the house and has committed all he has to my hand. 9 There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" 10 So it was, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not heed her, to lie with her or to have relations with her. 11 But it happened about this time, when Joseph went into the house to do his work, and none of the men of the house was inside, 12 she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside.

13 So it was, when she saw he had left his garment in her hand and fled outside, 14 she called to the men of her house and spoke to them, saying, "See, he brought in to us a Hebrew to mock us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice. 15 Thus it happened, when he heard that I lifted my voice and cried out, he left his garment with me, and fled and went outside." 16 So she kept his garment with her until his lord came home. 17 Then she spoke to him with words like these, saying, "The Hebrew servant you brought to us came in to me to mock me; 18 so it happened, as I lifted my voice and cried out, he left his garment with me and fled outside." 19 So it was, when his lord heard the words his wife spoke to him, saying, "Your servant did to me after this manner," his anger was aroused. 20 Then Joseph's lord took him and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were confined.

21 But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him mercy, and He gave him grace in the sight of the chief prison keeper. 22 So the chief keeper of the prison put under Joseph's authority both the prison and all the prisoners, and whatever they did there. 23 The chief keeper of the prison did not look into anything under Joseph's authority, because the Lord was with him; and whatever he did, the Lord made it prosper.

Genesis 40**Joseph Interprets the Dreams of the Prisoners**

1 Now it came to pass after these things, that the king of Egypt's chief cupbearer and chief baker offended their lord, the king of Egypt. 2 So Pharaoh was angry with his two eunuchs, the chief cupbearer and the chief baker. 3 Thus he put them in custody with the chief bodyguard in the

prison, the place where Joseph was confined. 4 Then the chief jailer committed them to Joseph, and he attended them; so they were in custody for a while.

5 Then the king of Egypt's chief cupbearer and the chief baker, who were confined in the prison, had a dream, both of them, each man's dream in one night and each man's dream with its own interpretation. 6 So Joseph came in to them in the morning and looked at them, and saw they were troubled. 7 Thus he asked Pharaoh's eunuchs, who were with him in the custody of his lord, saying, "Why do you look so sad today?" 8 So they said to him, "We each had a dream, and there is no one to interpret it." Then Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God? Therefore, relate them to me." 9 Then the chief cupbearer related his dream to Joseph, and said to him, "Behold, in my dream a vine was before me, 10 and in the vine were three branches; it was as though it budded, its blossoms shot forth, and its clusters brought forth ripe grapes. 11 Then Pharaoh's cup was in my hand; and I took the grapes and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand."

12 And Joseph said to him, "This is the interpretation of it: The three branches are three days. 13 Now within three days Pharaoh will remember your position and restore your office of chief cupbearer; and you will put Pharaoh's cup in his hand according to the former manner, when you were his cupbearer. 14 But remember me when it is well with you, and have mercy on me; make mention of me to Pharaoh, and get me out of this prison. 15 For indeed I was stolen away from the land of the Hebrews; and I also have done nothing for them to put me into the dungeon."

16 When the chief baker saw the interpretation was good, he said to Joseph, "I also had a dream, and there were three white baskets on my head. 17 In the uppermost basket were all kinds of baked goods for Pharaoh, and the birds ate them out of the basket on my head." 18 So Joseph answered and said, "This is the interpretation of it: The three baskets are three days. 19 Within three days Pharaoh will lift off your head from you and hang you on a tree; and the birds will eat your flesh from you."

20 Now it came to pass on the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, that he made a feast for all his servants; and he remembered the positions of his chief cupbearer and chief baker among his servants. 21 Then he restored the chief cupbearer to his position, and he placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand. 22 But he hanged the chief baker, as Joseph had interpreted to them. 23 Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.

Genesis 41

Joseph Interprets the Dreams of Pharaoh

1 Then it came to pass, at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh had a dream; and behold, he stood by the river. 2 Suddenly there came up out of the river seven cows, fine-looking and fat; and they fed in the meadow. 3 Then behold, seven other cows came up after them out of the river, ugly and gaunt, and stood by the other cows on the bank of the river. 4 But the ugly and gaunt cows ate up the seven fine-looking and fat cows. So Pharaoh awoke. 5 He slept and dreamed a second time; and suddenly seven ears of corn came up on one stalk, plump and good. 6 Then behold, seven ears of corn, thin and blighted by the east wind, sprang up after them. 7 But the seven thin ears of corn devoured the seven plump and full ears. So Pharaoh awoke, and indeed, it was a dream.

8 Now it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled, and he sent and called for all the

interpreters of Egypt and all its wise men. Thus Pharaoh told them his dreams, but there was no one who could interpret them for Pharaoh. 9 Then the cupbearer spoke to Pharaoh, saying, “I remember my sin this day. 10 When Pharaoh was angry with his servants, and put me in custody in the house of the chief bodyguard, both myself and the chief baker, 11 we each had a dream in one night, both he and I. Each had a dream regarding himself. 12 Now there was with us a young Hebrew servant of the chief bodyguard, and we related our dreams to him; and he interpreted them for us. 13 And it came to pass, just as he interpreted for us, so it happened. He restored me to my office, but he hanged him.”

14 Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him quickly out of the dungeon; and he shaved, changed his clothing, and came to Pharaoh. 15 Thus Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. But I heard it said of you that you can understand a dream, to interpret it.” 16 So Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, “It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace.”

17 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Behold, in my dream I stood on the bank of the river. 18 Suddenly seven cows came up out of the river, fine-looking and fat; and they fed in the meadow. 19 Then behold, seven other cows came up after them, poor and very ugly and gaunt, such ugliness as I have never seen in all the land of Egypt. 20 And the gaunt and ugly cows ate up the first seven, the fat cows. 21 When they had eaten them, no one would have known they had eaten them, for they were just as ugly as at the beginning. So I awoke and fell asleep again. 22 Again, I saw in my dream, and suddenly seven ears of corn came up on one stalk, full and good. 23 Then behold, seven ears of corn, withered, thin, and blighted by the east wind, sprang up after them. 24 But the thin ears of corn devoured the seven good ears. So I told all this to the interpreters, but there was no one who could explain it to me.”

25 Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, “The dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do: 26 The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good ears of corn are seven years; the dreams are one. 27 But the seven thin and ugly cows that came up after them are seven years, and the seven empty heads blighted by the east wind are seven years of famine.

28 This is the thing I have spoken to Pharaoh. God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do. 29 Indeed, seven years of great plenty will come throughout all the land of Egypt; 30 but after them seven years of famine will arise, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine will deplete the land. 31 So the plenty will not be known in the land because of the famine following, for it will be very severe. 32 Now the dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass. 33 Now therefore, let Pharaoh select a sensible and intelligent man, and set him over the land of Egypt. 34 Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint governors over the land, to collect one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt in the seven plentiful years. 35 So let them gather all the food of the seven good years that are coming, and store up grain under Pharaoh’s authority, and let them keep food in the cities. 36 That food shall then be as a reserve in the land for the seven coming years of famine in the land of Egypt, that the land may not perish during the famine.”

Joseph Made Ruler of Egypt

37 Now this advice was good in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of all his servants. 38 Thus Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we find such a man as this, who has the Spirit of God in him?”

39 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as sensible and intelligent as you. 40 You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you.” 41 So Pharaoh said to Joseph, “See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt.”

42 Then Pharaoh took the signet ring off his hand and put it on Joseph’s hand; and he clothed him in garments of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck. 43 Then he had him ride in the second of his chariots; and they cried out before him, “Bow the knee!” So he set him over all the land of Egypt. 44 Pharaoh also said to Joseph, “I am Pharaoh, and without your consent no man may lift his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.” 45 Then Pharaoh called Joseph’s name Zaphnath-Paaneah, and he gave him as a wife Asenath, the daughter of Poti-Pherah, priest of On.

46 Now Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt. Then Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt. 47 Now in the seven plentiful years the ground brought forth abundantly. 48 So he gathered up all the food of the seven years of prosperity in the land of Egypt, and stored the food in the cities; he laid up in every city the food of the fields that surrounded them. 49 Joseph gathered very much grain, as the sand of the sea, until he stopped counting, for it was immeasurable.

50 Now two sons were born to Joseph before the years of famine came, whom Asenath, the daughter of Poti-Pherah, priest of On, bore to him. 51 Joseph called the name of his firstborn Manasseh: “For God has made me forget all my troubles and all my father’s house.” 52 And the name of the second he called Ephraim: “For God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my humiliation.”

53 Then the seven years of plenty in the land of Egypt ended, 54 and the seven years of famine began to come, as Joseph said. The famine was in all lands, but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. 55 So when all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread. Then Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, “Go to Joseph; whatever he says to you, do.” 56 The famine was over all the face of the earth, and Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold to the Egyptians. 57 Then all countries also came to Joseph in Egypt to buy grain, because the famine was severe in all the earth.