

(Genesis 40 - 41)
“Faith & Obedience”

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled this message: **“I Had A Dream”**
 - (Genesis 40 - 41) NKJV

~ INTRO ~

OK...

- As we continue to move forward in our study of the Bible.
 - We see the bigger purpose of Joseph's life take shape.
 - Finally... victory comes...
 - After more than a decade of difficulty.

REMEMBER...

- About 10-years earlier... in (Gen. 37:5)... “Joseph had a dream...”
 - And he told it to his family...
 - But they hated him for it!

NOW TONIGHT...

- In (chapters 40 & 41) we see three other dreams occur.
 - The butler / baker / & Pharaoh... each had a significant dream.

HERE'S WHAT WE CAN LEARN:

READ (vv.1-7)

IDEA #1 – WHERE DID THIS DREAM COME FROM?

THE BIBLE MENTIONS DREAMS...

- In both the Old & New Testament
1. (Num 12:6) NKJV – God tells us how He speaks to prophets.
 2. (Dan 7:1) NKJV – God revealed what's to come at the end of the age.
 3. (Matt. 2:19) NKJV – He directed Joseph toward safety.
 4. (Ecc. 5:3) NKJV – We learn we can be so busy that we cause dreams.
 5. (Jer 29:8-b) NKJV – God tells us not to listen to these kinds of dreams.

(Genesis 40 - 41)
“Faith & Obedience”

GotQuestions.org

Dreams are... the continued functioning of the mind during sleep, sometimes rehearsing recent thoughts and events, and sometimes creating scenarios based on fears, hopes, or desires. ... dreams are a perfectly normal function of the brain. ¹

ON THE OTHER HAND...

The causes of nightmares are varied. Children, because of their active imaginations, are prone to nightmares, some so severe that they wake up screaming and crying. ... Eating certain foods too close to bedtime can trigger a nightmare, as can viewing scary movies. Going to bed distressed about life's circumstances or after a fight or argument can also cause nightmares because of the brain's continued activity during sleep. ²

ONE MORE CONSIDERATION.

- A prophecy of the past... that points to the present.
 - What God said in (Joel 2:28)...
 - Has its fulfillment in (Acts 2:17) NKJV.

IDEA #2 – INTERPRETATION:

READ (vv.8-23)

SOME PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- a) Significant dreams are given by God & interpreted by God (v.8).

(1 Cor. 14:33 a) NKJV

“For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace...”

WE’RE NOT TOLD WHAT THE BUTLER & BAKER...

- Did to upset the Pharaoh.

¹ Got Questions Ministry. *Lucid Dreaming*. Sourced on May 1, 2024, from <https://www.gotquestions.org/lucid-dreaming.html>

² Got Questions Ministry. *What does the Bible say about nightmares?* Sourced on May 1, 2024, from <https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-nightmares.html>

(Genesis 40 - 41)
“Faith & Obedience”

BUT WE DO KNOW THIS...

- b) Staying present & staying calm can overcome great mistakes.

(Ecc. 10:4) NLT

- Because as much as depends on us we live at peace with others.

NOW... THE CHURCH...

- Is NOT designed to be without pain & problems.
 - Church is a place where unfinished people come together...
 - With all our dysfunction.

IT'S BEEN SAID...

- That *God places broken people... next to broken people...*
 - So that as living stones we would change each other.

HOWEVER...

- c) Not all relationships are restored this side of heaven!
- The **Butler** was brought back into a restored position...
 - While the **Butcher** lost his life.

AS CHRISTIANS...

- We're to forgive others who have sinned against us.
 - But that does not mean ALL people regain access to our lives.
- Some hurts require safeguards to remain in place...
 - Even though... forgiveness has been granted!
 - (e.g. sexual trauma & physical abuse).

(Ps. 112:7-8) NLT

- Says the righteous...

IDEA #3 – MORE DREAMS:

READ chapter 41... (vv.1-8)

SO... TWO MORE YEARS WENT BY... SINCE (Chp. #40)...

- And Joseph is still in prison.
 - He's still going thru the confinement of prison life.

(Genesis 40 - 41)
“Faith & Obedience”

YET...

- He continues to honor God.
 - Here in (chapter #41)... Joseph interprets Pharaoh’s dream...
 - And gives the glory to God (v.16).

PHARAOH’S DREAM...

- Was about cows & grain...
 - And in READ (vv.25-28) Joseph gives the interpretation.

ON THE BACK SIDE OF THIS EVENT...

- God begins to bring healing to Joseph for 13-years of pain & problems.

SEASONS OF HEALING:

- 1) Joseph was rewarded for his continued faithfulness (Heb. 11:6) NET
 - From prison to power in 1-day.
- 2) Joseph was given a wife (v.45)
 - (Proverbs 19:14) NLT
- 3) Joseph was blessed with two sons (vv.50-52)
 - *Manasseh* = Causing to forget OR the healing of memories.
 - *Ephraim* = Doubly fruitful

(Phil 3:13) NKJV

- No longer being mentally OR emotionally controlled by the past!
 - What pain is holding you back tonight?
 - Give it to God and move forward.

~ IN CLOSING ~

JOSEPH WAS...

- Called by God
- Shaped by God (13-yrs)
- Placed in power by God.
 - And his calling touched the entire known world (v.56).

Consider how God wants to use your situation...

- To bring comfort to others!