

## Genesis 41

1 How many years have passed since the dream of Joseph? God is warning this ruler that He will bring a famine upon the world. He warns Him so that Israel will come here to be built up as a nation - and we will have a picture of the redemption of coming out of the world.

2-7 Dreams from God are clear and memorable as if they were real.

8 It is strange no one took a shot at it. God is Sovereign even over the mind and heart of sorcerers, though they know it not.

9 Actually he had set it aside for this perfect moment. He is probably saying his shortcoming of offending the king. Now, all the inexplicable past will come rushing together as if a giant puzzle fell into place so that we begin to see the picture.

10-12 If he was seventeen at the time he was sold, served Potiphar for how many years? jailed for how many years? he is now 30!

13 Was it for them alone that Joseph was there, or now to save many souls alive?

14,15 The cup-bearer didn't catch what Joseph told him, that it was God that gave the meaning.

16 Humility is a prerequisite to being used in a mighty way by God. His love for us as individuals would prevent him from setting us up where our ego would destroy us. Humility makes us available to God to do a work that is in view of all. I cannot do it, but God will! He speaks with the confidence of a man who has heard from the Lord.

17-25 What God will do. He brings things to pass upon the earth for the good of all.

26 He had an immediate revelation, unless he had it in prayer before he even heard the dream.

27-32 God gives double confirmations. When He desires us to see clearly we get an answer in multiple ways. I have seen quadruple indications. God wants to make things clear to us.

33 Joseph adds this counsel though it is not a part of the dream. Is he setting himself up for the job or was this just what God led him to say. I believe the latter.

34 A 20% tax - to be held in reserve for the future. Wasteful America not only spends its yearly tax it borrows from the future. We had years of plenty and we did not store.

35 They even build food storage cities.

36,37 He not only gave the interpretation but the solution and a plan to carry it out. The same Spirit that held the sorcerers in check now encourages all the officials that this is the right thing to do.

38 Pharaoh is not a believer and using elohim he means it in the plural sense of the gods. At least he somewhat understood Joseph when Joseph said he could not but God could.

39 Oops, now he slips back into crediting man. Actually wisdom and discernment do come from the Spirit of God. The man who hears from God has those gifts in God himself.

40 From jailer's servant, to number 2 in the most powerful nation on earth. Great suffering produced great molding that brought about great usefulness to God. We would readily say God wants to make us all famous. Joseph's position was influential and respected in the eyes of the world, but many a man has been exalted by God who was despised by the world. The important thing is Joseph's relationship to God so that God could use him in a mighty way.

41-44 This kind of honor and authority would destroy any man who was not humbled and submitted to God like Joseph.

45 So he is married into the high priestly family, recognized on the priestly authority more than kingly lineage.

46 Same age as Jesus when He began his ministry. He had probably seen very little of Egypt while managing Potiphar's house and while in jail. So now he goes out to see the land that God has placed him over. What a strange route God has taken him to reach the top of the political world.

47-51 God was helping him forget the painful past.

52 Look where suffering brought Joseph: fruitfulness! and it is the same for every child of God.

53-57 The whole world must come to him for bread, just as the whole world comes to Jesus for the Bread of Life. There is a famine today.