

# Genesis Study—Dreams and Brothers

## Genesis 40-41

### 1. Joseph meets the butler and the baker in prison.

It came to pass after these things that the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt offended their lord, the king of Egypt. The butler was in charge of Pharaoh's \_\_\_\_\_. The baker was in charge of Pharaoh's \_\_\_\_\_. It is probable there was a \_\_\_\_\_ the Pharaoh (perhaps by poisoning). But we never lose sight of the over-arching reason: whatever *external* reason they were sent to prison, they were *really* there to meet \_\_\_\_\_.

### 2. The captain of the guard charged Joseph with them, and he served them: This \_\_\_\_\_ treatment of Joseph by the captain of the guard shows that Potiphar did not really believe the accusations his wife made against Joseph. We know this because \_\_\_\_\_ himself was the captain of the guard (Genesis 39:1).

### 3. Joseph came in to them in the morning and looked at them, ..... they were sad:

This is one of the keys to living like Jesus: being an \_\_\_\_\_ person. .

#### Joseph interprets their dreams.

The butler explains his dream. *I took the grapes and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup*  
Restoration in 3 days and Joseph asks for a favor?

The baker explains his dream *three white baskets on my head .....birds ate them*  
Executed in 3 days

"How many there are who are willing to preach the cupbearer's sermon but are unwilling to preach the baker's sermon!" (Boice)

**And like so many of us the Butler \_\_\_\_\_!**

### 4. Now the BIG DREAM---Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dream and Rises to Power

Then it came to pass, at the end of \_\_\_\_\_, that Pharaoh had a dream; *seven cows, fine looking and fat; ..... seven other cows came up..... ugly and gaunt, and stood by the other* and dreamed a second time; .....seven heads of grain .... seven thin heads, blighted .....

**At the end of two full years:** But God moved in His \_\_\_\_\_  
The Butler remembered!! ***I remember my faults this day***

The butler finally remembered Joseph and confessed the wrong he did against him. He recommended Joseph to Pharaoh as a man who interprets dreams.

***Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him quickly out of the dungeon:***

During the times we think God isn't doing anything, He is doing the work most important to Him: developing our character and transforming us into the image of Jesus Christ.

5. **Joseph comes before Pharaoh...It is not in me:** Pharaoh gave Joseph a golden opportunity to glorify \_\_\_\_\_ but Joseph will have none of it. He did not use this as an opportunity to glorify himself before Pharaoh, but only to glorify God. **God will give Pharaoh and answer of peace:** Joseph seems much \_\_\_\_\_ and perhaps more \_\_\_\_\_ than he did before, considering the way he told his brothers his previous dreams in a self-glorifying way.

6. **Pharaoh tells Joseph his dream**----More details of the dream come out on the second telling. When the skinny cows \_\_\_\_\_ the fat cows, they themselves did not become fat. This was a moooving dream. Joseph did not steer Pharaoh wrong....okay I'll quit! LOL

**The dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do:**

**The dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing is established by God:**

Joseph saw the confirming hand of God in the repetition of the dream. He knew the principle of *by the mouth \_\_\_\_\_ witnesses the matter shall be established* (Deuteronomy 19:15), even if he didn't have it written in Scripture yet. The repetition also gave Joseph a sense of \_\_\_\_\_: **God will shortly bring it to pass.**

7. **Joseph gives his advice to Pharaoh.**

"Now therefore, let Pharaoh select a discerning and wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt. Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, to collect one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt in the seven plentiful years.

**Let him appoint officers over the land, to collect one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt in the seven plentiful years:** Joseph shows both his \_\_\_\_\_ and his gift of administration. No responsible administrator would present such news without also suggesting a \_\_\_\_\_ to meet the coming crisis. It was an urgent call to action.

8. **Joseph's promotion to a position of great authority.**

So the advice was good in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of all his servants.....Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is \_\_\_\_\_ as discerning and wise as you.

**In whom is the Spirit of God:** This is the first mention in the Bible of the \_\_\_\_\_ coming upon a man. Pharaoh saw that Joseph was filled with the **Spirit of God.**

**Only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you:** Joseph was not an "overnight success" he was 13 years in the making! Joseph is a good example of a man who seemed to have all the gifts and talents for leadership, but God developed his \_\_\_\_\_ over many years. Gifts and talents may be impressive and immediate, but character is what God looks for and always takes time to develop. He was \_\_\_\_\_ years old. So was Joseph the first "prepper"?

## 9. Joseph's life as Prime Minister.

**He gathered up all the food of the seven years which were in the land of Egypt:** Joseph did what was right. He actually stored up the grain during the seven years of plenty.

**Joseph gathered very much grain:** It seems it was customary for Pharaoh to take \_\_\_\_\_ of the grain in Egypt as a tax. Essentially, Joseph \_\_\_\_\_ the taxes over the next seven years (Genesis 41:34 mentions *one-fifth*, that is, 20%).

## 10. Joseph's two sons and his state of heart

And to Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, whom Asenath, the daughter of Poti-Pherah priest of On, bore to him. Joseph called the name of the firstborn \_\_\_\_\_: "For God has made me forget all my toil and all my father's house." And the name of the second he called \_\_\_\_\_: "For God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction."

We can't be *doubly fruitful* until we are also *forgetting*. In his book *The Great Divorce*, C.S. Lewis described hell as a place where no one \_\_\_\_\_, remembering every slight, every cruel exchange of words, every wrong ever done to them, and everybody is utterly unforgiving. But in heaven all these things are \_\_\_\_\_ because all things have become new.

**11. The famine was in all lands, but in all the land of Egypt there was bread:** Because of Joseph's wise preparation, Egypt became a supply source for the \_\_\_\_\_, which experiences this severe famine, including Joseph's family.

So far in the Book of Genesis, Joseph is a remarkable picture of Jesus Christ.

1. Was a shepherd.
2. Loved by his father.
3. Sent unto his brethren.
4. Hated by his brothers.
5. Prophesied his coming glory.
6. Rejected by his brothers.
7. Endured unjust punishment from his brothers.
8. Sentenced to the pit.
9. Delivered to the pit, though a leader knew he should go free.
10. Sold for pieces of silver.
11. Handed over to the Gentiles.
12. Regarded as dead, but raised out of the pit.
13. Went to Egypt.
14. Made a servant.
15. Tempted severely, but did not sin.
16. Falsely accused.
17. Made no defense.
18. Cast into prison, and numbered with sinners and criminals.
19. Endured unjust punishment from Gentiles.
20. Associated with two other criminals; one is pardoned and one is not.
21. Showed compassion.
22. Brought a message of deliverance in prison.
23. Wanted to be remembered.
24. Shown to have divine wisdom.
25. Recognized as having the Spirit of God.
26. Betrayed by friends.
27. Glorified after his humility.
28. Honored among Gentiles while still despised or forgotten by his brethren.
29. Given a Gentile bride.
30. Was 30 years old when he began his life's work.
31. Blessed the world with bread.
32. Became the only source of bread for the world.
33. The world was instructed to go to him and do whatever he said to do.
34. Was given the name "God Speaks and He Lives."