

Joseph Meets Pharaoh  
Lesson #22  
Genesis 41:1-57

Joseph had been falsely accused and imprisoned in the king's prison but the reader was reminded that the LORD was with him. Once again Joseph found favor, this time with the prison warden, and was put in charge of all who were being held in the prison. Sometime later, two of Pharaoh's servants were sent to prison until the one who had brought poison into the kitchen could be determined. Both the baker and the cupbearer had dreams which Joseph interpreted correctly. The cupbearer was restored to his position while the baker was hanged. Joseph asked the cupbearer to remember him to the Pharaoh.

**Pharaoh's dreams - Genesis 41:1-13**

1. Chapter 40 verse 23 said, *"The chief cupbearer, however, did not remember Joseph; he forgot him"*. How long was it before the cupbearer remembered Joseph? (Genesis 41:1a)
  
2. What triggered his memory? (Genesis 41:1b)
  
3. How many times did the Pharaoh have these strange dreams? (Genesis 41:5)
  
4. Using Genesis 41:8:
  - How did Pharaoh feel in the morning?
  
  - What did he do about this?
  
  - How did that go?
  
5. Who finally spoke up? (Genesis 41:9)
  
6. What did he tell Pharaoh? (Genesis 41:10, 11)

7. How did he describe Joseph? (Genesis 41:12a)
  
8. What did he say about Joseph? (Genesis 41:12b, 13)

**Pharaoh sent for Joseph - Genesis 41:14-39**

9. Where had Joseph been confined in prison? (Genesis 41:14a)
  
10. After being there several years, what was the first thing Joseph had to do? (Genesis 41:14b)

The Egyptians, according to historian Herodotus, took extreme care in cleanliness. Men would only let their hair and beard grow in time of mourning.

11. What did Pharaoh tell Joseph and what did he expect Joseph to do? (Genesis 41:15)
  
12. How did Joseph answer the Pharaoh? (Genesis 41:16)

**Think about it!**

13. Throughout Joseph's slavery we are reminded that the LORD was with him. How do you think God's presence became a reality in Joseph's life?
  
14. What was Pharaoh's first dream? (Genesis 41:17-21)
  
15. What was Pharaoh's second dream? (Genesis 41:22-24)

16. What did Joseph tell Pharaoh about these two dreams? (Genesis 41:25)
  
17. What was the interpretation of these dreams? (Genesis 41:26, 27)
  
18. Why did Joseph say Pharaoh had two dreams rather than just one? (Genesis 41:32)
  
19. What recommendation did Joseph suggest to Pharaoh? (Genesis 41:33-36)
  
20. What did Pharaoh and his officials think about Joseph's idea? (Genesis 41:37)
  
21. Joseph had recommended Pharaoh appoint a wise man. Remembering that Joseph was still a slave, what shocking remark did Pharaoh say about Joseph? (Genesis 41:38)
  
22. What did Pharaoh tell Joseph? (Genesis 41:39, 40)
  
- Joseph, God's Man of Wisdom - Genesis 41:41-57**
23. What was Joseph put in charge of? (Genesis 41:41)
  
24. How did Pharaoh make sure that everyone in Egypt was aware of Joseph's new position, called *vizier*? (Genesis 41:42, 43)

25. What did Pharaoh say to Joseph about this new position? (Genesis 41:44)
26. But Joseph was a Hebrew, not Egyptian. What two things did Pharaoh do to make Joseph acceptable to the people? (Genesis 41:45)

The Egyptian name Zaphnath-Paneah means either *Savior of the World* or *Revealer of Secrets*.

27. How old was Joseph when he became *vizier*? (Genesis 41:46a)

Joseph had been sold into slavery when he was seventeen and had been in Egypt thirteen years. He had passed every test with integrity. Now was God's perfect timing to put Joseph in position to save God's people.

28. How were the first seven years of Joseph's service described? (Genesis 41:47)

29. What did Joseph do during those years? (Genesis 41:48)

30. Where did Joseph store it?

31. How much was stored? (Genesis 41:49)

32. How did God bless Joseph during those seven years? (Genesis 41:50 - 52)

33. What took place after the first seven years? (Genesis 41:53, 54)

34. When the people began to feel the famine, they cried out to Pharaoh for food. What did Pharaoh tell them? (Genesis 41:55)
  
35. What did Joseph do? (Genesis 41:56)
  
36. Who else came to Joseph? (Genesis 41:57)