

A Savior is Provided
12-04-16

Gen 41:25-41

25 Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do. 26 The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good ears are seven years; the dreams are one. 27 The seven lean and ugly cows that came up after them are seven years, and the seven empty ears blighted by the east wind are also seven years of famine. 28 It is as I told Pharaoh; God has shown to Pharaoh what he is about to do. 29 There will come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt, 30 but after them there will arise seven years of famine, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt. The famine will consume the land, 31 and the plenty will be unknown in the land by reason of the famine that will follow, for it will be very severe. 32 And the doubling of Pharaoh's dream means that the thing is fixed by God, and God will shortly bring it about. 33 Now therefore let Pharaoh select a discerning and wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt. 34 Let Pharaoh proceed to appoint overseers over the land and take one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt during the seven plentiful years. 35 And let them gather all the food of these good years that are coming and store up grain under the authority of Pharaoh for food in the cities, and let them keep it. 36 That food shall be a reserve for the land against the seven years of famine that are to occur in the land of Egypt, so that the land may not perish through the famine." 37 This proposal pleased Pharaoh and all his servants. 38 And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find a man like this, in whom is the Spirit of God?" 39 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has shown you all this, there is none so discerning and wise as you are. 40 You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command. Only as regards the throne will I be greater than you." 41 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."

Gen 41 is one of most pivotal & misinterpreted chapters in Bible.

- This is not a guarantee that faithful obedience leads to a promotion or prosperity in this life.
 - God raises some up, giving power/prosperity, and humbles others.
 - God used Moses and Joseph very differently to accomplish His purposes.

It's really about God's greatness & glory & is picture of the Gospel. 41:1-8, I Cor 2:14

- The incarnate Egyptian god needs magicians to tell him his dreams meaning.
 - Many goddesses & the mother of pharaoh are depicted as cows.
- God blinded the wisest, most educated men of Pharaoh's kingdom.
 - He baffled those around him because the dreams and revelation are from God & can only be grasped through His Spirit.....the World does not understand the things of God.
 - The last shall be first, we must give to receive, and deny self,

Pharaoh, the god, is humbled & now receives advice from a Hebrew slave. 41:25-36

- The Holy Spirit enabled Joseph to interpret the king's dream & provide a comprehensive plan to meet an unusual emergency.

- By the day's end, he's 2nd only to Pharaoh. Irony: 39:3-9, 41:37-41

Josephs deliverance & promotion was not the main point, but merely a means through which God exalts His great name in midst of the world's "super power" & their weak, worldly gods.

- Even Joseph boldly puts a spotlight on God, not himself. 41:25, 28, 32
 - Three times he asserted his God superior over Pharaoh & the "gods" of Egypt.
- The God of Joseph is all-powerful & sovereign over all. He needs no council!
 - He doesn't just know the future or reveal it, He controls and ordains the future.
 - He even shows mercy to the "mighty" Egyptians by letting them know the future & then providing a plan & a savior to avert coming destruction.
- Joseph, was rejected by his brothers, given up as dead, and is then exalted by the Lord as savior of world from famine; he received a new name & Gentile bride. 41:42-45
 - Ultimately his brethren were reconciled to him through his humiliation/exaltation.

Not about faithfulness =worldly position, prosperity, or Joseph's promotion from the pit to the palace. It is about the remarkable picture of Jesus Christ & the Gospel. Phil 2:7-11, Jn 14:6

- Jesus was rejected by His own brethren, suffered & died, and was exalted as Savior of world to whom all must go to receive bread of life so they are not destroyed.
 - Because of His work in life/death, and his humiliation/exaltation He received name above all names & a Gentile bride (church).
- Like Pharaoh's dreams, future destruction is right before men but they can't see the obvious or understand. 2 Cor 4:4, 1 Cor 2:14, Act 26:17-18, Jn 6:44 & 6:35
 - The Lord graciously opens eyes and grants understanding & provides a Savior to deliver us from coming destruction. Is 53:3-5, Act 5:30-31

The whole world had to go to Joseph during the famine for bread to live; now every person must come to Christ, the Bread of Life to be saved.

- Recognize the famine of your own life apart from God & the coming destruction.
 - Come to Jesus & receive the free gift everlasting life.