

## JOSEPH

#11, OK, breaks over. Back to work! - Gen 41:38-57

It's an old story! Pharaoh assumed that the wisdom of the day would be able to solve his dilemma. But, and I know this sounds like a broken record, it was only God who knew the real problem and it was also God who had selected the person to reveal His truth to Pharaoh.

Joseph's education was slavery and discouragement and a willingness to completely trust God! The task would be daunting and the engineering problems alone would break the best men in this field, but he was God's man! The Lord had shown him the problem as well as the solution.

### Genesis chapter 41

38 Then Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find a man like this, in whom is a divine spirit?"

39 So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has informed you of all this, there is no one so discerning and wise as you are. 40 " You shall be over my house, and according to your command all my people shall do homage; only in the throne I will be greater than you." 41 Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."

42 Then Pharaoh took off his signet ring from his hand and put it on Joseph's hand, and clothed him in garments of fine linen and put the gold necklace around his neck. 43 He had him ride in his second chariot; and they proclaimed before him, " Bow the knee!" And he set him over all the land of Egypt. 44 Moreover, Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Though I am Pharaoh, yet without your permission no one shall raise his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt."

[1.] v:38, in whom is a divine spirit **Whom is God using today that has the Spirit of "the only" God?**

[2.] v:39-41, Pharaoh said to Joseph, **Pharaoh assigned Joseph as head man in charge of a "Modern Marvel". What or who was working in Pharaoh to think and do something so extraordinary?**

[3.] **Philippians 2:13, Who else is God continually working in today?**

[4.] v:42, his signet ring, **What would be the significance of the ring?**

[5.] v:42-44, Bow the knee, **This is a lot of excess. If there are hindrances, in your service for the Lord, is it the actual task or are there man made "additions"?**

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45 Then Pharaoh named Joseph Zaphenath-paneah; and he gave him Asenath, the daughter of Potiphera priest of On, as his wife. And Joseph went forth over the land of Egypt.

46 Now Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh, king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh and went through all the land of Egypt. 47 During the seven years of plenty the land brought forth abundantly. 48 So he gathered all the food of these seven years which occurred in the land of Egypt and placed the food in the cities; he placed in every city the food from its own surrounding fields. 49 Thus Joseph stored up grain in great abundance like the sand of the sea, until he stopped measuring it, for it was beyond measure.

53 When the seven years of plenty which had been in the land of Egypt came to an end, 54 and the seven years of famine began to come, just as Joseph had said, then there was famine in all the lands, but in all the land of Egypt there was bread.

[6.] v:45, Pharaoh named Joseph, **Check your references and write down the meaning of Zaphenath-paneah. Why might Pharaoh bother with this detail?**

[7.] v:45 again, **Why might Pharaoh give Joseph the daughter of a pagan priest, in marriage?**

[8.] v:46-49, seven years of plenty, **In the seven years of abundance, how much, of the produce, went into store houses?**

v:50-52, Manasseh and Ephraim were born

[9.] v:53-54, famine began, **This was the acid test! What would happen to Joseph's word if the famine hadn't started?**

[10.] question [10.], **How might the risk of "messaging up", hinder one from stepping up and serving God?**

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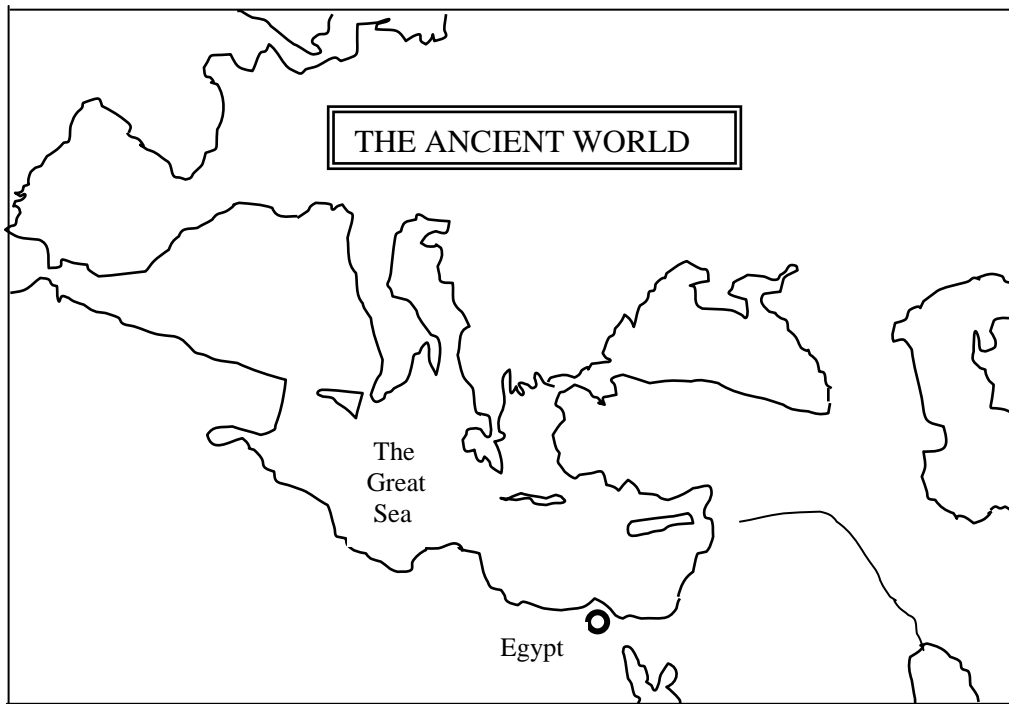
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55 So when all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried out to Pharaoh for bread; and Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph; whatever he says to you, you shall do."

56 When the famine was spread over all the face of the earth, then Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold to the Egyptians; and the famine was severe in the land of Egypt.

[11.] v:55, Pharaoh said to all, When Egypt was starving, what did what did Pharaoh say?

[12.] v:56, the famine was spread, As the famine went on, who was getting rich?



57 The people of all the earth came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe in all the earth.

[13.] v:57, The people, If the people of the earth were hungry, who would they have to see to get food?

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### Corn and Cows

Sources close to Pharaoh revealed to day that a meeting took place between Pharaoh and an unnamed person. The subject of the meeting had to do with cows eating corn continually for seven years and then starving them for seven more years.

It is not known why Pharaoh sought the advice of the person rather than his own private magicians and wise men. But sources say the person could call upon some unknown God that reveals things to him. However it had been discovered that he is not only a Hebrew dreamer but is also a known felon and not qualified to give advice to the throne.

Part of this ridiculous plan was to elevate himself above the magicians and wise men so that he could take fifty percent of all of Egypt's produce. He claimed that he would, in turn, share his stockpile with the poor. It is not known what this produce had to do with starving cows.

It is felt that this is another example of the destruction of our modern society and that Pharaoh needs to be warned against trusting a person such as this. Do not the hieroglyphics tell of another Hebrew who told Pharaoh, about 300 years ago, that his wife was his sister? These people cannot be trusted and will only bring us ruin.

[14.] In your labor, in the Lord's service, why or why wouldn't you expect your society to understand?

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