

Pharaoh's Dreams

Genesis 41

by Don Falkos

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Pharaoh was disturbed by two dreams he had had. No one could explain what they meant. Then Pharaoh's cupbearer remembered how, two years earlier, when he was in prison, Joseph had accurately interpreted his dream and the dream of the baker. Pharaoh immediately sent for Joseph and said, "I'm told you can interpret dreams."

Joseph replied, "No, I can't, but God can."

Pharaoh told Joseph, "In my first dream, seven fat cows came up out of the Nile River and were grazing along the shore. Then seven thin, scrawny cows came up out of the river and ate the seven fat cows but they remained just as thin as before. In my second dream I saw a stalk with seven full heads of grain, and then seven thin, withered heads of grain appeared and swallowed the seven healthy heads."

Joseph explained, "Your two dreams mean the same thing. The seven fat cows and the seven healthy heads of grain mean seven years of abundance. The seven scrawny cows and the seven withered heads of grain represent seven years of severe famine which will follow immediately after. These things are imminent. Find a trustworthy man who can store up grain for you during the seven years of abundance to be used during the famine. Otherwise, Egypt will be destroyed."

Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of all Egypt, second only to himself. During the next seven years of abundance, Joseph traveled all throughout Egypt collecting food and storing it up. When the famine hit, there was plenty of food for everyone in Egypt. And people from all around came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph.