

# THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the  
Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

# Genesis 40

**1 Some time later, the king's cupbearer and baker offended their master, the king of Egypt.**

**2 Pharaoh was angry with his two officers, the chief cupbearer and the chief baker,**

**3 and imprisoned them in the house of the captain of the guard, the same prison where Joseph was confined.**

**4 The captain of the guard assigned them to Joseph, and he became their personal attendant.**

## **Genesis 40**

**After they had been in custody for some time,  
5 both of these men—the Egyptian king's  
cupbearer and baker, who were being held in  
the prison—had a dream on the same night, and  
each dream had its own meaning.**

**6 When Joseph came to them in the morning,  
he saw that they were distraught.**

**7 So he asked Pharaoh's officials who were in  
custody with him in his master's house,  
"Why are your faces so downcast today?"**

## **Genesis 40**

**8 "We both had dreams," they replied, "but there is no one to interpret them."**

**Then Joseph said to them, "Don't interpretations belong to God?"**

**Tell me your dreams."**



# Genesis 40

**9 So the chief cupbearer told Joseph his dream:**

**“In my dream there was a vine before me,  
10 and on the vine were three branches.  
As it budded, its blossoms opened and its  
clusters ripened into grapes.**

**11 Pharaoh’s cup was in my hand, and I  
took the grapes, squeezed them into his  
cup, and placed the cup into his hand.”**

## **Genesis 40**

**12 Joseph replied, "This is the interpretation:  
The three branches are three days.**

**13 Within three days Pharaoh will lift up  
your head and restore your position.**

**You will put Pharaoh's cup into his hand, just  
as you did when you were his cupbearer.**



## **Genesis 40**

**14 But when it goes well for you, please remember me and show me kindness by mentioning me to Pharaoh, that he might bring me out of this prison.**

**15 For I was kidnapped from the land of the Hebrews, and even here I have done nothing for which they should have put me in this dungeon.”**



## **Genesis 40**

**16 When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was favorable, he said to Joseph, "I too had a dream:**

**There were three baskets of white bread on my head.**

**17 In the top basket were all sorts of baked goods for Pharaoh, but the birds were eating them out of the basket on my head."**



# Genesis 40

**18 Joseph replied, "This is the interpretation: The three baskets are three days.**

**19 Within three days Pharaoh will lift your head off of you and hang you on a tree. Then the birds will eat the flesh of your body."**



# Genesis 41

**1 After two full years had passed, Pharaoh had a dream...**

**7...Then Pharaoh awoke and realized it was a dream.**

**8 In the morning his spirit was troubled, so he summoned all the magicians and wise men of Egypt. Pharaoh told them his dreams, but no one could interpret them for him.**

**9 Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, "Today I recall my failures."**



# Genesis 41

**14 So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, who was quickly brought out of the dungeon.**

**After he had shaved and changed his clothes, he went in before Pharaoh.**

**15 Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I had a dream, and no one can interpret it.**

**But I have received word about you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it."**

**16 "I myself cannot do it," Joseph replied, "but God will give Pharaoh a sound answer."**

## **Genesis 41**

**17 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph: "In my dream I was standing on the bank of the Nile, 18 when seven cows, well-fed and sleek, came up from the river and began to graze among the reeds.**

**19 After them, seven other cows, sickly, ugly, and thin, came up.**

**I have never seen such ugly cows in all the land of Egypt!**

**20 Then the thin, ugly cows devoured the seven well-fed cows that were there first.**

**21 When they had devoured them, however, no one could tell that they had done so; their appearance was as ugly as it had been before. Then I awoke.**


## **Genesis 41**

**22 In my dream I also saw seven heads of grain, plump and ripe, growing on a single stalk.**

**23 After them, seven other heads of grain sprouted—withered, thin, and scorched by the east wind.**

**24 And the thin heads of grain swallowed the seven plump ones.**

**I told this dream to the magicians, but no one could explain it to me.”**



## **Genesis 41**

**25 At this, Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dreams of Pharaoh are one and the same.**

**God has revealed to Pharaoh what He is about to do.**

**26 The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven ripe heads of grain are seven years.**

**The dreams have the same meaning.**

**27 Moreover, the seven thin, ugly cows that came up after them are seven years, and so are the seven worthless heads of grain scorched by the east wind—they are seven years of famine.**

# Genesis 41


**28 It is just as I said to Pharaoh: God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do.**

**29 Behold, seven years of great abundance are coming throughout the land of Egypt,**

**30 but seven years of famine will follow them.**

**Then all the abundance in the land of Egypt will be forgotten and the famine will devastate the land.**

**31 The abundance in the land will not be remembered, since the famine that follows it will be so severe.**



# **Genesis 41**

**32 Moreover, because the dream was given to Pharaoh in two versions, the matter has been decreed by God, and He will carry it out shortly.**

**33 Now, therefore, Pharaoh should look for a discerning and wise man and set him over the land of Egypt.**

**34 Let Pharaoh take action and appoint commissioners over the land to take a fifth of the harvest of Egypt during the seven years of abundance.**



# Genesis 41

**35 Under the authority of Pharaoh, let them collect all the excess food from these good years, that they may come and lay up the grain to be preserved as food in the cities.**

**36 This food will be a reserve for the land during the seven years of famine to come upon the land of Egypt.**

**Then the country will not perish in the famine.”**



# Genesis 41

**37 This proposal pleased Pharaoh and all his officials.**

**38 So Pharaoh asked them, "Can we find anyone like this man, in whom the Spirit of God abides?"**

**39 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one as discerning and wise as you.**

**40 You shall be in charge of my house, and all my people are to obey your commands.**

**Only with regard to the throne will I be greater than you."**

## **Genesis 41**

**41 Pharaoh also told Joseph, "I hereby place you over all the land of Egypt."**

**42 Then Pharaoh removed the signet ring from his finger, put it on Joseph's finger, clothed him in garments of fine linen, and placed a gold chain around his neck.**

**43 He had Joseph ride in his second chariot, with men calling out before him, "Bow the knee!" So he placed him over all the land of Egypt.**

**44 And Pharaoh declared to Joseph, "I am Pharaoh, but without your permission, no one in all the land of Egypt shall lift his hand or foot."**

# **Genesis 41**

**45 Pharaoh gave Joseph the name  
Zaphenath-paneah, (God speaks and lives)**

**and he gave him Asenath daughter of  
Potiphera, priest of On, to be his wife.**

**And Joseph took charge of all the land of Egypt.**

**46 Now Joseph was thirty years old when he  
entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt.**

**And Joseph left Pharaoh's presence and  
traveled throughout the land of Egypt.**

# **Genesis 41**

**47 During the seven years of abundance, the land brought forth bountifully.**

**48 During those seven years, Joseph collected all the excess food in the land of Egypt and stored it in the cities.**

**In every city he laid up the food from the fields around it.**

**49 So Joseph stored up grain in such abundance, like the sand of the sea, that he stopped keeping track of it; for it was beyond measure.**

## **Genesis 41**

**53 When the seven years of abundance in the land of Egypt came to an end,**

**54 the seven years of famine began, just as Joseph had said.**

**And although there was famine in every country, there was food throughout the land of Egypt.**

**55 When extreme hunger came to all the land of Egypt and the people cried out to Pharaoh for food, he told all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph and do whatever he tells you."**

## **Genesis 41**

**56 When the famine had spread over all the land, Joseph opened up all the storehouses and sold grain to the Egyptians; for the famine was severe in the land of Egypt.**

**57 And every nation came to Joseph in Egypt to buy grain, because the famine was severe over all the earth.**



# A God Who Speaks

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**Descriptive texts vs. Prescriptive texts**

**“Don’t make the narrative a normative”**





A person is silhouetted against a night sky filled with stars. The Milky Way galaxy is visible, stretching across the sky from the bottom center towards the top. The person is standing on a small rock or mound of earth in the foreground. The overall scene is dark and atmospheric, with the stars providing a soft glow.

**Jude (ESV)**

**8 Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones.**

## **2 Timothy 3**

**16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for instruction, for conviction, for correction, and for training in righteousness,**

**17 so that the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.**



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# A God Who Speaks

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**1. God's revelation has two parts**

**- revelation and interpretation/application**



## Luke 24

44 Jesus said to them, "These are the words I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about Me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms."

45 Then **He opened their minds** to understand the Scriptures.



# Matthew 11

**27 All things have been entrusted to Me by My Father.**

**No one knows the Son except the Father,  
and no one knows the Father except the Son  
and those **to whom the Son chooses to reveal  
Him.****



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