

Genesis 40

Read Genesis 40: The anointings and abilities that God has put into Joseph's life are continuing to take him on an amazing journey. Everywhere Joseph goes, people seek his advice and assistance. He is the answer man with the golden touch. Joseph also continues to have the gift of visions and dreams and their interpretation, just like Daniel. They both saw the end of things from before the beginning (so to speak). Now we have this super-gifted man locked up in prison. Is this confinement going to shut down his ability to assist others? No, it is not.

Joseph crosses paths with the right people. Pharaoh had his cup bearer and his chief baker thrown in the same white-collar prison as Joseph. Once again, Joseph is somehow running things. He is running the whole prison while he is still an inmate! In fact, he is sort of in charge of all of the inmates. Like Daniel, he is the ultimate administrator to the king.

God has given certain people unique skills, for the benefit of all. King Solomon was given greater wisdom than anyone. Bezaleel and Oholiab were given unique artisan skills to make tabernacle furniture, hangings, ceremonial garments, etc.

These two royal servants of the king had vivid dreams one night. Joseph offered to interpret them. The butler shared his dream first. Joseph interpreted his vision as confirmation that the butler would be restored to his position to the king as a cup bearer in three days. Joseph asked the butler to send for him when he was released from prison; since Joseph was incarcerated as a result of family treachery and Potiphar's wife's false accusations.

The baker saw that Joseph knew what he was doing; so, he shared his dream with Joseph. The baker's dream came with a much different interpretation. In three days he would lose his head. Some of the imagery from the dreams has symbolism in the bible. Birds can frequently refer to demonic spirits or death. A budding vine or tree can mean that the time has come.

After all of this, the Pharaoh's cup bearer forgot to send for Joseph. That lapse of memory served to keep Joseph in place or what comes next. Joseph might feel like the unluckiest guy in the world, but we will soon see that this is all going somewhere great. Likewise, we can feel like victims of our circumstances. The world is full of victims these days. It is better to view your life as blessed for a

specific purpose. I have also seen that God's process of preparing you to be a leader includes a lot of otherwise thankless happenstances. Don't be fooled.