

# Genesis: God and the Originals

## PHAROAH'S DREAMS

### Another Pair of Dreams to Interpret (41:1-8)

#### Vv. 1-4

1. How much time has passed? How much hope does Joseph have left?
2. Why are the cows in the water in the first place?

#### Vv. 5-8

3. Why are there seven heads of grain on a single stalk?
4. Who does Pharaoh call to interpret his dreams? How does it work out for him?

BONUS: Pharaoh's dreams are the last of \_\_\_\_\_ pairs that the Joseph story records.

### The Cupbearer "Remembers" Joseph (41:9-13)

5. The cupbearer makes the connection explicit in his reference to being \_\_\_\_\_ (*zakar*), which is what Joseph had asked for.

### Joseph is Summoned (41:14-16)

6. How is Joseph prepared to come before Pharaoh? Why? Compare and contrast Joseph's "clean up" to Daniel's experience in Dan. 2:25-27.

7. Who does Joseph credit as both the source and interpreter of Pharaoh's dreams?

BONUS: Does Pharaoh's dream imply that God cares about Egypt itself? Or (and???) the other peoples who will benefit from Egypt's being able to supply them during the famine?

## Pharaoh Retells his Dreams to Joseph (41:17-24)

### Vv. 17-21

8. How does Pharaoh describe the second set of seven cows? “I have never seen \_\_\_\_\_ in all of Egypt.” How do they change (v. 21)?

### Vv. 22-24

9. How does Pharaoh describe the first seven heads of grain? How well did his magicians explain it to him?

## Joseph Interprets Pharaoh’s Dreams (41:25-32)

### Vv. 25-27

10. What does Joseph tell Pharaoh about his dreams (plural)?

11. Who does Joseph credit/declare is speaking through Pharaoh’s dreams? God’s \_\_\_\_\_, on what God is \_\_\_\_\_, on God’s speaking to \_\_\_\_\_, on God’s showing on what God has \_\_\_\_\_. The doubling of the dream is evidence of the fact that God has decided on something and that it will happen.

12. What is the source of Egypt’s flourishing and what is key to it?

BONUS: When the rains fail to fall in the south, in \_\_\_\_\_, the level of the Nile falls, the land loses its irrigation, grain does not grow, and famine follows.

## Joseph in Charge of Egypt (41:33-57)

13. Joseph leaps from being (v. 12) a \_\_\_\_\_ to being (v. 40) the \_\_\_\_\_ most important person in the kingdom.

14. Pharaoh’s \_\_\_\_\_ of Joseph (v. 45) is a further sign of him exercising authority over him. So is his arranging Joseph’s \_\_\_\_\_.

BONUS: How does the naming of Joseph’s sons indicate that he is still in touch with his God?

15. How many times does the word famine occur in your Bible translation (v. 53-57)?