



PRESENTED TO

BY

ON THIS DATE

**FOR THE WORD OF GOD IS LIVING
AND EFFECTIVE AND SHARPER
THAN ANY DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD.**

HEBREWS 4:12

HOW CAN THE BIBLE HELP YOU?

Your Bible can help you in all life situations. Open it to find the verses below and read them. When you are angry, afraid, or sad, look to the Bible for help.

The Bible can help you when you are . . .

AFRAID—Isaiah 41:10; Hebrews 13:6

ANGRY—Proverbs 15:1; Matthew 5:21-26

DISCOURAGED—Romans 8:28

Feeling bad about **HURTING SOMEONE**—Luke 6:37

Feeling **GUILTY** about something you have done—1 John 1:9

Feeling **GREEDY**—Ecclesiastes 5:10; Hebrews 13:5

HAVING PROBLEMS with a friend—Luke 6:31; Ephesians 4:32;
1 John 4:7

Having problems with **YOUR PARENTS**—Ephesians 6:1-3

Needing to know **GOD'S WILL**—Proverbs 3:5-6

SAD—John 14:27

SICK—Jeremiah 17:14

TEMPTED—1 Corinthians 10:13

TEMPTED TO BE SELFISH—1 John 4:7-8

TEMPTED TO LIE—Colossians 3:8-9

Tempted to **GET BACK AT SOMEONE** who hurt you—Romans 12:17-21

WORRIED—Matthew 6:25-34; Philippians 4:6, 19

STUDYING YOUR BIBLE

Bible study is exciting and can help you know what is true and what is not, how God wants you to live, and how to make good choices for the rest of your life. Read these Bible verses to discover why God wants you to study His Word: Psalm 119:105; Acts 17:11; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:14-17; Hebrews 4:12.

Bible study is more than reading your Bible. If you are ready to begin an energizing discovery of truth, decide on what to study: a Bible book, a Bible person, or a Bible topic.

BIBLE BOOK Start with one of the Gospels such as Mark. Read a summary about the book. Read about 10 verses each day. If the verses talk about a place, look at one of the maps in this study Bible to locate that place. Find a notebook and answer these questions: Who is the Bible writer talking to? What did God want the first readers or hearers to know or do? What does God want me to know or do?

PERSON Locate his or her name in the Bible Dictionary at the front of this Bible. Or look at the "Kids in the Bible" article inserted at the beginning of the New Testament in this Bible. Read the Bible verses listed. In your notebook, answer as many of these questions as you can: Where did this person live? Whom did he know? What did he do? What can I learn from this person?

BIBLE TOPIC Find a topic such as "The Ten Plagues of Egypt" (see the full-color article inserted among the pages of Exodus in this Bible). After reading the Bible verses, list in your notebook two or three things the Bible says about the topic. Then write what this means to you and what God wants you to do.

BIBLE SKILLS

Studying God's Word is important. You probably already have some Bible skills, and as you get older, you will learn more and more. Look at the checklist below and see how many skills you have already mastered. Check those off the list. Then ask your parents and Bible class teachers to help you learn new skills. The more you learn about the Word, the more you'll know about God and how to live your life for Him.

LEVEL 1 SKILLS

- ✱ I can locate the two main parts of the Bible—the Old Testament and the New Testament.
- ✱ I can pronounce the names of all the books of the Bible.
- ✱ I can find a book in the Bible by using the list of books in my Bible.
- ✱ I can read a Bible reference and locate the verse in my Bible.
- ✱ I can memorize a Bible verse. A verse I memorized is _____
- ✱ I know some of the books of the Bible in order.
- ✱ I am beginning to learn the five divisions of the Old Testament and the five divisions of the New Testament.
- ✱ I read my Bible every day.

LEVEL 2 SKILLS

- ✱ I can identify if a book is in the Old Testament or the New Testament.
- ✱ I can pronounce the names of all the books of the Bible and some of the people, places, and things mentioned in the Bible.
- ✱ I can locate a verse in my Bible in a short time.
- ✱ I can find information about a person, place, or thing in the Bible by reading the verse.
- ✱ I can memorize Bible verses and short Bible passages. One passage I have memorized is _____
- ✱ I know all of the books of the Bible in order and can say them.
- ✱ I can identify which books of the Bible tell about Abraham, Moses, Daniel, and Jesus.
- ✱ I can identify some of the people whom God used to write the books of the Bible.
- ✱ I can name the 10 divisions of the Old and New Testaments.
- ✱ I am beginning to use Bible study resources such as a Bible dictionary, a concordance, and an atlas.
- ✱ I read my Bible every day and find truths in it to apply to my life.

LEVEL 3 SKILLS

- ✱ I can locate any verse in my Bible in a short time.
- ✱ I can tell someone what verses and passages in the Bible mean to me.
- ✱ I can identify important Bible people by the books in which their stories are recorded.
- ✱ I can name the 10 divisions of the Old and New Testaments in a short time. I can identify which Bible books belong in each division.
- ✱ I can easily use Bible study resources such as a Bible dictionary, a concordance, and an atlas.
- ✱ I can apply truths from the Bible to the personal and social issues I face each day.

TEST YOUR BIBLE KNOWLEDGE

*Try to answer each question without using your Bible.
Use your Bible to check your work.*

QUESTIONS

1. What is the first color mentioned in the Bible?
(Genesis 1:30)
2. Who beat his talking donkey three times?
(Numbers 22:28)
3. Who was a left-handed judge who stabbed a fat king? (Judges 3:15-23)
4. What king had thousands of horses and chariots?
(1 Kings 4:26)
5. Who made an iron ax head float? (2 Kings 6:1-6)
6. Which king of Judah became king when he was seven years old? (2 Kings 11:21-12:1)
7. What fruit was used to heal King Hezekiah's open sore? (2 Kings 20:7)
8. Who baked bread on a fire made from cow dung?
(Ezekiel 1:3; 4:15)
9. Where did Peter find money to pay taxes?
(Matthew 17:24-27)
10. What happened to the money the priests paid Judas? (Matthew 27:6-7)
11. Who ate locust and wild honey? (Mark 1:6)
12. Who fell out of a window while Paul was preaching? (Acts 20:9-10)

ANSWERS

- A. Bought a graveyard
- B. Elisha
- C. Figs
- D. Balaam
- E. Solomon
- F. In a fish's mouth
- G. Eutychus
- H. Green
- I. John (the Baptist)
- J. Joash
- K. Ezekiel
- L. Ehud

FAVORITE BIBLE STORIES

The Bible is full of real stories about real people. When you read these stories, you learn about God and Jesus. And you also discover how people reacted to different situations. As you read, ask yourself: **What would I have done if I were in that story? How would I have treated the other people in the story? Would I have obeyed God?** What are your favorite Bible stories? If they are not listed below, write the titles of the Bible stories you like to read and hear.

1. **CREATION** * GENESIS 1-2
2. **ADAM AND EVE** * GENESIS 1:26-31; 2:4-4:2
3. **NOAH** * GENESIS 6:9-9:17
4. **MOSES** * EXODUS 2:1-4:17
5. **DAVID & GOLIATH** * 1 SAMUEL 17:1-50
6. **DANIEL & THE LIONS' DEN** * DANIEL 6:1-23
7. **JONAH** * JONAH
8. **JESUS' BIRTH** * LUKE 2:1-20
9. **JESUS' CRUCIFIXION & DEATH** * JOHN 19
10. **JESUS' RESURRECTION** * JOHN 20:1-18
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____

HOW DO I HAVE QUIET TIME WITH GOD?

Having quiet time with God is more than sitting still and being quiet. A quiet time is reading the Bible, praying, and listening to God in a quiet setting for at least five to ten minutes every day. If you miss some days, ask God to help you remember to have a quiet time more often. Here is how to get started:

- **Decide the best time to have a quiet time, such as early in the morning or just before you go to bed at night.**
- **Find a private place where you will not be interrupted, such as your bedroom.**
- **Ask God to help you listen to Him as you read the Bible and pray.**
- **Read some Bible verses. A devotional magazine or book will suggest verses to read.**
- **In a journal or notebook, make a list of things and people to pray for.**
- **Pray:**
 - Praise and thank God. ✱ Ask God to forgive you. ✱ Pray for other people.**
 - Pray for yourself. ✱ Tell God you will do what He wants you to do.**
 - Ask God to bless you. ✱ Listen for God to speak to you.**
- **In one or two sentences, write in your journal what you think God wants you to remember from your quiet time today.**

You have just had a quiet time! Thank God for the time you spent with Him and ask Him to help you do it again tomorrow.

THE HOLY BIBLE



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to do?" ^A ³¹ So they took Joseph's robe, slaughtered a male goat, and dipped the robe in its blood.

³² They sent the robe of many colors to their father and said, "We found this. Examine it. Is it your son's robe or not?" Gn 44:13; Nm 14:6; 2Sm 1:11; 3:31; Jb 1:20

³³ His father recognized it. "It is my son's robe," he said. "A vicious animal has devoured him. Joseph has been torn to pieces!" ³⁴ Then Jacob tore his clothes, put sackcloth around his waist, and mourned for his son many days. ³⁵ All his sons and daughters tried to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. "No," he said. "I will go down to Sheol to my son, mourning." And his father wept for him. Gn 44:28

³⁶ Meanwhile, the Midianites sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh and the captain of the guards.

Judah and Tamar

38 At that time Judah left his brothers and settled near an Adullamite named Hirah. ² There Judah saw the daughter of a Canaanite named Shua; he took her as a wife and slept with her. ³ She conceived and gave birth to a son, and he named him Er. ⁴ She conceived again, gave birth to a son, and named him Onan. ⁵ She gave birth to another son and named him Shelah. It was at Chezib that ^{B,C} she gave birth to him. Jos 15:35; 1Sm 22:1

⁶ Judah got a wife for Er, his firstborn, and her name was Tamar. ⁷ Now Er, Judah's firstborn, was evil in the LORD's sight, and the LORD put him to death. ⁸ Then Judah said to Onan, "Sleep with your brother's wife. Perform your duty as her

brother-in-law and produce offspring for your brother." ⁹ But Onan knew that the offspring would not be his, so whenever he slept with his brother's wife, he released his semen on the ground so that he would not produce offspring for his brother. ¹⁰ What he did was evil in the LORD's sight, so he put him to death also. Dt 25:5-10; 1Ch 2:3; Mt 22:24

¹¹ Then Judah said to his daughter-in-law Tamar, "Remain a widow in your father's house until my son Shelah grows up." For he thought, "He might die too, like his brothers." So Tamar went to live in her father's house. Ru 1:12-13

¹² After a long time ^D Judah's wife, the daughter of Shua, died. When Judah had finished mourning, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite went up to Timnah to his sheep-shearers. ¹³ Tamar was told, "Your father-in-law is going up to Timnah to shear his sheep." ¹⁴ So she took off her widow's clothes, veiled her face, covered herself, and sat at the entrance to Enaim, ^E which is on the way to Timnah. For she saw that, though Shelah had grown up, she had not been given to him as a wife. ¹⁵ When Judah saw her, he thought she was a prostitute, for she had covered her face. Jos 15:10,57

¹⁶ He went over to her and said, "Come, let me sleep with you," for he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law. Lv 18:15

She said, "What will you give me for sleeping with me?"

¹⁷ "I will send you a young goat from my flock," he replied.

But she said, "Only if you leave something with me until you send it."

^A37:30 Lit *And I, where am I going?* ^B38:5 LXX reads *She was at Chezib when* ^C38:5 Or *He was at Chezib when* ^D38:12 Lit *And there were many days, and* ^E38:14 Or *sat by the mouth of the springs*

18 "What should I give you?" he asked.

She answered, "Your signet ring, your cord, and the staff in your hand." So he gave them to her and slept with her, and she became pregnant by him.¹⁹ She got up and left, then removed her veil and put her widow's clothes back on.

²⁰ When Judah sent the young goat by his friend the Adullamite in order to get back the items he had left with the woman, he could not find her.²¹ He asked the men of the place, "Where is the cult prostitute who was beside the road at Enaim?"

"There has been no cult prostitute here," they answered.

²² So the Adullamite returned to Judah, saying, "I couldn't find her, and besides, the men of the place said, 'There has been no cult prostitute here.'"

²³ Judah replied, "Let her keep the items for herself; otherwise we will become a laughingstock. After all, I did send this young goat, but you couldn't find her."

²⁴ About three months later Judah was told, "Your daughter-in-law, Tamar, has been acting like a prostitute, and now she is pregnant."

"Bring her out," Judah said, "and let her be burned to death!" ^{LV 20:14}

²⁵ As she was being brought out, she sent her father-in-law this message: "I am pregnant by the man to whom these items belong." And she added, "Examine them. Whose signet ring, cord, and staff are these?"

²⁶ Judah recognized them and said, "She is more in the right^A than I, since I did not give her to my son

Shelah." And he did not know her intimately again. ^{1Sm 24:17}

²⁷ When the time came for her to give birth, there were twins in her womb. ²⁸ As she was giving birth, one of them put out his hand, and the midwife took it and tied a scarlet thread around it, announcing, "This one came out first." ²⁹ But then he pulled his hand back, out came his brother, and she said, "What a breakout you have made for yourself!" So he was named Perez.^B ³⁰ Then his brother, who had the scarlet thread tied to his hand, came out, and was named Zerah.^C

Joseph in Potiphar's House

39 Now Joseph had been taken to Egypt. An Egyptian named Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh and the captain of the guards, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him there.² The LORD was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, serving^D in the household of his Egyptian master.³ When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD made everything he did successful,⁴ Joseph found favor with his master and became his personal attendant. Potiphar also put him in charge of his household and placed all that he owned under his authority.^E ⁵ From the time that he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house because of Joseph. The LORD's blessing was on all that he owned, in his house and in his fields.⁶ He left all that he owned under Joseph's authority;^F he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate.

^A38:26 Or more righteous ^B38:29 = Breaking Out ^C38:30 = Brightness of Sunrise; perhaps related to the scarlet thread ^D39:2 Lit and he was ^E39:4 Lit owned in his hand ^F39:6 Lit owned in Joseph's hand

Now Joseph was well-built and handsome. ⁷ After some time^A his master's wife looked longingly at Joseph and said, "Sleep with me."

⁸ But he refused. "Look," he said to his master's wife, "with me here my master does not concern himself with anything in his house, and he has put all that he owns under my authority.^B No one in this house is greater than I am. He has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. So how could I do this immense evil, and how could I sin against God?" Gn 20:6; 42:18; Ps 51:4

¹⁰ Although she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her. ^C ¹¹ Now one day he went into the house to do his work, and none of the household servants were there. ^D ¹² She grabbed him by his garment and said, "Sleep with me!" But leaving his garment in her hand, he escaped and ran outside.

¹³ When she saw that he had left his garment with her and had run outside, ¹⁴ she called her household servants. "Look," she said to them, "my husband brought a Hebrew man to make fools of us. He came to me so he could sleep with me, and I screamed as loud as I could. ¹⁵ When he heard me screaming for help,^E he left his garment beside me and ran outside."

¹⁶ She put Joseph's garment beside her until his master came home. ¹⁷ Then she told him the same story: "The Hebrew slave you brought to us came to make a fool of me, ¹⁸ but when I screamed for help,^F he left his garment beside me and ran outside."

¹⁹ When his master heard the story his wife told him — "These are the things your slave did to me" — he was furious ²⁰ and had him thrown into prison, where the king's prisoners were confined. So Joseph was there in prison.

Joseph in Prison

²¹ But the LORD was with Joseph and extended kindness to him. He granted him favor with the prison warden. ²² The warden put all the prisoners who were in the prison under Joseph's authority,^G and he was responsible for everything that was done there. ²³ The warden did not bother with anything under Joseph's authority,^H because the LORD was with him, and the LORD made everything that he did successful.

Joseph Interprets Two Prisoners' Dreams

40 After this, the king of Egypt'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 put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guards in the prison where Joseph was confined. ⁴ The captain of the guards assigned Joseph to them as their personal attendant, and they were in custody for some time.^I Neh 1:11

⁵ The king of Egypt's cupbearer and baker, who were confined in the prison, each had a dream. Both had a dream on the same night, and each dream had its own meaning. ⁶ When Joseph came to them in the

^A39:7 Lit *And after these things* ^B39:8 Lit *owns in my hand* ^C39:10 Lit *he did not listen to her to lie beside her, to be with her* ^D39:11 Lit *there in the house* ^E39:15 Lit *he heard that I raised my voice and I screamed* ^F39:18 Lit *I raised my voice and screamed* ^G39:22 Lit *prison in the hand of Joseph* ^H39:23 Lit *anything in his hand* ^I40:4 Lit *custody days*

THE BOOKS OF LAW

The Bible is made up of 66 different books. The books are separated into 10 divisions. The first five books of the Bible are in the division called the Pentateuch, or the books of Law. Although the focus is on the Law, these books also deliver the plan of an even greater influence on God's people in the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ.

GENESIS is about the beginning of things, including how God created the world and everything in it, the great flood, the Tower of Babel, and the beginnings of the nation of Israel. Moses wrote this book. Even with the introduction of sin, God begins the plan of His redemption through His only Son, Jesus Christ.

EXODUS, also written by Moses, tells about the departure or exodus of the people of Israel from Egypt. Exodus also describes their wandering in the wilderness and how God gave His law to the people of Israel. Just as God uses Moses to free His people from slavery in Egypt, God would one day free His people from slavery to sin through Jesus Christ.

LEVITICUS is a continuation of the history told in the Book of Exodus. Moses wrote this book, and it contains the ceremonial and religious law. The Israelite tribe of Levi had the job of making sure the people followed that law. The laws recorded in this book would one day be completed with the perfect sacrifice of God's Son, Jesus Christ.

NUMBERS tells of the census or numbering of the people of Israel and the history of their journey after leaving Egypt. God shows His continual care and love by providing for His people, a care and love that would ultimately point to Christ and the cross. Moses wrote this book.

DEUTERONOMY was written mostly by Moses and consists of a second account of the giving of the Law. Moses shared the good news of another leader who would come after him, Jesus Christ. The book ends with Moses' death.

CREATION

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS GOD TELLS US ABOUT HIMSELF IN THE BIBLE IS THAT HE CREATED EVERYTHING. THERE IS NO PLACE YOU CAN GO THAT GOD HAS NOT CREATED AND NOT A THING IN THE UNIVERSE THAT HE HAS NOT MADE.

Sometimes He makes things instantly, as He did with Adam and Eve. Sometimes He makes things by giving them a way to grow or change, like a seed that will become a tree or a caterpillar that will turn into a butterfly. And sometimes what He makes is used by people to build with and turn into other things such as houses or machines. But nobody can make something out of nothing—except for God. That’s how powerful He is!

The book of Genesis tells us a lot about God’s creation of the world, but it doesn’t tell us all the things we sometimes wish we knew. For example, we know that some creatures lived a long time ago but don’t exist anymore. Yes, it would be interesting to know how they fit into what the Bible says about the Creation. But the main thing the Bible tells us about Creation is not its date or how God did it; the most important thing is that God is the one who did it. Creation is not an accident. It did not happen by chance, and it did not always exist. God made the universe on purpose and for a reason.

When God was busy making the world, He wasn’t just making all the things you can see and touch; He was also making things that are invisible. He made the gravity that holds you on the ground. He made the sounds you can hear plus lots of other sounds your ears don’t even know are there. He made the numbers you use to count with. He made the way you know about what’s right and wrong. He even made time.

Think about that. Look around the room or out the window. Everything you see right now, everything you will ever see, touch, or hear was made by God on purpose. Every place you have ever been and every place you will ever go—even if it is all the way across the universe—was made by God.

It all points to Him—including you! He made it all and He rules it all, and those are just a few of the reasons He deserves our worship and praise.

FAMILY OF ABRAHAM

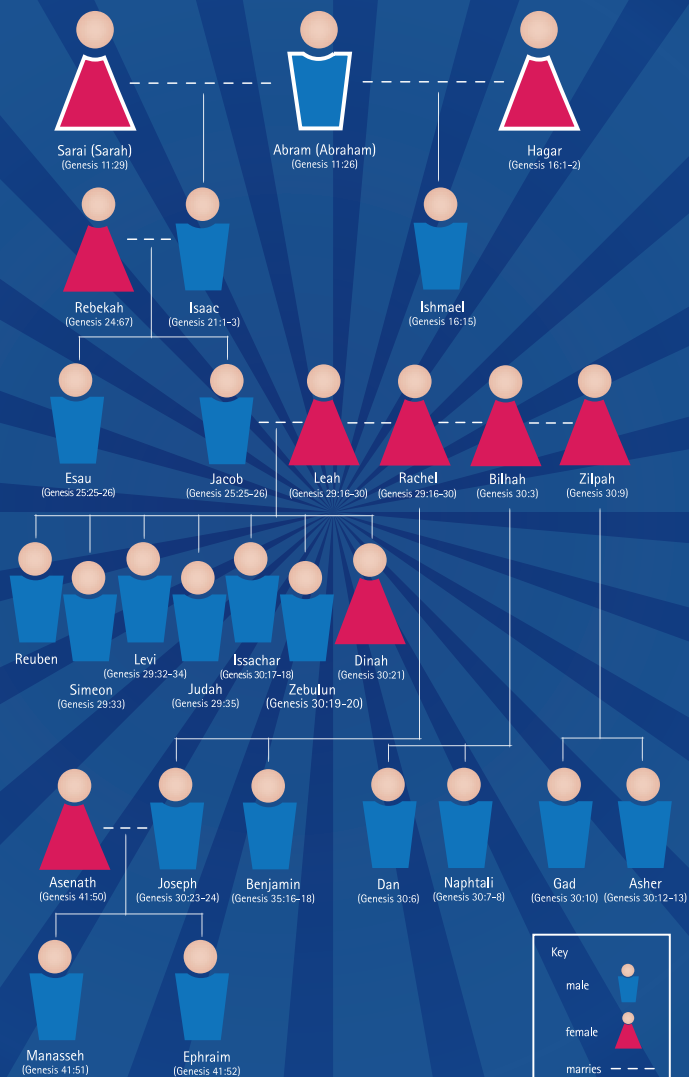


Illustration by Stacy Morrow

THE NAMES OF GOD

Bibles printed in English use several words for God's names. These names come from the Hebrew language. The Hebrew people described God by the actions He took toward His people or by the qualities of who He is. Think about all God's names, and praise Him for who He is.

NAME	REFERENCE	MEANING	NAME
ELOHIM	Genesis 1:1	Powerful God	God
ADONAI	Genesis 15:2	Lord	Lord God
EL ELYON	Genesis 14:19-20	God Most High	God Most High
EL SHADDAI	Genesis 17:1	Almighty God	God Almighty
YAHWEH	Exodus 3:14	Israel's Covenantal God	I AM
JEHOVAH JIREH	Genesis 22:14	The Lord Provides	The Lord Will Provide
JEHOVAH ROPHE	Exodus 15:26	The Lord Heals	The Lord Who Heals You
JEHOVAH NISSI	Exodus 17:15-16	The Lord Is My Banner	The Lord Is My Banner
JEHOVAH MEKADESH	Leviticus 20:8	The Lord Who Sanctifies You	The Lord Who Sanctifies You
JEHOVAH SHALOM	Judges 6:24	The Lord Is Peace	The Lord Is Peace
JEHOVAH TSIDKENU	Jeremiah 23:6	The Lord Is Our Righteousness	The Lord Our Righteousness
JEHOVAH SHAMMAH	Ezekiel 48:35	The Lord Is There	The Lord Is There

morning, he saw that they looked distraught.⁷ So he asked Pharaoh's officers who were in custody with him in his master's house, "Why do you look so sad today?" Neh 2:2

⁸ "We had dreams," they said to him, "but there is no one to interpret them."

Then Joseph said to them, "Don't interpretations belong to God? Tell me your dreams." Dn 2:11, 20-24

⁹ So the chief cupbearer told his dream to Joseph: "In my dream there was a vine in front of me.¹⁰ On the vine were three branches. As soon as it budded, its blossoms came out and its clusters ripened into grapes.¹¹ Pharaoh's cup was in my hand, and I took the grapes, squeezed them into Pharaoh's cup, and placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand."

¹² "This is its interpretation," Joseph said to him. "The three branches are three days.¹³ In just three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your position. You will put Pharaoh's cup in his hand the way you used to when you were his cupbearer.¹⁴ But when all goes well for you, remember that I was with you. Please show kindness to me by mentioning me to Pharaoh, and get me out of this prison.¹⁵ For I was kidnapped from the land of the Hebrews, and even here I have done nothing that they should put me in the dungeon." A Gn 41:12; Dn 2:36

¹⁶ When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was positive, he said to Joseph, "I also had a dream. Three baskets of white bread were 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."

¹⁸ "This is its interpretation," Joseph replied. "The three baskets are three days.¹⁹ In just three days Pharaoh will lift up your head — from off you — and hang you on a tree.⁸ Then the birds will eat the flesh from your body."^c

²⁰ On the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, he gave a feast for all his servants. He elevated^d the chief cupbearer and the chief baker among his servants.²¹ Pharaoh restored the chief cupbearer to his position as cupbearer, and he placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand.²² But Pharaoh hanged^e the chief baker, just as Joseph had explained to them.²³ Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph; he forgot him. 2Kg 25:27; Ec 9:15-16; Jr 52:31; Mt 14:6

Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dreams

41 At the end of two years Pharaoh had a dream: He was standing beside the Nile,² when seven healthy-looking, well-fed cows came up from the Nile and began to graze among the reeds.³ After them, seven other cows, sickly and thin, came up from the Nile and stood beside those cows along the bank of the Nile.⁴ The sickly, thin cows ate the healthy, well-fed cows. Then Pharaoh woke up.⁵ He fell asleep and dreamed a second time: Seven heads of grain, plump and good, came up on one stalk.⁶ After them, seven heads of grain, thin and scorched by the east wind, sprouted up.⁷ The thin heads of grain swallowed up the

^A40:15 Or pit, or cistern ^B40:19 Or and impale you on a pole ^C40:19 Lit eat your flesh from upon you

^D40:20 Lit He lifted up the head of ^E40:22 Or impaled

seven plump, full ones. Then Pharaoh woke up, and it was only a dream.

Gn 41:17-23

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

Ex 7:11,22; Dn 1:20; 2:2; 2:1-3

⁹ Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, "Today I remember my faults. ¹⁰ Pharaoh was angry with his servants, and he put me and the chief baker in the custody of the captain of the guards. ¹¹ He and I had dreams on the same night; each dream had its own meaning.

¹² Now a young Hebrew, a slave of the captain of the guards, was with us there. We told him our dreams, he interpreted our dreams for us, and each had its own interpretation. ¹³ It turned out just the way he interpreted them to us: I was restored to my position, and the other man was hanged."

Gn 40:1-22

¹⁴ Then Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and they quickly brought him from the dungeon. ^A He shaved, changed his clothes, and went to Pharaoh.

¹⁵ Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have had a dream, and no one can interpret it. But I have heard it said about you that you can hear a dream and interpret it."

Dn 5:16

¹⁶ "I am not able to," Joseph answered Pharaoh. "It is God who will give Pharaoh a favorable answer."^B

¹⁷ So Pharaoh said to Joseph: "In my dream I was standing on the bank of the Nile, ¹⁸ when seven well-fed, healthy-looking cows came up from the Nile and grazed among the reeds. ¹⁹ After them, seven other cows — weak, very sickly, and thin — came up. I've never seen

such sickly ones as these in all the land of Egypt. ²⁰ Then the thin, sickly cows ate the first seven well-fed cows. ²¹ When they had devoured them, you could not tell that they had devoured them; their appearance was as bad as it had been before. Then I woke up. ²² In my dream I also saw seven heads of grain, full and good, coming up on one stalk. ²³ After them, seven heads of grain — withered, thin, and scorched by the east wind — sprouted up. ²⁴ The thin heads of grain swallowed the seven good ones. I told this to the magicians, but no one can tell me what it means."

Is 8:19; Dn 4:7

²⁵ Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "Pharaoh's dreams mean the same thing. God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do. ²⁶ The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good heads are seven years. The dreams mean the same thing. ²⁷ The seven thin, sickly cows that came up after them are seven years, and the seven worthless, scorched heads of grain are seven years of famine.

Dn 2:28-29,45; Rv 4:1

²⁸ "It is just as I told Pharaoh: God has shown Pharaoh what he is about to do. ²⁹ Seven years of great abundance are coming throughout the land of Egypt. ³⁰ After them, seven years of famine will take place, and all the abundance in the land of Egypt will be forgotten. The famine will devastate the land. ³¹ The abundance in the land will not be remembered because of the famine that follows it, for the famine will be very severe. ³² Since the dream was given twice to Pharaoh, it means that the matter has been determined by God, and he will carry it out soon.

Gn 41:54,56;47:13

^A41:14 Or pit, or cistern ^B41:16 Or "God will answer Pharaoh with peace of mind."