

GENESIS 40; February 9; Joseph in Prison

ANALYSIS:

1. What two officers of Pharaoh's were put into the same prison where Joseph was? _____

2. In the two dreams, what did the three branches and the three white baskets refer to? _____

3. To whom do the interpretations of dreams belong, according to Joseph? _____

4. Who got the presents on Pharaoh's birthday?

5. Who promptly forgot Joseph when he was restored to Pharaoh's presence and service? _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

How often are we like the chief of the butlers in forgetting the kindness of the LORD and others to us? The LORD expects and commands us to be thankful in everything that he sends our way (I Thess 5:18). Are we thankful for everything? Do we make it a habit of regularly reflecting on the goodness of the LORD to us? Do we remember those who have befriended us in times of trouble or difficulty?

At the time of this chapter, Joseph had been in Egypt for some eleven years and had gone from being a slave to being a wrongfully charged prisoner in the dungeon. Can you imagine worse circumstances than these? He had been sold by his very brothers who hated him, taken far from home and sold as a slave in a foreign country. He had been wrongfully accused of a wicked crime and thrown into prison. He had been forgotten by the chief of the butlers when he had specifically asked him to help. And all this time, Joseph did not yet understand God's purpose for having him in Egypt. But despite such incredible adversity, Joseph continued to work hard, serve others, be kind, and acknowledge his great God in heaven. Would we do the same? Would we remain steadfastly trusting in the LORD and keeping his commandments, despite such difficulties? May the Lord bless us to determine today that we would!

HELP:

1. The chief of the butlers and the chief of the bakers (v 2).

2. Three days in each of the dreams (vs 12, 18).

3. God (v 8).

4. A feast was made for Pharaoh's servants and the chief of the butlers was restored to service (vs 20-21).

5. The chief of the butlers (v 23).