

**Context**

- 1] Joseph sold into slavery in Egypt by his jealous brothers (37:28)
- 2] Bought by Potiphar. Captain of Pharaoh's guard. (39:1)
- 3] Rose to be his second in command (39:9)
- 4] Falsely accused of rape of P's wife and sent to Pharaoh's prison (39:20)

**(1-4a) the prison**

- 1] The situation (1-3)

- a) People

- 1) King of Egypt

*Nb repeated (1, 5) thereafter 'Pharaoh'.*

- 2) Cup bearer and baker

*Cf bread and wine (Lk22:19, 20)*

- b) Imprisoned in house of Potiphar

*Nb that he had previously been in charge of (39:4)*

*Cf Jesus equal to God .. took the form of a slave (Phil 2:6)*

- 2] Joseph's charges (4)

- a) captain of the guard

*nb = Potiphar (39:1)*

- b) assigned to Joseph

*nb still principal servant*

*\*God unseen directs our paths.\**

*\*Trust the Lord to assign you to the right people / place\**

**(4b-8) the dreams**

- 1] After sometime (4b)?

*Nb years past ?*

*A day is like a thousand years (2 Pet 3:8)*

- 2] dream the same night (5)

- a) 'unnecessary' repeat of – Cup bearer, baker, king of Egypt

- b) same night but separate meaning

*nb dreams – Joseph (37:6&9); Pharaoh (41:1ff)*

- 3] reaction (6-8a)

- a) dejected (6)

- b) disappointment showed (7)

- c) no interpretation (8a)

- 3] Joseph's response (8b)

- a) interpretations belong to God

*\*God is supreme / sovereign\* \*God rules all knowledge and revelation.\**

*\*GRACE God reveals His purposes through His prophets\**

*cf how could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God (39:9)*

- b) tell me your dream

*nb confident able to interpret – had the mind of God*

*\*Trust God to reveal Himself to you\**

### **(9-13) the cupbearer**

1] the dream (9-11)

a) the vine

*cf Israel (Is 7:1ff); Jesus (John 15:1ff)*

b) 3 branches

c) the fruit...cup....Pharaoh's hand

2] The interpretation (12,13)

a) 3 branches = 3 days (12)

b) Pharaoh will restore you (13)

\* Be bold in declaring the Word of God\*

### **(14, 15) the appeal**

1] but when all goes well remember to show me kindness

*Nb 'Kindness' is a covenant word (cf 39:21)*

*Cf said nothing when originally imprisoned (39:20)*

2] to Pharaoh (!) get me out

3] Unfairly carried from land – imprisoned in dungeon

\*Speak / appeal as the Lord directs you\*

### **(16-19) the baker**

1] the dream (16,17)

a) saw a favourable interpretation

b) 3 baskets on head & birds eating

2] the interpretation (18,19)

a) 3 days

b) put to death / impaled on pole (nb crucified) - birds eat your flesh

*19 The Word of God – a two edged sword (Heb 4:12)*

*Cursed is anyone hung on a tree (Deut 21:23; Gal 3:23)*

### **(20-23) Resolution**

1] The event (20a) 3<sup>rd</sup> day – Pharaoh's b'day.

*Cf Pilate and Festival - releasing a slave (Mk 15:6)*

2] fulfilment of dreams - one released one put to death (20b-22)

*Cf The 'king' acknowledged (Lk 19:38)*

*The 'king' crucified (Lk 23:38)*

*One freed, 1 crucified (Mk 15:15)*

\*God knows / orders the future\*

(21 The chief cup bearer (the wine) was restored)

(22 The baker (the bread) was hanged on a tree (crucified))

3] Chief cup bearer?

a) didn't remember cf (14)

**b) forgot Joseph**

*nb part of God's timing – Judah not repented yet, Pharaoh dream in 2 yrs time*

*cf I will not forget you (Is 49:15)*

\*Trust that God is directing your paths /timing even when things look bleak\*