

וַיֵּשֶׁב

VAYESHEV - HE CONTINUED LIVING

B'RESHEET (GENESIS) 37:1 – 40:23



B'resheet (Genesis) 39:21-23

21 But ADONAI was with Yosef (Joseph), showing him grace and giving him favor in the sight of the prison warden. 22 The prison warden made Yosef supervisor of all the prisoners in the prison; so that whatever they did there, he was in charge of it. 23 The prison warden paid no attention to anything Yosef did, because ADONAI was with him; and whatever he did, ADONAI prospered.

“But ADONAI was with Yosef”

How is the L-RD with you when everything seems to be going wrong?

“whatever he did, ADONAI prospered”

What is a possible meaning of this?

B'resheet (Genesis) 40:1-23

1 Some time later it came about that the Egyptian king's cupbearer and baker gave offense to their lord the king of Egypt. 2 Pharaoh became angry with his two officers the chief cupbearer and the chief baker. 3 So he put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, in the prison, in the same place where Yosef was kept. 4 The captain of the guard charged Yosef to be with them, and he became their attendant while they remained in prison.

Why would prisoners need an attendant?

5 One night the two of them, the king of Egypt's cupbearer and his baker, there in prison (house בַּיִת bayit), both had dreams, each dream with its own meaning.

“prison” Strong’s #1004 בַּיִת bayit Meaning: *a house*

6 Yosef came in to them in the morning and saw that they looked sad. 7 He asked Pharaoh's officers there with him in the prison of his master's house, "Why are you looking so sad today?"

Does this show us anything about Yosef’s character?

8 They said to him, "We each had a dream, and there's no one around who can interpret it." Yosef said to them, "Don't interpretations belong to G-d? Tell it to me, please."

Do you think that these two officials knew that Yosef was talking about the G-d of Israel?

The Egyptians shared a belief, widespread in antiquity, that “sleep puts us in real and direct contact with the other world where not only the dead but also the gods dwell. Dreams therefore are a gift from the gods”

Vergote, *Joseph en Égypte*, 48 Word Biblical Commentary

“Don't interpretations belong to G-d?”

Yochanan (John) 12

49 For I [Yeshua] have not spoken on My own initiative, but the Father who sent Me has given Me a command, namely, what to say and how to say it.

9 Then the chief cupbearer told Yosef his dream: "In my dream, there in front of me was a vine, 10 and the vine had three branches. The branches budded, then it suddenly began to blossom, and finally clusters of ripe grapes appeared. 11 Pharaoh's cup was in my hand, so I took the grapes and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and gave the cup to Pharaoh." 12 Yosef said to him, "Here is its interpretation: the three branches are three days. 13 Within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your office: you will be giving Pharaoh his cup as you used to when you were his cupbearer.

"the three branches are three days"

Interesting of how many times "three" is mentioned! Notice the progression of the dream.

"Pharaoh will lift up your head"

^{kjv} 2 Kings 25

27 And it came to pass in the seven and thirtieth year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, that Evilmerodach king of Babylon in the year that he began to reign did lift up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah out of prison;

14 But remember me when it goes well with you; and show me kindness, please; and mention me to Pharaoh, so that he will release me from this prison (^{kjv, nau} dungeon בֹּרַ).

Could Yosef be showing signs of discouragement because of all his ordeals?

"dungeon" Strong's #953 בֹּרַ bowr {bore} Meaning: 1) pit, well, cistern

Why would Yosef call the house a "dungeon"?

"will release me from this prison" (^{kjv} "and bring me out of this house")

Could this have been a prophetic statement of the nation of Israel?

15 For the truth is that I was kidnapped from the land of the Hebrews, and here too I have done nothing wrong that would justify putting me in this dungeon."

Why didn't Yosef talk about his brothers who sold him into slavery?

Sh'mot (Exodus) 21

16 "Whoever kidnaps someone must be put to death, regardless of whether he has already sold him or the person is found still in his possession.

16 When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was favorable, he said to Yosef, "I too saw in my dream: there were three baskets of white bread on my head. 17 In the uppermost basket there were all kinds of baked goods for Pharaoh, but the birds ate them out of the basket on my head." 18 Yosef answered, "Here is its interpretation: the three baskets are three days. 19 Within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head from off of you- he will hang you on a tree, and the birds will eat your flesh off you."

Notice how much less detail was in the chief baker's dream and there was no progression of events that would lead to restoration.

This was Yosef's (Joseph's) first interpretation of dreams for others. Why couldn't he interrupt his own dreams that he had earlier? Ref: Genesis 37:5-9

20 On the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, he gave a party for all his officials, and he lifted up the head of the chief cupbearer and the head of the chief baker among his officials.

Interesting that only Pharaoh's and Herod's birthdays are recorded in the Bible.
Ref: Genesis 40:20; Matthew 14:6; Mark 6:21

21 He restored the chief cupbearer back to his position, so that he again gave Pharaoh his cup. 22 But he hanged the chief baker, as Yosef had interpreted to them.

Yosef's next interpretation of a dream would be Pharaoh's dream. Did the correct interpretation of the official's dreams give Yosef more confidence when facing the Pharaoh?

Are there other stories or parables in the Bible that contains two people; where one was exonerated and the other condemned?

23 Nevertheless, the chief cupbearer didn't remember Yosef, but forgot him.

Tehillim (Psalm) 146

3 Don't put your trust in princes or in mortals, who cannot help.

Have you helped others and they forgot that you helped? How did you feel?

Messianic Jews (Hebrews) 6

10 For G-d is not so unfair as to forget your work and the love you showed for him in your past service to his people- and in your present service too.