

Pastor Ron Case
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“Escaping the Nightmare”

Joseph (Part 6)

“Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness,” (2 Peter 3:11)

Entropic Enlightenment

Genesis 41:15-32 – (15) “And Pharaoh said to Joseph, ‘I have had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it.’ (16) Joseph answered Pharaoh, ‘It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer.’ (17) Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, ‘Behold, in my dream I was standing on the banks of the Nile. (18) Seven cows, plump and attractive, came up out of the Nile and fed in the reed grass. (19) Seven other cows came up after them, poor and very ugly and thin, such as I had never seen in all the land of Egypt. (20) And the thin, ugly cows ate up the first seven plump cows, (21) but when they had eaten them no one would have known that they had eaten them, for they were still as ugly as at the beginning. Then I awoke. (22) I also saw in my dream seven ears growing on one stalk, full and good. (23) Seven ears, withered, thin, and blighted by the east wind, sprouted after them, (24) and the thin ears swallowed up the seven good ears. And I told it to the magicians, but there was no one who could explain it to me.’ (25) Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, ‘The dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do. (26) The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good ears are seven years; the dreams are one. (27) The seven lean and ugly cows that came up after them are seven years, and the seven empty ears blighted by the east wind are also seven years of famine. (28) It is as I told Pharaoh; God has shown to Pharaoh what he is about to do. (29) There will come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt, (30) but after them there will arise seven years of famine, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt. The famine will consume the land, (31) and the plenty will be unknown in the land by reason of the famine that will follow, for it will be very severe. (32) And the doubling of Pharaoh’s dream means that the thing is fixed by God, and God will shortly bring it about.”

To Survive the Nightmare:

(1) A Savior is Required

Genesis 41:33 – “Now therefore let Pharaoh select a discerning and wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt.”

**“The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.”
(Acts 5:30-31)**

“...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” (Romans 10:9)

(2) Sacrificial Storing up a Necessity

Genesis 41:34-35 – (34) “Let Pharaoh proceed to appoint overseers over the land and take one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt during the seven plentiful years. (35) And let them gather all the food of these good years that are coming and store up grain under the authority of Pharaoh for food in the cities, and let them keep it. (36) That food shall be a reserve for the land against the seven years of famine that are to occur in the land of Egypt, so that the land may not perish through the famine.”

“But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal;” (Matthew 6:20 NASB)

“They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.” (1 Timothy 6:18-19)

“After some days Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, and he sent for Paul and heard him speak about faith in Christ Jesus. And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, ‘Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity I will summon you.’” (Acts 24:24-25)

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(ESV used unless otherwise noted)