



**Message 12-31-16**  
**Miketz-At the End of**  
**Genesis 41:1-44:17**  
**Zechariah 2:14-4:7**  
**Matthew 22:2-14**

**Introduction**

Pharaoh has endured a night of terrible dreams. To make matters worse, neither he nor any of his ministers understand what the dreams mean. The only person able to interpret those dreams is a Hebrew prisoner in an Egyptian jail, Joseph.

**Genesis 41:12-16**

**12** A young Hebrew was there with us, a servant of the captain of the guard. When we told him, he interpreted our dreams to us, giving an interpretation to each man according to his dream. <sup>13</sup> And as he interpreted to us, so it came about. I was restored to my office, and the baker was hanged." <sup>14</sup> Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they quickly brought him out of the pit. And when he had shaved himself and changed his clothes, he came in before Pharaoh. <sup>15</sup> 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." <sup>16</sup> Joseph answered Pharaoh, "It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer." (ESV)

We have moved forward to the story of Joseph and how he came to be in Egypt in prison and was about to be brought before Pharaoh to interpret the dreams of Pharaoh for him because no one else in all the land of Egypt could do what Joseph was about to do. If you do not think this is the hand of the Almighty, then I don't know where you are looking. God moves in His own way, in His own time, and Joseph had a time of testing he needed to go through to arrive now when he was ready to take the next step. He had to be settled in his walk with the Lord, and we see that he had arrived at that point when he stood before Pharaoh and told him that it was not he, Joseph, who would interpret his dreams but the God that Joseph served.

Joseph had come to the point where he finally understood that everything he had gone through was preparation that had brought him to this point where he would follow where the Lord would lead him and do as he was told. Here Joseph was in a foreign land having been brought there as a slave and thrown into prison on false charges where he came to run the prison because the Lord was watching over him, and he had a part to play in the future of Israel. When someone tells you that you must have sinned when something bad happens to you, take a moment to point them to these Bible stories that tell us otherwise.

In fact, you could go one step further, and tell them that if something has not happened to them, then they are not putting their faith into action as Scripture tells us we must do to validate our faith.

**Psalm 105:20** The king sent and released him; the ruler of the peoples set him free; <sup>21</sup> he made him lord of his house and ruler of all his possessions, <sup>22</sup> to bind his princes at his pleasure and to teach his elders wisdom. <sup>23</sup> Then Israel came to Egypt; Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham. (ESV)

This Psalm is speaking about Joseph and his divine mission that he had been sent to Egypt to do. Then again, we could make the case that this could also be speaking about Yeshua as the story of Joseph speaks about Yeshua. Joseph is a type and shadow of a Messianic figure who had to go through a time of testing as Yeshua did, as his time in prison was a form of being in the tomb, and then being brought forth from the tomb was a form of resurrection where he prepared himself to stand before the king. In Yeshua's case He died, was laid in the tomb of a rich man, resurrected by the power of His Heavenly Father, and then came to stand in His presence, at His right hand, our intercessor against the Accuser. Joseph was wise with the gift the Lord had given to him, and he used his gift wisely. Then notice in verse 23, we are told that Israel came to Egypt, and Jacob lived in the land of Ham. Ham, the son of Noah, is acknowledged here to be the founder Egypt. This should tell us just how far Ham had drifted from the faith of his father to come to serve the Accuser instead of the God of Israel.

Ham's sin did not only affect him but his son, Canaan, after him and who knows how far down the line it travelled. The line of Ham had been cursed by his father Noah, yet there was one righteous man living in the land of Canaan, and that was Melchizedek.

**Daniel 2:30** But as for me, this mystery has been revealed to me, not because of any wisdom that I have more than all the living, but in order that the interpretation may be made known to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your mind. (ESV)

Once again the gift to interpret dreams comes into play at exactly the moment it was most needed. Daniel was part of a group of upper class Israelites, possibly from the royal court, who was brought into captivity due to the sin of the nation of Israel. We need more Josephs and Daniels today, my friends. This world is spinning rapidly out of control, and it seems like the Lord has abandoned us to our own devices.

**Daniel 2:19** Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision of the night. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. <sup>20</sup> Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. <sup>21</sup> He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding; <sup>22</sup> he reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with him. <sup>23</sup> To you, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, for you have given me wisdom and might, and have now made known to me what we asked of you, for you have made known to us the king's matter." (ESV)

Do you notice what Daniel says in verse 21? *“He removes kings and sets up kings.”* He is one who determines what the outcomes of man’s pursuits for power will provide. It does not matter what we think we are doing. What we need to understand is that God is in control, even when we do not believe He is. He chooses to work through those He created for good or for evil. Yes, I said that God created some to be evil. As evidenced by the fact that it was the Lord who created good and evil. He was presenting man with two options. One was to follow Him and receive the blessings, and the other to disobey Him and go our own way, which was following the bad.

Judaism teaches that there are two inclinations within us. One is for good and the other for evil. It is up to us to overcome the sin nature by following the Torah, but the Torah has no power to save anyone. It can only put us on the right path if we choose to do so. We make the choices because that is the way the Almighty designed it to be. If we do anything in this life, it is that we must make choices that lead us to Messiah or to Satan.

### **Zechariah 3:3-7**

**3** Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. <sup>4</sup> And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments." <sup>5</sup> And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD was standing by. <sup>6</sup> And the angel of the LORD solemnly assured Joshua, <sup>7</sup> "Thus says the LORD of hosts: If you will walk in my ways and keep my charge, then you shall rule my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you the right of access among those who are standing here. (ESV)

The passage from this week’s Haftarah portion deals with the High Priest, Joshua, whose name is the same as Yeshua because Joshua or Yehoshua is the actual name of our Messiah. Once again we see a picture of Joseph or Yosef here as symbolic for the Messiah who died a horrible death. In this case, we are told he was standing before an angel of the Lord, but what if this angel of the Lord they are talking about was Yeshua receiving His commission from His Father after doing exactly what His Father wanted Him to without complaint and knowing what it was He would need to endure?

**Isaiah 64:6** We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. (ESV)

Here we are at our lowest point -- the point we need to be for the Lord to take our iniquities away and prepare us for the next step in His plan.

**Isaiah 61:10** I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. (ESV)

He will raise us up, and we will rejoice in the Lord for all He has done for us. After we reach our low point and all seems lost, we cry out to Yeshua to save us from ourselves, He does it, and brings us into His presence as a bride adorned by her bridegroom ready to enter a relationship with the Son of the King of kings forever.

### **Matthew 22:2-14**

2 "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son,<sup>3</sup> and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come.<sup>4</sup> Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.'"<sup>5</sup> But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business,<sup>6</sup> while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them.<sup>7</sup> The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.<sup>8</sup> Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy.<sup>9</sup> Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.'<sup>10</sup> And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So, the wedding hall was filled with guests.<sup>11</sup> "But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment.<sup>12</sup> And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless.<sup>13</sup> Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place, there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'<sup>14</sup> For many are called, but few are chosen." (ESV)

The bottom line is the Kingdom of Heaven is waiting for us. It is there for us to reach out and grab a hold of it if we are ready to do so, but it is only the Bridegroom who can do this for His bride. Only He can bring her into that place. He had invited many to come to the wedding feast of His Son, but many have turned away from Him. The King invites others both bad and good to come to the wedding feast. One man was not dressed for the wedding, and the King wanted to know how He got into the feast? He was taken away bound hand and foot and cast into the outer darkness. Is it possible that this guest believed he had the right to be there because he professed to be a believer in the Messiah Yeshua, yet he had deceived himself into believing he belonged when in truth he was not a follower of the Messiah and His teachings?

My friends, please do yourselves a favor and take the time to make sure you are followers of Yeshua and that by your words or your actions you have not turned away from Him.

***Torah Man says: "One who boasts of his ancestry is like the potato: the best part of him is under the ground."***

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

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If you are not learning Torah, we invite you to attend JSI University, an accredited Distance Learning Institute for Yeshua based Judaic Studies of Higher Education. Drop us a line at [student.support@jsi-edu.org](mailto:student.support@jsi-edu.org) and request a Prospectus and visit our website at [www.jsi-edu.org](http://www.jsi-edu.org) and check us out. You can earn an approved degree or take the courses to help you grow in your understanding.



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