

## Genesis 41-42

New King James Version (NKJV)

### Genesis 41

#### Pharaoh's Dreams

<sup>1</sup> Then it came to pass, at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh had a dream; and behold, he stood by the river. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly there came up out of the river seven cows, fine looking and fat; and they fed in the meadow. <sup>3</sup> Then behold, seven other cows came up after them out of the river, ugly and gaunt, and stood by the *other* cows on the bank of the river. <sup>4</sup> And the ugly and gaunt cows ate up the seven fine looking and fat cows. So Pharaoh awoke. <sup>5</sup> He slept and dreamed a second time; and suddenly seven heads of grain came up on one stalk, plump and good. <sup>6</sup> Then behold, seven thin heads, blighted by the east wind, sprang up after them. <sup>7</sup> And the seven thin heads devoured the seven plump and full heads. So Pharaoh awoke, and indeed, *it was* a dream. <sup>8</sup> Now it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled, and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt and all its wise men. And Pharaoh told them his dreams, but *there was* no one who could interpret them for Pharaoh.

<sup>9</sup> Then the chief butler spoke to Pharaoh, saying: "I remember my faults this day. <sup>10</sup> When Pharaoh was angry with his servants, and put me in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, *both* me and the chief baker, <sup>11</sup> we each had a dream in one night, he and I. Each of us dreamed according to the interpretation of his *own* dream. <sup>12</sup> Now *there was* a young Hebrew man with us there, a servant of the captain of the guard. And we told him, and he interpreted our dreams for us; to each man he interpreted according to his *own* dream. <sup>13</sup> And it came to pass, just as he interpreted for us, so it happened. He restored me to my office, and he hanged him."

<sup>14</sup> Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him quickly out of the dungeon; and he shaved, changed his clothing, and came to Pharaoh. <sup>15</sup> And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have had a dream, and *there is* no one who can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you *that* you can understand a dream, to interpret it."

<sup>16</sup> So Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "*It is* not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace."

<sup>17</sup> Then Pharaoh said to Joseph: "Behold, in my dream I stood on the bank of the river. <sup>18</sup> Suddenly seven cows came up out of the river, fine looking and fat; and they fed in the meadow. <sup>19</sup> Then behold, seven other cows came up after them, poor and very ugly and gaunt, such ugliness as I have never seen in all the land of Egypt. <sup>20</sup> And the gaunt and ugly cows ate up the first seven, the fat cows. <sup>21</sup> When they had eaten them up, no one would have known that they had eaten them, for they *were* just as ugly as at the beginning. So I awoke. <sup>22</sup> Also I saw in my dream, and suddenly seven heads came up on one stalk, full and good. <sup>23</sup> Then behold, seven heads, withered, thin, *and* blighted by the east wind, sprang up after them. <sup>24</sup> And the thin heads devoured the seven good heads. So I told *this* to the magicians, but *there was* no one who could explain *it* to me."

<sup>25</sup> Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dreams of Pharaoh *are* one; God has shown Pharaoh what He *is* about to do: <sup>26</sup> The seven good cows *are* seven years, and the seven good heads *are* seven years; the dreams *are* one. <sup>27</sup> And the seven thin and ugly cows which came up after them *are* seven years, and the

seven empty heads blighted by the east wind are seven years of famine.<sup>28</sup> This *is* the thing which I have spoken to Pharaoh. God has shown Pharaoh what He *is* about to do.<sup>29</sup> Indeed seven years of great plenty will come throughout all the land of Egypt;<sup>30</sup> but after them seven years of famine will arise, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine will deplete the land.<sup>31</sup> So the plenty will not be known in the land because of the famine following, for it *will be* very severe.<sup>32</sup> And the dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing *is* established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

<sup>33</sup> “Now therefore, let Pharaoh select a discerning and wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt.<sup>34</sup> Let Pharaoh do *this*, and let him appoint officers over the land, to collect one-fifth *of the produce* of the land of Egypt in the seven plentiful years.<sup>35</sup> And let them gather all the food of those good years that are coming, and store up grain under the authority of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities.<sup>36</sup> Then that food shall be as a reserve for the land for the seven years of famine which shall be in the land of Egypt, that the land may not perish during the famine.”

### **Joseph’s Rise to Power**

<sup>37</sup> So the advice was good in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of all his servants.<sup>38</sup> And Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we find *such a one* as this, a man in whom *is* the Spirit of God?”

<sup>39</sup> Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, *there is* no one as discerning and wise as you.<sup>40</sup> You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you.”<sup>41</sup> And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt.”

<sup>42</sup> Then Pharaoh took his signet ring off his hand and put it on Joseph’s hand; and he clothed him in garments of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck.<sup>43</sup> And he had him ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried out before him, “Bow the knee!” So he set him over all the land of Egypt.<sup>44</sup>

Pharaoh also said to Joseph, “*I am* Pharaoh, and without your consent no man may lift his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.”<sup>45</sup> And Pharaoh called Joseph’s name Zaphnath-Paaneah. And he gave him as a wife Asenath, the daughter of Poti-Pherah priest of On. So Joseph went out over *all* the land of Egypt.

<sup>46</sup> Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt.<sup>47</sup> Now in the seven plentiful years the ground brought forth abundantly.<sup>48</sup> So he gathered up all the food of the seven years which were in the land of Egypt, and laid up the food in the cities; he laid up in every city the food of the fields which surrounded them.<sup>49</sup> Joseph gathered very much grain, as the sand of the sea, until he stopped counting, for *it was* immeasurable.

<sup>50</sup> And to Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, whom Asenath, the daughter of Poti-Pherah priest of On, bore to him.<sup>51</sup> Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh:<sup>[a]</sup> “For God has made me forget all my toil and all my father’s house.”<sup>52</sup> And the name of the second he called Ephraim:<sup>[b]</sup> “For God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction.”

<sup>53</sup> Then the seven years of plenty which were in the land of Egypt ended,<sup>54</sup> and the seven years of famine began to come, as Joseph had said. The famine was in all lands, but in all the land of Egypt there was bread.<sup>55</sup> So when all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread. Then

Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, “Go to Joseph; whatever he says to you, do.”<sup>56</sup> The famine was over all the face of the earth, and Joseph opened all the storehouses<sup>[c]</sup> and sold to the Egyptians. And the famine became severe in the land of Egypt.<sup>57</sup> So all countries came to Joseph in Egypt to buy *grain*, because the famine was severe in all lands.

## Genesis 42

### Joseph’s Brothers Go to Egypt

<sup>1</sup> When Jacob saw that there was grain in Egypt, Jacob said to his sons, “Why do you look at one another?”<sup>2</sup> And he said, “Indeed I have heard that there is grain in Egypt; go down to that place and buy for us there, that we may live and not die.”

<sup>3</sup> So Joseph’s ten brothers went down to buy grain in Egypt.<sup>4</sup> But Jacob did not send Joseph’s brother Benjamin with his brothers, for he said, “Lest some calamity befall him.”<sup>5</sup> And the sons of Israel went to buy *grain* among those who journeyed, for the famine was in the land of Canaan.

<sup>6</sup> Now Joseph *was* governor over the land; and it was he who sold to all the people of the land. And Joseph’s brothers came and bowed down before him with *their* faces to the earth.<sup>7</sup> Joseph saw his brothers and recognized them, but he acted as a stranger to them and spoke roughly to them. Then he said to them, “Where do you come from?”

And they said, “From the land of Canaan to buy food.”

<sup>8</sup> So Joseph recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him.<sup>9</sup> Then Joseph remembered the dreams which he had dreamed about them, and said to them, “You *are* spies! You have come to see the nakedness of the land!”

<sup>10</sup> And they said to him, “No, my lord, but your servants have come to buy food.<sup>11</sup> We *are* all one man’s sons; we *are* honest *men*; your servants are not spies.”

<sup>12</sup> But he said to them, “No, but you have come to see the nakedness of the land.”

<sup>13</sup> And they said, “Your servants *are* twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan; and in fact, the youngest *is* with our father today, and one *is* no more.”

<sup>14</sup> But Joseph said to them, “It *is* as I spoke to you, saying, ‘You *are* spies!’<sup>15</sup> In this *manner* you shall be tested: By the life of Pharaoh, you shall not leave this place unless your youngest brother comes here.<sup>16</sup> Send one of you, and let him bring your brother; and you shall be kept in prison, that your words may be tested to see whether *there is* any truth in you; or else, by the life of Pharaoh, surely you *are* spies!”<sup>17</sup> So he put them all together in prison three days.

<sup>18</sup> Then Joseph said to them the third day, “Do this and live, *for* I fear God:<sup>19</sup> If you *are* honest *men*, let one of your brothers be confined to your prison house; but you, go and carry grain for the famine of your houses.<sup>20</sup> And bring your youngest brother to me; so your words will be verified, and you shall not die.”

And they did so.<sup>21</sup> Then they said to one another, “We *are* truly guilty concerning our brother, for we saw the anguish of his soul when he pleaded with us, and we would not hear; therefore this distress has come upon us.”

<sup>22</sup> And Reuben answered them, saying, “Did I not speak to you, saying, ‘Do not sin against the boy’; and you would not listen? Therefore behold, his blood is now required of us.”<sup>23</sup> But they did not know that

Joseph understood *them*, for he spoke to them through an interpreter. <sup>24</sup> And he turned himself away from them and wept. Then he returned to them again, and talked with them. And he took Simeon from them and bound him before their eyes.

### **The Brothers Return to Canaan**

<sup>25</sup> Then Joseph gave a command to fill their sacks with grain, to restore every man's money to his sack, and to give them provisions for the journey. Thus he did for them. <sup>26</sup> So they loaded their donkeys with the grain and departed from there. <sup>27</sup> But as one *of them* opened his sack to give his donkey feed at the encampment, he saw his money; and there it was, in the mouth of his sack. <sup>28</sup> So he said to his brothers, "My money has been restored, and there it is, in my sack!" Then their hearts failed *them* and they were afraid, saying to one another, "What *is* this *that* God has done to us?"

<sup>29</sup> Then they went to Jacob their father in the land of Canaan and told him all that had happened to them, saying: <sup>30</sup> "The man *who is* lord of the land spoke roughly to us, and took us for spies of the country. <sup>31</sup> But we said to him, 'We *are* honest *men*; we are not spies. <sup>32</sup> We *are* twelve brothers, sons of our father; one *is* no *more*, and the youngest *is* with our father this day in the land of Canaan.' <sup>33</sup> Then the man, the lord of the country, said to us, 'By this I will know that you *are* honest *men*: Leave one of your brothers *here* with me, take *food* for the famine of your households, and be gone. <sup>34</sup> And bring your youngest brother to me; so I shall know that you *are* not spies, but *that* you *are* honest *men*. I will grant your brother to you, and you may trade in the land.'"

<sup>35</sup> Then it happened as they emptied their sacks, that surprisingly each man's bundle of money *was* in his sack; and when they and their father saw the bundles of money, they were afraid. <sup>36</sup> And Jacob their father said to them, "You have bereaved me: Joseph is no *more*, Simeon is no *more*, and you want to take Benjamin. All these things are against me."

<sup>37</sup> Then Reuben spoke to his father, saying, "Kill my two sons if I do not bring him *back* to you; put him in my hands, and I will bring him back to you."

<sup>38</sup> But he said, "My son shall not go down with you, for his brother is dead, and he is left alone. If any calamity should befall him along the way in which you go, then you would bring down my gray hair with sorrow to the grave."

## **Matthew 12:1-23**

New King James Version (NKJV)

### **Matthew 12**

#### **Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath**

<sup>1</sup> At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath. And His disciples were hungry, and began to pluck heads of grain and to eat. <sup>2</sup> And when the Pharisees saw *it*, they said to Him, “Look, Your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath!”

<sup>3</sup> But He said to them, “Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: <sup>4</sup> how he entered the house of God and ate the showbread which was not lawful for him to eat, nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests? <sup>5</sup> Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath, and are blameless? <sup>6</sup> Yet I say to you that in this place there is *One* greater than the temple. <sup>7</sup> But if you had known what *this* means, *‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice,’*<sup>[a]</sup> you would not have condemned the guiltless. <sup>8</sup> For the Son of Man is Lord even<sup>[b]</sup> of the Sabbath.”

### **Healing on the Sabbath**

<sup>9</sup> Now when He had departed from there, He went into their synagogue. <sup>10</sup> And behold, there was a man who had a withered hand. And they asked Him, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?”—that they might accuse Him.

<sup>11</sup> Then He said to them, “What man is there among you who has one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift *it* out? <sup>12</sup> Of how much more value then is a man than a sheep? Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.” <sup>13</sup> Then He said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” And he stretched *it* out, and it was restored as whole as the other. <sup>14</sup> Then the Pharisees went out and plotted against Him, how they might destroy Him.

### **Behold, My Servant**

<sup>15</sup> But when Jesus knew *it*, He withdrew from there. And great multitudes<sup>[c]</sup> followed Him, and He healed them all. <sup>16</sup> Yet He warned them not to make Him known, <sup>17</sup> that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

<sup>18</sup> “*Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen,  
My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased!  
I will put My Spirit upon Him,  
And He will declare justice to the Gentiles.*

<sup>19</sup> *He will not quarrel nor cry out,  
Nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets.*

<sup>20</sup> *A bruised reed He will not break,  
And smoking flax He will not quench,  
Till He sends forth justice to victory;*

<sup>21</sup> *And in His name Gentiles will trust.”*<sup>[d]</sup>

