

A Man in Whom the Spirit of God is

“1 And it came to pass at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh dreamed: and, behold, he stood by the river. 2 And, behold, there came up out of the river seven well favoured kine and fatfleshed; and they fed in a meadow. 3 And, behold, seven other kine came up after them out of the river, ill favoured and leanfleshed; and stood by the other kine upon the brink of the river. 4 And the ill favoured and leanfleshed kine did eat up the seven well favoured and fat kine. So Pharaoh awoke. 5 And he slept and dreamed the second time: and, behold, seven ears of corn came up upon one stalk, rank and good. 6 And, behold, seven thin ears and blasted with the east wind sprung up after them. 7 And the seven thin ears devoured the seven rank and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream. 8 And 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 the wise men thereof: and Pharaoh told them his dream; but there was none that could interpret them unto Pharaoh. 9 Then spake the chief butler unto Pharaoh, saying, I do remember my faults this day: 10 Pharaoh was wroth with his servants, and put me in ward in the captain of the guard's house, both me and the chief baker: 11 And we dreamed a dream in one night, I and he; we dreamed each man according to the interpretation of his dream. 12 And there was there with us a young man, an Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard; and we told him, and he interpreted to us our dreams; to each man according to his dream he did interpret. 13 And it came to pass, as he interpreted to us, so it was; me he restored unto mine office, and him he hanged. 14 Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon: and he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh. 15 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it: and I have heard say of thee, that thou canst understand a dream to interpret it. 16 And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace. 17 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, In my dream, behold, I stood upon the bank of the river: 18 And, behold, there came up out of the river seven kine, fatfleshed and well favoured; and they fed in a meadow: 19 And, behold, seven other kine came up after them, poor and very ill favoured and leanfleshed, such as I never saw in all the land of Egypt for badness: 20 And the lean and the ill favoured kine did eat up the first seven fat kine: 21 And when they had eaten them up, it could not be known that they had eaten them; but they were still ill favoured, as at the beginning. So I awoke. 22 And I saw in my dream, and, behold, seven ears came up in one stalk, full and good: 23 And, behold, seven ears, withered, thin, and blasted with the east wind, sprung up after them: 24 And the thin ears devoured the seven good ears: and I told this unto the magicians; but there was none that could declare it to me. 25 And Joseph said unto Pharaoh, The dream of Pharaoh is one: God hath shewed Pharaoh what he is about to do. 26 The seven good kine are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years: the dream is one. 27 And the seven thin and ill favoured kine that came up after them are seven years; and the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind shall be seven years of famine. 28 This is the thing which I have spoken unto Pharaoh: What God is about to do he sheweth unto Pharaoh. 29 Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt: 30 And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land; 31 And the plenty shall not be known in the land

by reason of that famine following; for it shall be very grievous. 32 And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice; it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass. 33 Now therefore let Pharaoh look out a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt. 34 Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plenteous years. 35 And let them gather all the food of those good years that come, and lay up corn under the hand of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities. 36 And that food shall be for store to the land against the seven years of famine, which shall be in the land of Egypt; that the land perish not through the famine. 37 And the thing was good in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his servants. 38 And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is? 39 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art: 40 Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou. 41 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt. 42 And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck; 43 And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, Bow the knee: and he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt. 44 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I am Pharaoh, and without thee shall no man lift up his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt. 45 And Pharaoh called Joseph's name Zaphnathpaaneah; and he gave him to wife Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On. And Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt. 46 And 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. 47 And in the seven plenteous years the earth brought forth by handfuls. 48 And 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: the food of the field, which was round about every city, laid he up in the same. 49 And Joseph gathered corn as the sand of the sea, very much, until he left numbering; for it was without number. 50 And unto Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, which Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On bare unto him. 51 And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: For God, said he, hath made me forget all my toil, and all my father's house. 52 And the name of the second called he Ephraim: For God hath caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction. 53 And the seven years of plenteousness, that was in the land of Egypt, were ended. 54 And the seven years of dearth began to come, according as Joseph had said: and the dearth was in all lands; but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. 55 And when all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread: and Pharaoh said unto all the Egyptians, Go unto Joseph; what he saith to you, do. 56 And the famine was over all the face of the earth: and Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold unto the Egyptians; and the famine waxed sore in the land of Egypt. 57 And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph for to buy corn; because that the famine was so sore in all lands.” (Genesis 41:1-57 KJV)

Joseph the son of Jacob, we are familiar with his story that we read on *Genesis* chapters 37, 39-50. He was described by Pharaoh in verse 38 as the following: *“a man in whom the Spirit of God is”*. Let us reflect on Joseph's life and see what he did to conclude the truth of how the Holy Spirit manifests in peoples' lives.

Joseph was thrown by his brothers into a well, then he was taken out and sold to the Ishmaelites who took him down to Egypt and sold him to an Egyptian, where Joseph became a slave and worked as servant. Joseph worked hard and prospered because God was with him. He forgave his brothers who did him mischief, and worked diligently in his new place adjusting and adopting with the new atmosphere and circumstances of life; with the language, the food, the culture, and the religion of the people around him, but he kept his faith in the Lord our God. In his new place God promoted him to be an overseer in his new place of work. Later on the wife of his master conspired against him, because he refused to go with her to bed. Joseph because of that was put in the prison. There he continued to work diligently and faithfully, and he was entrusted again with new responsibilities. He continued to do his assignments and use the gifts of God to serve the Lord and the Lord was with him. In the jail, he interpreted the dreams of the two officials of Pharaoh, the chief butler and the chief baker, and his interpretations came exactly as he received the interpretations from God. The chief butler was released as Joseph told him and he requested him to mention his case to Pharaoh to be set free, but the chief butler forgot Joseph. But Joseph continued to do his good work in the prison. **The man who has the Spirit of God will continue to do things faithfully to God and think positively even if he is ill treated, got hurt, neglected, thrown, persecuted, accused or abused. He will continue to trust God for his life and do the good works that God wants him to do.**

With what we discussed you are called to apply the following if you want God to bless you and prosper you as Joseph:

1. To forgive those who hurt you.
2. To work hard and diligently and apply all your skills in the new field that God had placed you.
3. To adjust with the new atmosphere; with the language, the food and the culture of the people around you.
4. You are called to keep your faith in God inspite of all the pressure from all the surrounding of false religions.
5. You are called to have self-control and to resist temptations and the work of the devil to push you to sin against God.
6. You are called to keep the good testimony and to preach about God with actions and words.
7. You are called to use the spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit to continue to serve God and the purpose of God in your life and in the life of the people around you.

Do you want to be and prosper like Joseph? If your answer is 'Yes', then behave and act like Joseph and submit to the will of God and to His plan for you.

The man who has the Spirit of God, will continue to persevere waiting upon God. Joseph did not discourage when the butler forgot him. If he was released by the help of the butler he would be only discharged as an ordinary person. But when he waited upon God he was discharged from the prison to be next to Pharaoh. **A man who has the Spirit of God would wait upon God in whatever the pain is and whatever the time is because he knows whom he is waiting and in whom he entrusted his life; knowing that God will neither leave him nor forsake him.**

“8 And 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 the wise men thereof: and Pharaoh told them his dream; but there was none that could interpret them unto Pharaoh.” (Genesis 41:8 KJV) God had caused the spirit of Pharaoh to be disturbed by the dreams that He gave to him to make a way and push him to call Joseph and take him out of prison. **When you see a dream and that dream disturb you, then know in your heart that God is warning you and speaking to you about something important.** Along the Bible there are many who had seen dreams and all the mentioned dreams are from God and no dream mentioned that came from the devil.

The man in whom the Spirit of God is, is bold toward authorities and speak to them clearly about the will of God and what God wanting to tell to them. Joseph relied on God and on the Spirit of God in explaining the dreams of Pharaoh. **You need to trust God that when you open your mouth, that He will put words in your mouth to speak to the people that you are standing in front of them.**

Joseph explained the dreams and gave to Pharaoh the solution of how he can face the warning and manage the emergent coming situation of the seven years of famine. Joseph was firm with Pharaoh when he gave him the solution. He told him that he will have seven years of plenty that will be followed by seven years of famines, in which during the seven years of famine it will be so severe that all the years of plenty will be forgotten. What Joseph told him next to do is to collect one fifth, which is twenty percent of the harvest every year and store it to be ready for the coming seven years of famine. **One fifth, or twenty percent of all your income you need to work it out to be kept for saving so that when famine and scarcity will come then you are ready with your stores.**

Joseph when he stood before Pharaoh sure noticed the extravagant expenses that Pharaoh was spending, and as he inspired by the Holy Spirit Joseph instruct Pharaoh to save the fifth, and so Pharaoh needed to cut the unnecessary expenses that of no need. **Parties, expensive food and dress, spending without proper budgets, unnecessary travelling, trips, expensive furniture, big projects that are out of the plans of God, and the rest of the unnecessary expenses, needed to be cut in our lives if we need to be diligent to save the fifth of our income that will be used for the days of famine and scarcity.**

The man whom has the Spirit of God is careful not to waste, but to keep the fifth of his income as saving that will be set aside for the emergencies that will take place in the future.

Joseph got married and had two sons during the seven years of plenty. **The man who has the spirit of God would marry during the stable time.** Joseph did not marry when he was slave because he knew that he will face troubles, but he married during the period of plenty and after he was set free. **Some people they say marry so you can be settled, but marriage will not bring settlement, but marriage will bring troubles, therefore the man who has the Spirit of God would marry when he is in stable financial, physical, and political situations.** Joseph got married at the beginning of the seven years of plenty and that was the best time for his marriage.

Joseph got married what God had prepared for Him. * Joseph married a non believer as we read, and I am not here approving to you to marry non believer, but the point is this: When you are ready, God is there to give you the right person. * Therefore boyfriend and girlfriend plans are not of God. If you are not ready for marriage then the person that you are looking to is not from God, but when you are ready and fit for marriage, God will send you the right person. * If you ask how they will marry without having boyfriend and girlfriend? This is the answer for your question: They will marry as Joseph got married. Joseph had no girlfriend, he did not court and he did not date with his wife, and he did not know her and she did not know him before marriage, and there was no love or love story between them, and his marriage was not a love marriage as we hear in the world today. Joseph got out from the Jail, went to the office of Pharaoh and then to his house and was with his wife. He did not see or chose or met his wife before marriage.

Do you want to be and prosper like Joseph? If your answer is 'Yes', then behave and act like Joseph and submit to the will of God and to His plan for you.

Joseph got two sons, *"50 And unto Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, which Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On bare unto him. 51 And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: For God, said he, hath made me forget all my toil, and all my father's house. 52 And the name of the second called he Ephraim: For God hath caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction."* (Genesis 41:50-52 KJV) **The man in whom the Spirit of God is sure that God is faithful and He will make him forget all his miseries and hardship, and that God will cause him to be fruitful in the land of his affliction. God is faithful and we need to trust Him that He will make us fruitful in spite of all the painful trials that we were passing through.**

Joseph during the seven years of famine, he continued to collect the fifth of the harvest and store them in the cities. *"49 And Joseph gathered corn as the sand of the sea, very much, until he left numbering; for it was without number."* (Genesis 41:49 KJV) Joseph did not believe his eyes when he saw the plenty, he believed and obeyed what God had told him that the years of plenty will last only seven years and after them the seven years of famine. So he continued to collect. **Many people when you ask them to keep and save some money, store something, or keep aside other things, they will tell you, 'No need, there is too much, any time we need we can get.'** But they are not aware that the plenty can be disappear overnight and famine will start on the next morning. Joseph was keeping corn. Now if you will tell them to keep corn, or dates, or wheat, or mango, etc., they will be astonished at what you said, and they will tell, 'for what, it is already there, too much, any time I need, it is there'. But they are not aware that it can be disappeared over night. **The man in whom the Spirit of God is, believes God's Word and not what he sees or what he feels or what people or news speaks.**

God allowed a universal famine in all the countries in order to test the stewardship of the people. **The man in whom the Spirit of God is, has the same mind of God, does not waste or squander, but he is keen not to waste. He is keen to keep saving and to keep resources ready for the days of troubles so they can be used and have beneficial effects.** Jesus when He multiplied the bread and the fish he instructed His disciples not to waste, *"12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the*

fragments that remain, that nothing be lost. 13 Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten." (John 6:12-13 KJV) Jesus did not tell them to gather the big pieces of the loaves, but He asked them to gather the fragments, and out of that they filled twelve baskets. **Jesus could repeat the miracle every day, but He would rather discipline us and teach us not to waste. Jesus is not stingy to tell us today to gather the fragments, but He is keen to teach us stewardship "that nothing be lost".**

The man in whom the Spirit of God is, has the same mind of Christ, and has the same thought of God. Joseph through his good stewardships, saved Egypt from ruin due to the famine, and he helped the surrounding countries with the store of food that he developed. Finally he saved and supported his family during the years of famine when God led them to go to him to buy food from Egypt.

My dear and beloved: Our life style, the way we live, and how to make our decision will show and approve how we have the Spirit of God in us. If you want to be blessed as Joseph was blessed by God then live and behave as Joseph was and did. **Commit yourself to the principles and the lessons that you learned from this message.**

My prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word, I commit myself to live and apply the principles that I learned from this message.

Repent and renounce all your sins. Renounce unforgiveness, revenge, laziness, lack of self-control, immoralities, wasting money, wasting resources, wasting food, extravagant life, wrong planning, non believing in saving, eating expensive food and eating in restaurants, non willing to cook, lack of patient, and non willingness to wait upon God and to abide in His will. Lord forgive me the following sins

Lord I commit myself to continue to persevere in facing trials committing myself to continue to serve you and doing your will using the gifts of the Holy Spirit that you gave me. Lord I commit myself to the principles of marriage and the principles of stewardships that I learned from the message. Lord I commit myself to teach others your ways and these principles of your Word.

Lord give me strength and perseverance to continue to stand on your Word and to do the very will of yours. Lord mold me and transform me and make me good example and a model for others to follow. Lord refill me and give me the gifts of the Holy Spirit that I need to go and preach your Word.

Lord I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who committed their lives according to your Word that you will give them the Spiritual gifts that they need to preach your Word and to make new disciples. Lord helps us as a church to evangelize and to reach the lost world with the message of Jesus and His Word. Lord help us to evangelized and reach new people and new areas with the Gospel of Jesus.

Lord I pray that you will enable us to train new workers and to start new Bible studies and to plant new congregations for the church. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from all harms so we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

A man in whom the Spirit of God is. Genesis 41:1-57. John 6:12-13.

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