

# Newsletter July - August 2013

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## A heart touched by God

In Genesis 41 we read about a dream that Pharaoh, King of Egypt, had. The fulfilment of that dream greatly impacted the entire human race and is still affecting us today!

Pharaoh had a dream that he was standing at the lush bank of the River Nile. My experience visiting the source of River Nile taught me that the location of Pharaoh's dreams will serve as a good backdrop for a movie about the epic events that followed this dream.

Here is the account of the dream as Pharaoh narrated it to Joseph:

*"Then Pharaoh said to Joseph: "Behold, in my dream I stood on the bank of the river. Suddenly seven cows came up out of the river, fine looking and fat; and they fed in the meadow. 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. And the gaunt and ugly cows ate up the first seven, the fat cows. 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. Also I saw in my dream, and suddenly seven heads came up on one stalk, full and good. Then behold, seven heads, withered, thin, and blighted by the east wind, sprang up after them. 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." (Genesis 41:17-24 NKJV)*

In Genesis 41:8 we read that Pharaoh's "spirit was troubled" when he woke up in the morning. A situation compounded by the

inability of his "wise men" to interpret his dreams.

Joseph's first response to Pharaoh was to tell him that God was up to something grand:

Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do: (Genesis 41:25 NKJV)

Pharaoh's spirit was troubled within him because his heart could be touched by God and was responsive to God!

I'm not sure I can say this about every Christian leader or parent in this age. We are all standing by the River Nile with Pharaoh and watching events presently unfold before us. What events, you may ask. We are witnessing the rolling back and savage mutilation of the Laws and traditions that have served the human race well for thousands of years; the ascendancy of perversion over righteousness. Contempt for natural marriage and sexuality is becoming a badge of honour won by self appointed post-modernisers. Immorality does not evoke revulsion in many Christian denominations, congregations and homes. In some of them wickedness is rewarded!

Yet, unlike Pharaoh many of us just trod on with unperturbed hearts or consciences. Pharaoh actively sought for understanding and solution. We are content to gossip about the venom spewed on all who dare to take a stand against unrighteousness in our land. Pharaoh submitted to the counsel of God manifested in the understanding of his dream. We recoil into our little comfort holes and wrap ourselves with webs of deception and delusions.

As in Pharaoh's dream God was working out His salvation plan for mankind. It was more than plans to stuff our fridges and cover our tables with food fit for a king.

Through Pharaoh's obedience to heavenly wisdom, God promoted Joseph, saved many lives and brought about the fulfilment of His word to Abraham in Genesis 15:13-14.

Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. (Genesis 15:13, 14 NKJV)

Much later Joseph spoke to his traitor brothers saying:

And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt. (Genesis 45:7, 8 NKJV)

After the death of Jacob Joseph comforted his brothers:

Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive. (Genesis 50:19, 20 NKJV)

God's zeal for the salvation of our families and entire humanity hat not abated.

It was in the days of Joseph that Jacob (Israel) and his family moved to Egypt for "sustenance", but God was actually planting the seed of His nation of royal priests in the womb of Egypt. It was a pregnancy with 400 years gestation!

At the end of this long and painful pregnancy an indestructible NATION WAS BORN IN A DAY!

Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall the earth be made to give birth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion was in labor, She gave birth to her children. Shall I bring to the time of birth, and not cause delivery?" says the Lord. "Shall I who cause delivery shut up the womb? " says your God. (Isaiah 66:8, 9 NKJV)

Through this nation came the Saviour of the world: The Lord Jesus Christ of Nazareth!

Stand with us in our ministry mandate to "**Build Strong Families and Raise Godly Children.**" Get yourself, your loved ones and your local church equipped to take your families into the Ark of salvation through our ParentingPoint Course, Workshops, Children's/Youth Ministry Courses. Use the attached Prayer & Praise Bulletin to pray for us consistently. Give generously towards this work. Sow your battle seed for your children and family.

Finally I challenge you in the words of Nehemiah not to be afraid of the enemies of righteousness:

"...Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, great and awesome, and fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses." (Nehemiah 4:14 NKJV)

Your co-labourer,

*Chuks Aniereobi*