

Importance of Dreams

- ▶ And it shall be in the last days, God says, that I will pour forth of my Spirit upon all mankind; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even upon My bond slaves, both men and women, I will in those days pour forth of My Spirit and they shall prophesy. Acts 2:17-18

God Speaks in Dreams and Parables

- ▶ Matthew 13:10-23
- ▶ Proverbs 25:2
- ▶ Job 33:14-17
- ▶ Numbers 12:6-8

Dreams in the Bible

- ▶ Abraham - Gen. 15:12 -17
- ▶ Jacob - Gen. 31:10
- ▶ Joseph - Gen. 37
- ▶ Joseph, husband of Mary - Matt. 1:20-21, 2:19
- ▶ Daniel - Dan. 2

Vocabulary

▶ Dreams

- ▶ Challah -Hebrew - to cause to dream
- ▶ Enupnion - Greek- something seen in a sleep or vision during sleep (Acts 2:17, Jude1:8)

▶ Visions

- ▶ Chizzayown- Hebrew- a revelation especially in a dream. (2 Sam. 7:17, Job 4:13, Is 22:1, Zec. 13:4)
- ▶ Horasis - Greek- something gazed at, a sight, a thing seen. (Matt. 17:9, Acts 7:31, 9:10,12)

Interpretation

- ▶ Visions

- ▶ Literal
- ▶ No interpretation needed

- ▶ Dreams

- ▶ Metaphorical
- ▶ Picture form
- ▶ Needs to be interpreted

Streams Dream Philosophy

John Paul Jackson 7/05

| Secular Interpretation | Biblical Interpretation |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Temporal | External |
| Internally Originated | Externally Originated |
| Psyche Driven | Spirit Driven |
| Introspective | Theospective |
| Archetypical Characters | Spiritual Beings |
| Singular Meaning | Levels of Meanings |
| Self Change | God Change |
| Logically Derived | Intuitive Derived |
| Soul Centristic | Theo Centristic |

Two Ways Visions Are Seen

▶ Internal

- ▶ With the inner eye, in mind's eye
- ▶ Daniel had visions at night (Daniel 7:7)
- ▶ Night Visions (Job 4:13)

▶ External

- ▶ With the eyes wide open in 3 ways
 - ▶ Co-existing spiritual realm (2 Ki 6:17)
 - ▶ Open heaven experience (Ez 1:1, Is 6, Gen. 28:12)
 - ▶ The future realm (Dan. 8:3, 10:7, Revelation)

Dreams Transcend All Dimensions

- ▶ Height
- ▶ Length
- ▶ Depth
- ▶ Width
- ▶ Stars
- ▶ Soul
- ▶ Time

God may give interpretation by:

- ▶ Instantaneously revealing a dream's meaning through an angel, (Dan. 7)
- ▶ Simultaneously speaking the dream's interpretation to us as we sleep.
- ▶ The process of writing it down. 1Ch 28:19
- ▶ Unfolding a dream's meaning as we mature in understanding His ways. Pr 25:2

Interpretation Principles

- ▶ Ask God for understanding.
- ▶ Study the parables of Jesus.
- ▶ View dreams the same way as parables.
- ▶ Refer to Scripture.
- ▶ Develop a dream vocabulary.
- ▶ Note colloquial expressions, idioms and puns.
- ▶ Ask what the symbol means to you.
- ▶ Make a note of your feelings in the dream.
- ▶ Get counsel from gifted interpreters, not friends.

Spheres of Dreams

- ▶ Intrinsic Dreams:
 - ▶ Dreams that deal with heart issues and with our relationship or lack of relationship with God.
 - ▶ Heart issues pertain to matters of our soul: personal longings, opinions, and emotions.
- ▶ Extrinsic Dreams
 - ▶ Dreams that focus on something or someone other than ourselves.
 - ▶ Only 1-5% of most people's dreams are extrinsic in nature.
 - ▶ The greater our intimacy with the Lord, the more extrinsic dreams we have.
 - ▶ Pharaoh's dreams - Gen. 41:1-32

Basic Types and Symbols

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- ▶ Type: shape, style or resemblance of that which is to come. Rom. 5:14
- ▶ Symbol: Something that represents someone or something. 1Cor. 11:10
- ▶ Pattern: the exact way something should be done or made. Ex. 25:9
- ▶ Shadow: to pre-figure that which is to come. Col 2:16-17
- ▶ Sign: signal, evidence of that which is coming, earthly oriented. Gen. 9:17
- ▶ Wonder: A conspicuous miracle that validates what is coming, heavenly oriented. Acts. 2:19
- ▶ Parable: a fictitious narrative that illustrates a parallel truth. Mat. 13:13
- ▶ Simile: comparison using “like” or “as”. Rev. 1:14-18
- ▶ Metaphor: comparison without “like” or “as”. Rev. 1:16

Remembering Dreams

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- ▶ Dreams images are written in our minds with disappearing ink. If we don't re-experience them immediately, dreams become invisible.
- ▶ Try to wake up slowly and capture the twilight time when we hear God speak.
- ▶ Ask the Holy Spirit to wake you up before your alarm clock does.
- ▶ Immediately go over the dream with God and write down any dreams.

Interpretive Process

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- ▶ Ask what part do you have in the dream. Are you an observer, a participant or the main focus?
- ▶ Note the colors - bright, muted tones or black and white.
- ▶ Reduce the dream to its simplest form.
- ▶ Keep the main thing, the main thing.
- ▶ Look at the context of the dream.
- ▶ Determine the attitudes and agendas of those in the dream.
- ▶ Recognize what God presently is dealing within your life.
- ▶ Determine the title and the tone of the dream.

Establish the Focus and Sub Focus

- ▶ The focus is who or what the dream is about.
 - ▶ Ask who is this dream about? What's the center of attention?
 - ▶ If you can remove an element and the dream falls apart, that was the focus.
- ▶ Sub-focuses are the elements in a dream that are necessary to find the theme / plot of the dream and to make it have meaning.
 - ▶ Ask would this dream be the same without this element?
 - ▶ What did this particular element add to the whole of the dream?

Interpretation Basics

- ▶ Enter the dream.
- ▶ Is dreamer participant or observer?
- ▶ Note the colors.
- ▶ Find the focus and sub focuses.
- ▶ Think metaphorically. Find the key metaphor.
- ▶ Look for contrasts. Why this and not that?
- ▶ Keep the main things, the main things.
- ▶ Why did God give the dreamer the dream?
- ▶ Interpret the dream in 2-3 sentences.

Dream Categories

- ▶ Healing
- ▶ Flushing
- ▶ Calling
- ▶ Warning
- ▶ False
- ▶ Body
- ▶ Chemical
- ▶ Self-condition
- ▶ Courage
- ▶ Correction
- ▶ Direction
- ▶ Intercession
- ▶ Prophecy- Revelation
- ▶ Dark Dreams
- ▶ Spiritual Warfare
- ▶ Fear
- ▶ Invention
- ▶ Word of Knowledge
- ▶ Deliverance
- ▶ Soul Dreams

Dream Case Studies

Paul L. Cox

All dreams were revealed during prayer session with Paul L. Cox and are used by permission.

Assumptions

1. We allow the person to be the primary one to interpret the dream.
2. We lead the person to ask the Lord the meaning.
3. We work at not trying to lead the person to give information we think is the correct interpretation of the dream. Often we are surprised at the final interpretation

4. We allow the team to help rather than relying on the leader of the ministry time.

5, Persons and animals in the dream can often be a cover up for the enemy. Therefore we often ask the Lord to remove the mask (false face).

6. We allow the Spirit to lead in the order of interpreting the dream. We do not always start at the beginning of the dream and work through the dream. At times we will start in the middle or end of the dream and then bounce around the dream until all of the elements of the dream are interpreted.

7. Not all of the elements of the dream are interpreted in the following notes.