

Midrash Miketz (“At the End”) Genesis 41:1 – 44:17

Conclusion of Joseph’s Journey from the Pit to Potiphar’s Prison to Pharaoh’s Palace!

Psalm 105:16-25

Joseph’s Plan Saved the World. **Those Who Fail to Plan, Plan to Fail!**

The title *Miketz* implies these things will also happen “at the end”!

Pharaoh’s Dreams

Genesis 41:1-13

<p>1st Dream: Out of the river came: 7 fat cattle 7 lean cattle ...that consumed the fat cattle ...but were still lean</p> <p>2nd Dream: 7 fat ears of corn 7 thin ears of corn the thin ears consumed the fat ears</p>	}	<p>Both dreams are one dream: 7 years of bounty ... 7 years of famine Pharaoh is to appoint a wise man to guide through these times!</p>
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“seven thin heads, blighted by the east wind, sprang up after them.”

שֶׁדַּף *shadaf* – “to blight or parch”

קַדִּים *kadeem* – “east”; Understood to mean the wind (*Sirocco*)

אַחַר *achar* – “after, hindmost or at the end (of days)”

An east wind that brings blight (destruction) in the End Days... **Islam???**

The Butler’s Description of Joseph:

verse 12

- A Youth: Immature & Ignorant
- A Hebrew: Despised by the Egyptians
- A Servant: Inferior Class of People

Comparison with Daniel: King Neb had 2 dreams
King couldn’t interpret them himself
“Magicians” couldn’t interpret them
Joseph & Daniel gave the glory to God

Daniel 2 & 4
Daniel 2 & 4
Daniel 2 & 4
Daniel 2:19-21

Joseph Out of Prison Interprets Pharaoh’s Dreams

Genesis 41:14-36

“They brought him quickly out of the pit; he shaved, changed his clothing...”

Quickly

Malachi 3:1

Pit בּוֹר *bohr* – same word used for pit in Canaan

Shaved גָּלַח *galach* – to make bald (like the Egyptians)

Changed his clothing

} Looked like an Egyptian
(Joseph Dispersed in the Nations)

Pharaoh must select someone wise enough to understand:

- How much food to store & how much to sell
- How to store it without spoiling

Pharaoh Makes Joseph a Ruler

Genesis 41:37-45

Joseph always ruled wherever he was: Jacob’s House (he was the preferred son)
Potiphar’s House
Potiphar’s Prison
Pharaoh’s Palace

Ring on Finger & Chain around Neck – similar to Judah’s pledge to Tamar

Genesis 38:18

“bow the knee” אֲבֹרַךְ *Avrach* – from the root: בָּרַךְ *Barach* – “to Bless”

Zaphnath-Paaneah – Egyptian for “Revealer of Dreams

Aseneith – “Belonging to the goddess *Neith*” (tells us of her origins!)

Joseph Executes His Plan

Genesis 41:46-57

Joseph is now 30 years old – 13 years since he was sold by his brothers
Jacob is 121 years old & Isaac died at beginning of 7 good years (at age 180)

2 sons by the pagan Egyptian woman:

Manasseh – “Causing to Forget” his tribulations & brothers actions

Ephraim – “Fruitfulness” in the land of his affliction

Plural ⇔ Doubly Fruitful (Multiplied in the Nations!)

“gathered” (took) all the food in good times ... and sold it back in bad times

That’s how Pharaoh ended up owning all of Egypt

...first to the Egyptians.... Then to the rest of the world

“The sinner’s wealth is laid up for the righteous.”

Proverbs 13:22

Joseph’s Brothers Travel to Egypt

Genesis 42:1-24

This was in the 2nd year of famine (Gen 45:11). Other famines:

Days of Elijah – forcing the people to come to Mt Carmel

I Kings 18

Parable of Lost Son – brought the son to back to his father

Luke 15

In the End Times

Amos 8 & Rev 6

10 brothers went (not Benjamin) & bowed to Joseph – did this fulfill his dream??

Genesis 37:9

Joseph accused them 4 times of being spies - **Their 1st Test**

vv 9,11,14 & 16

Allowed 9 to leave to bring back Benjamin

...but kept Simeon in prison to insure their return. Why Simeon???

Reuben logical choice, but Joseph knew he tried to save him

9 Brothers Return to Jacob

Genesis 42:25-38

Jacob refuses to send Benjamin with them – **Their 2nd Test**

It’s his sons they are jeopardizing, not theirs

Judah Negotiates with Jacob

Genesis 43:1-14

“You shall not see my face unless your brother is with you.”

Yeshua’s words to the Southern Kingdom of Judah

Matthew 23:37-39

Judah wanted to sell Joseph into slavery

Genesis 37:26-28

...and now he negotiates with Jacob to allow Benjamin to accompany them

Jacob agrees: sends unique gifts & 2X the money – Same approach with Esau

Genesis 32:5

The 2nd Trip to Egypt

Genesis 43:15-34

The brothers have now bowed to Joseph 3 times

Gen 42:6; 43:28 & 44:14

...in fulfillment of his earlier dreams

Genesis 37:7 & 9

Another test: Joseph seats all 11 in their birth order

...causing further anxiety for them!

And another test: gave Benjamin 5X to see if his brothers are jealous

The Missing Silver Cup

Genesis 44:1-17

Another Test: Joseph’s cup in Benjamin’s pack

Brothers were not jealous, but would they fight for Benjamin?

Similar to Jacob’s encounter with Laban over his *terraphim*

Genesis 31:34-35

They tore their clothes – as if Benjamin were already dead

Just as Jacob did years earlier upon hearing of Joseph’s “death”

Genesis 37:34

One final test: the 10 brothers may leave, but Benjamin stays

Will they fight for him??

Haftarah:

I Kings 3:16-4:1

King Solomon’s Dream

Brit Chadashah:

Matthew 24:45-51

The “Joseph Ministry” in the End Times