

THE SECRET OF THE REIGNING LIFE OF JOSEPH

Message One

**Joseph Receiving the Vision and Living
According to the Vision He Saw**

(1)

Scripture Reading: Gen. 37:5-11; Rev. 12:1; John 10:10; Eph. 5:8; Num. 23:21; 24:4-6;
Gen. 37:18-28; Prov. 29:18; Acts 26:19

- I. Joseph, a “master of dreams” (Gen. 37:19) dreamed that according to God’s view, His people are sheaves of wheat full of life and heavenly bodies full of light (vv. 5-11).**
- II. Joseph’s two dreams (vv. 7-9), both from God, unveiled to him God’s divine view concerning the nature, function, and goal of God’s people on earth:**
 - A. Joseph’s dreams reveal God’s view of the situation of His people—Rev. 12:1:
 1. In the first dream, Joseph saw sheaves in the field, indicating that in God’s eyes, His people are all sheaves that contain life, grains which are good for supplying life—John 10:10.
 2. In his second dream, Joseph saw the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowing down to him, indicating that in the eyes of God all His people are full of light—Gen. 37:9-10; Matt. 5:14; Eph. 5:8.
 - B. We need the heavenly view, the eternal view, of God’s people, not the view from the earth—Num. 23:21; 24:4-6.
 - C. The more we have this vision and the more we mature in life, the less we will speak negatively concerning the saints or the church—Matt. 2:2; 5:14-16; 13:43; Phil. 2:15-16.
- III. “There we were, binding sheaves in the field, when suddenly my sheaf rose up and remained standing; and then your sheaves gathered around and bowed down to my sheaf”—Gen. 37:7:**
 - A. In his first dream Joseph saw sheaves in the field bowing down to his sheaf: this dream reveals that, at the most, Joseph was just a sheaf and that, at the worst, his brothers were also sheaves.
 - B. In Genesis 37 through 38, two gross sins are recorded; in chapter 37 there is the sin of anger—vv.18-28:
 1. When Joseph was seventeen years old and shepherding the flock with his brothers, he brought an evil report of them to their father—v. 2.
 2. When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all of them, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him—v. 4.
 3. Then Joseph had his first dream and told it to his brothers, causing them to hate him even more—v. 5.
 4. When Jacob sent Joseph to check on his brothers they conspired to put him to death, threw him into a pit without water, sold him to the Ishmaelites, and lied to their father about his “death” through his coat of many colors—vv. 18-31.
 - C. Joseph’s excellent and marvelous behavior was due to the vision that he had received, which controlled his life and directed his behavior:
 1. While his brothers gave full vent to their anger, Joseph conducted himself as a sheaf of life and a star shining in the darkness—vv. 18-28.
 2. While all his brothers were drowning in the water of anger, Joseph, the reigning aspect of the mature life, lived as a sheaf of life, emerging from the death water of human anger.
 3. The only difference between him and them was that God had chosen him to reign, but this does not mean that he was better than they were.

EUROPEAN YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE—MALE CICHE

4. God's people (including our parents, our brothers and sisters, the saints in the church life and our serving ones) are all sheaves of life in Christ.

IV. Joseph was one who lived a life that corresponded to his vision; he not only was a dreamer but was also one who practiced and lived out what he saw in his dream—when all the rest had sunk into the death water of human anger, this sheaf emerged and survived in that situation of death—Prov. 29:18; Acts 26:19.