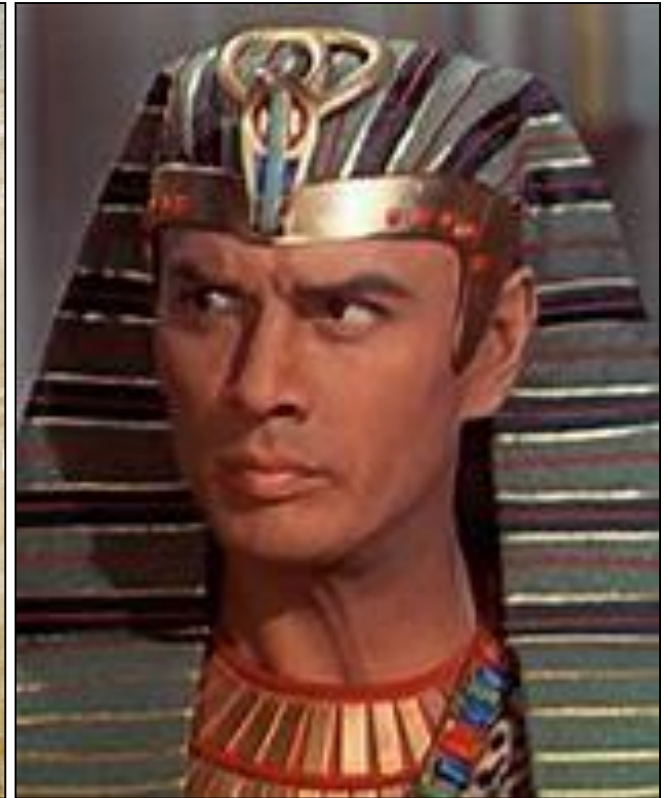
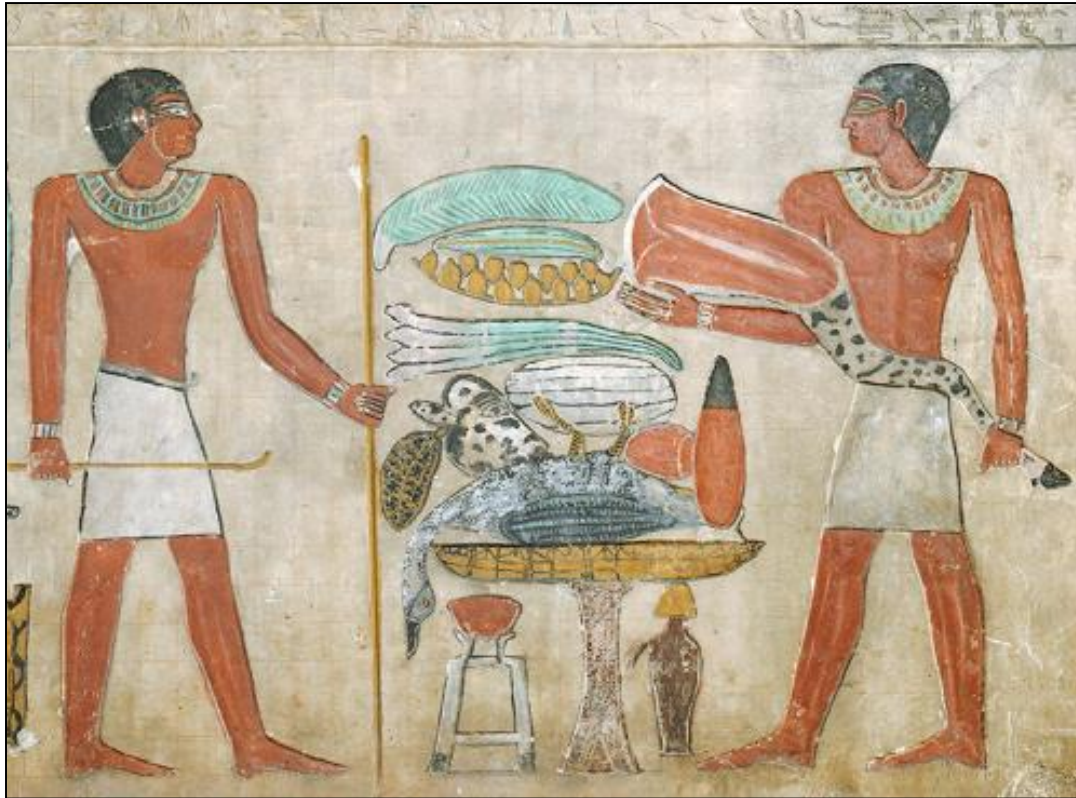


Genesis Chapter 40

Some time later, the cupbearer and the baker of the king of Egypt offended their master, the king of Egypt. v1



The butler and the baker were high-ranking trusted officials .
What did they do wrong ?

Pharaoh was angry with his two officials, the chief cupbearer and the chief baker, and put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard,

v2



Pharaoh put them in custody in the “posh prison”

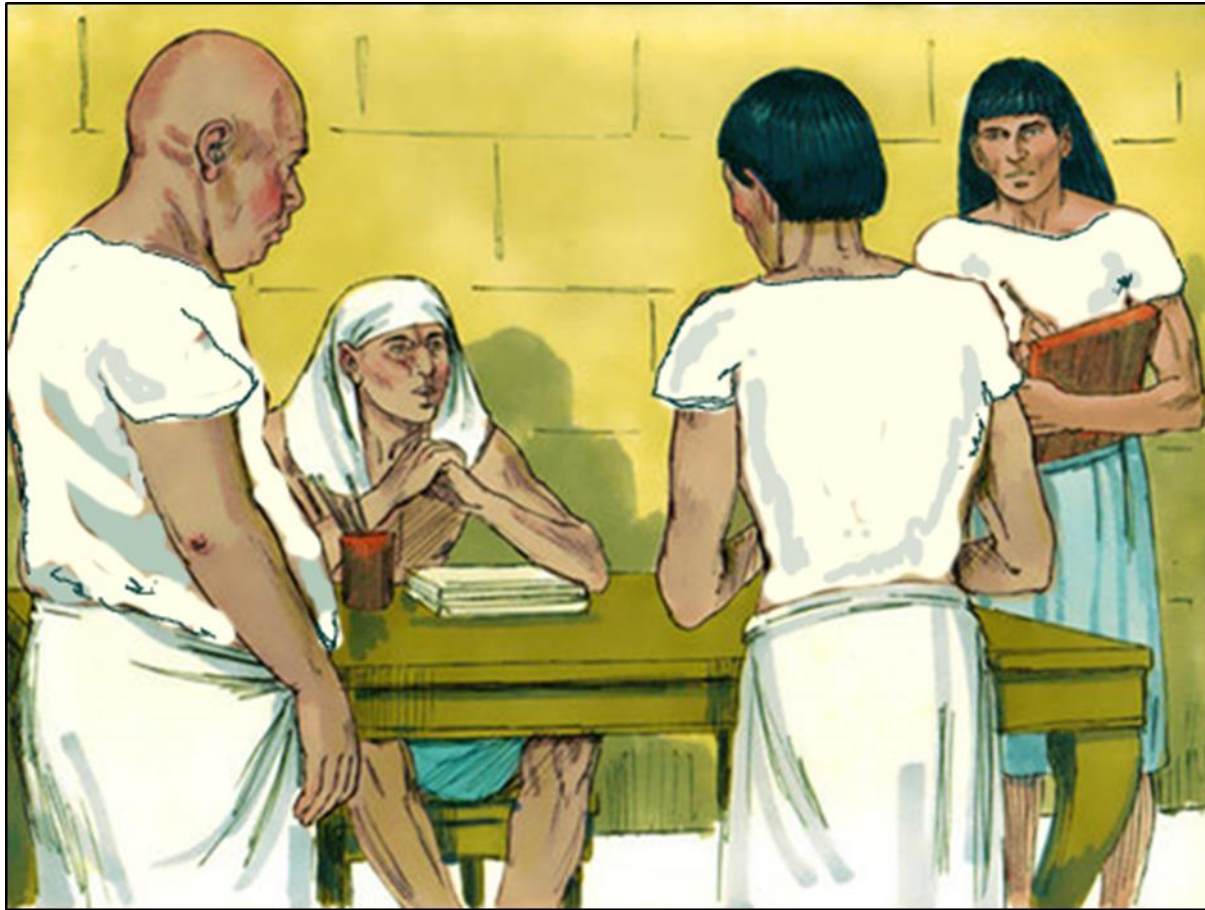
He put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, in the same prison where Joseph was confined. v3



Just by chance ?

The captain of the guard assigned them to Joseph, and he attended them.

v4



“attended” ! What was Joseph’s job ?



**Joseph gains their trust
It takes time and wisdom**

each of the two men--the cupbearer and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were being held in prison--had a dream the same night,

v5

Why do we dream ?



So what is special about these dreams ?

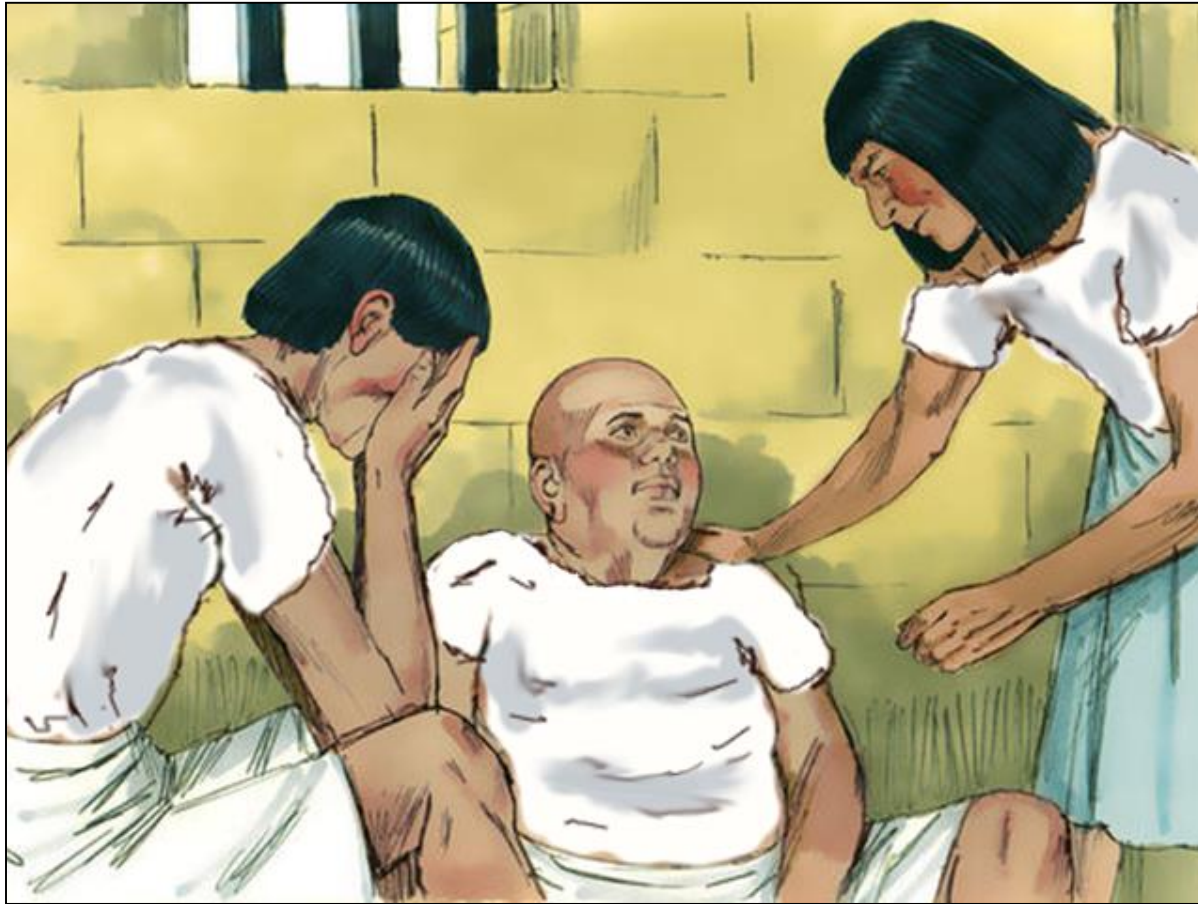


Acts 2, Joel

These men weren't believers, but in their culture, dreams were considered important

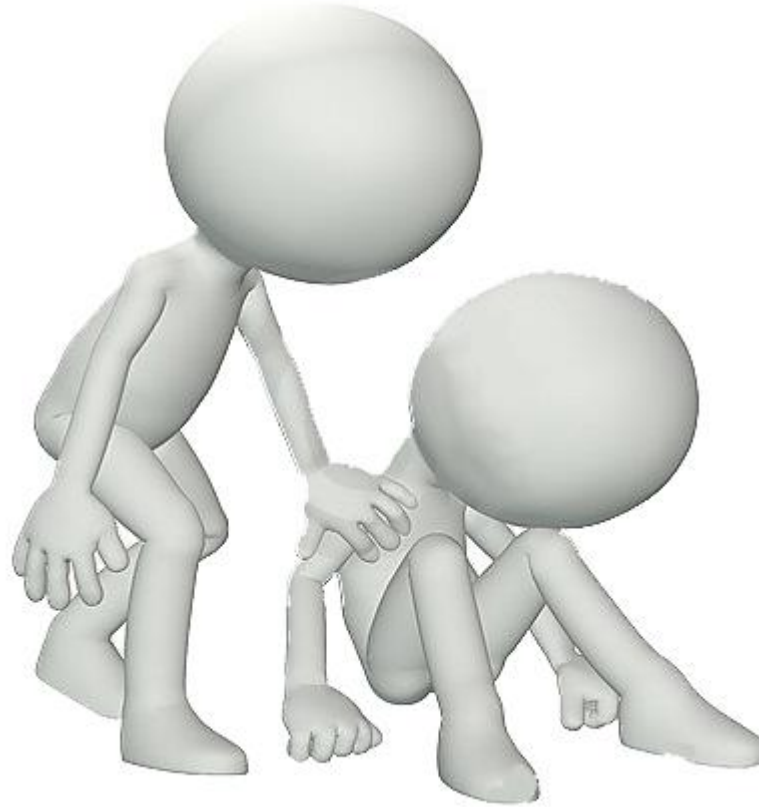
When Joseph came to them the next morning, he saw that they were dejected.

v6



So he asked Pharaoh`s officials who were in custody with him **in his master`s house**, "Why are your faces so sad today?" v7

his master
=
Potiphar



He noticed.
Sympathy can come from our trials

"We both had dreams," they answered, "but there is no one to interpret them."

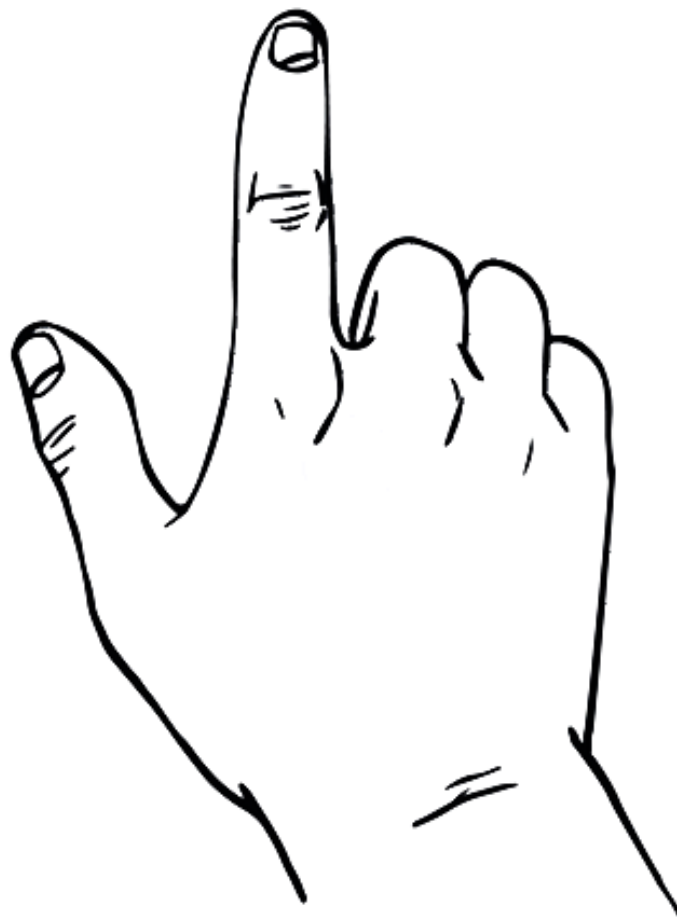
v8



**Why did they think
the dreams were significant ?**

Then Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God?"

v8



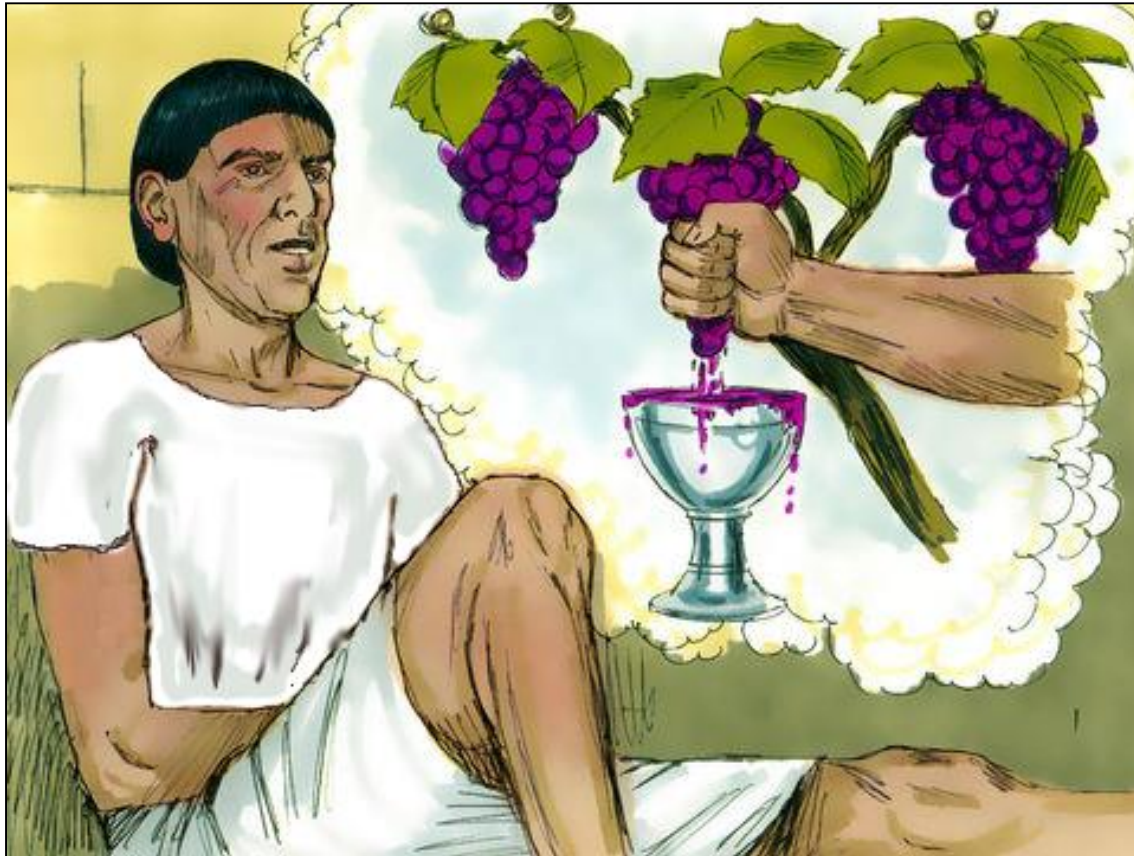
Give glory to God



Confident of God's help = faith

So the chief cupbearer told Joseph his dream. He said to him, "In my dream I saw a vine in front of me, and on the vine were three branches. As soon as it budded, it blossomed, and its clusters ripened into grapes. Pharaoh's cup was in my hand, and I took the grapes, squeezed them into Pharaoh's cup and put the cup in his hand."

v9-11



"This is what it means," Joseph said to him. "The three branches are three days. Within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your position, and you will put Pharaoh's cup in his hand, just as you used to do when you were his cupbearer.

v12-13



How did he know it meant three days ?

But when all goes well with you, remember me and show me kindness; mention me to Pharaoh and get me out of this prison.

v14



It looks like a heaven-sent chance to get out
with a bit of engineering

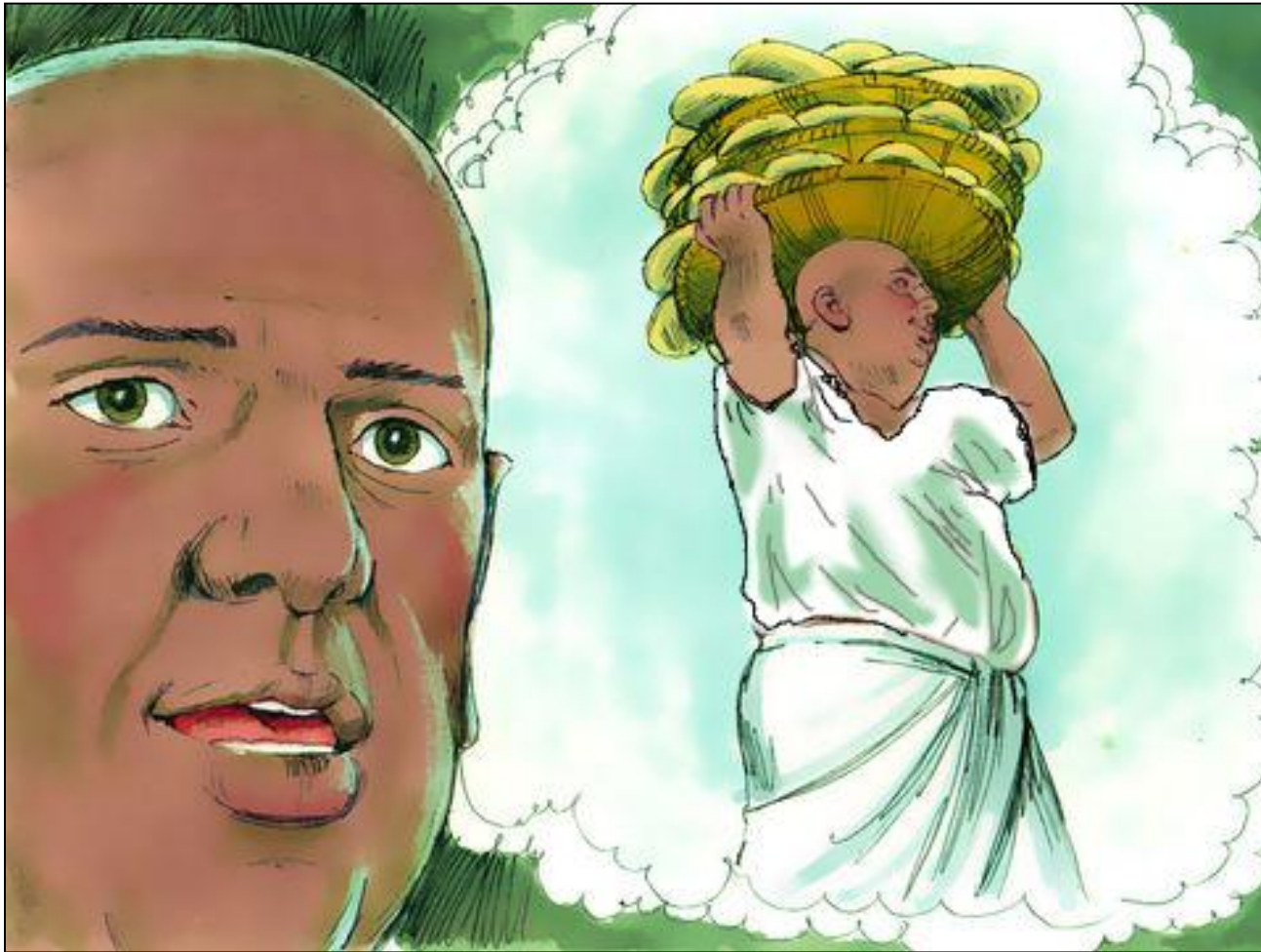
For I was forcibly carried off from the land of the Hebrews, and even here I have done nothing to deserve being put in a dungeon."

v15

Are they listening ?



When the chief baker saw that Joseph had given a favourable interpretation, he said to Joseph, "I too had a dream.. v16



Hopeful

On my head were three baskets of bread. In the top basket were all kinds of baked goods for Pharaoh, but the birds were eating them out of the basket on my head." v16-17



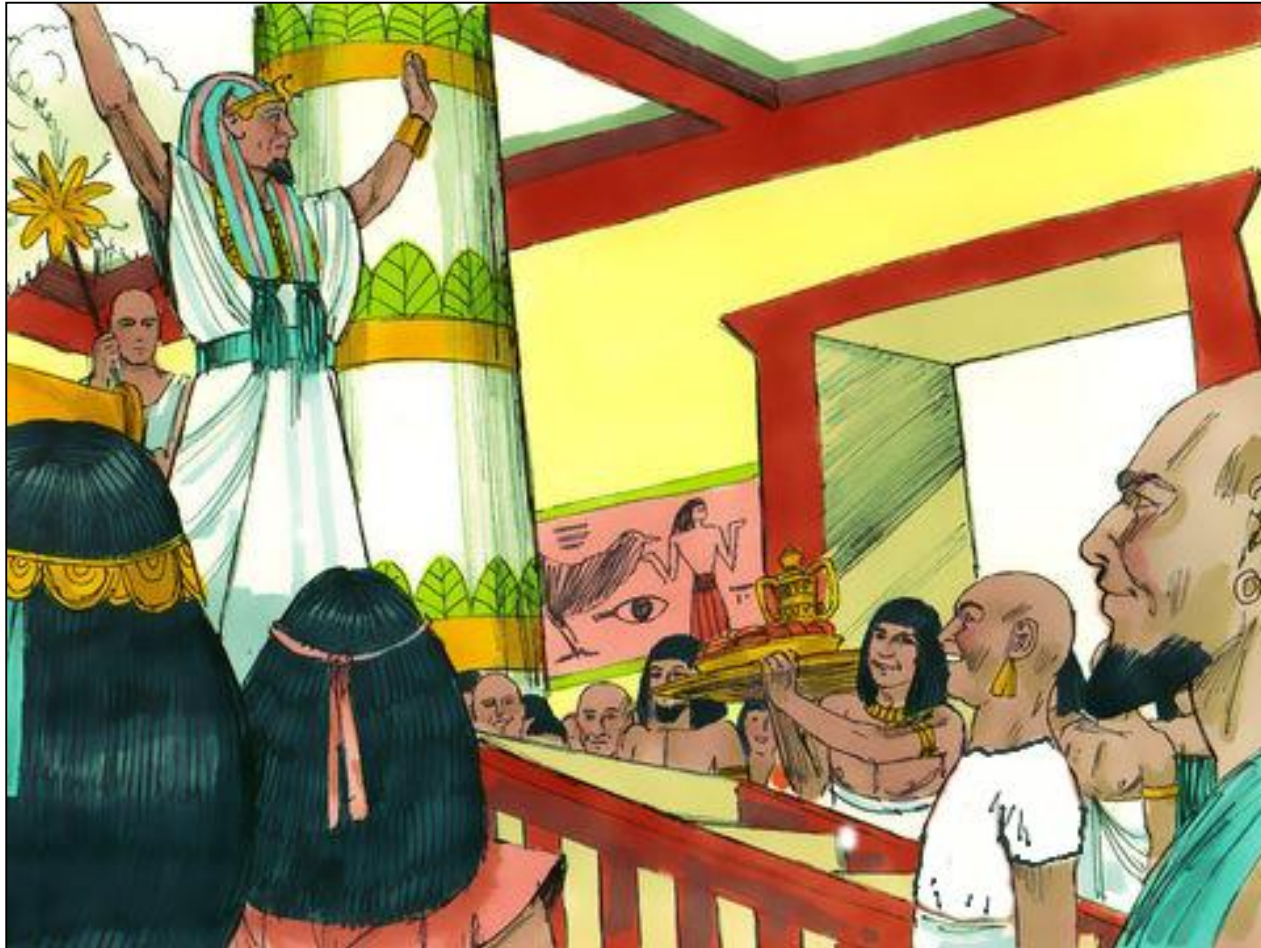
"This is what it means," Joseph said. "The three baskets are three days. Within three days Pharaoh will lift off your head and hang you on a tree. And the birds will eat away your flesh." v18-19



**Just as well the butler spoke first !
A prophet's job is to tell it as it is.**

Now the third day was Pharaoh's birthday,
and he gave a feast for all his officials.

v20

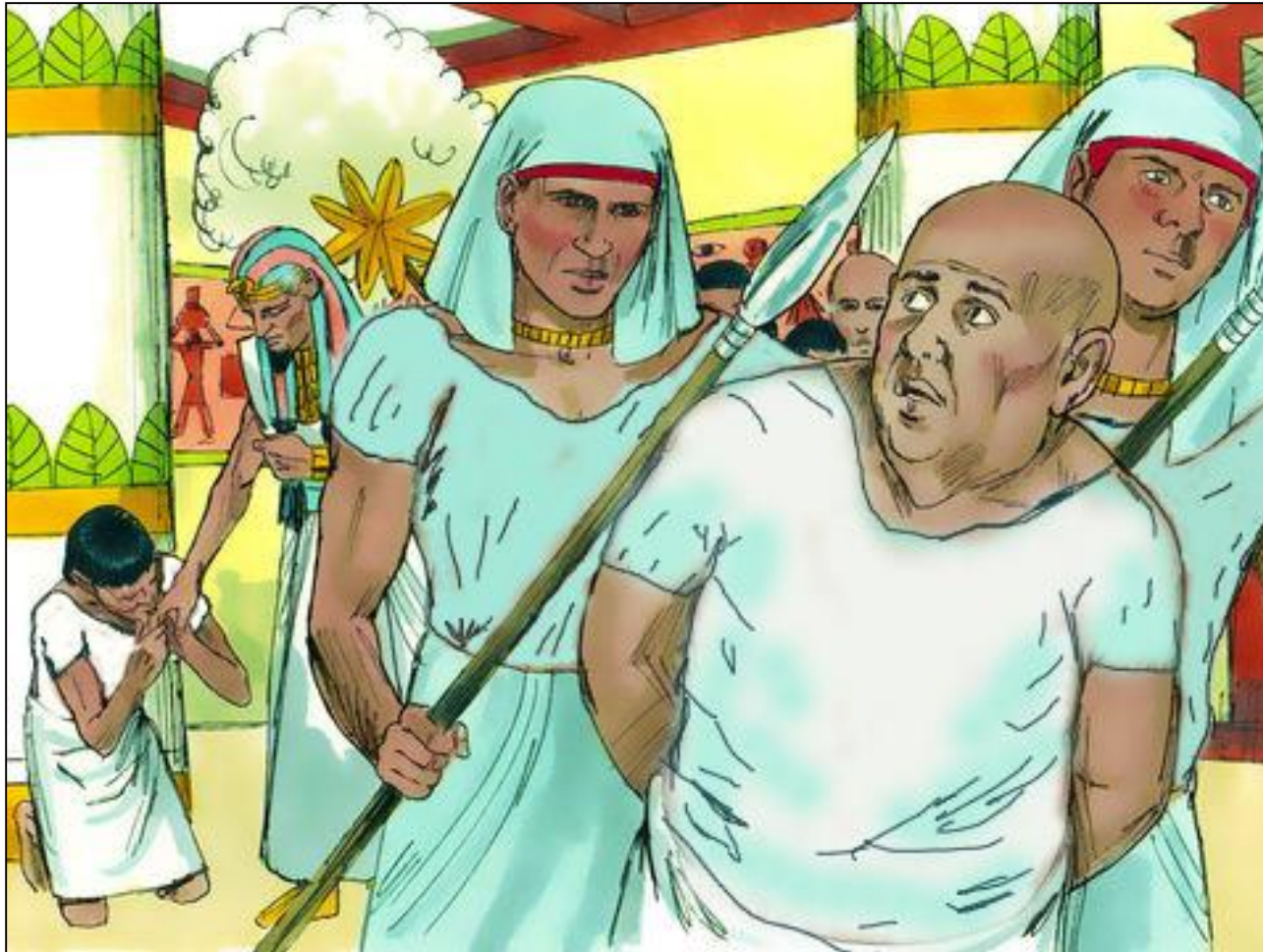


He lifted up the heads of the chief cupbearer and the chief baker in the presence of his officials.. v20



the day of reckoning -

He restored the chief cupbearer to his position, so that he once again put the cup into Pharaoh`s hand, but he hanged the chief baker, just as Joseph had said to them in his interpretation. v21-22



The chief cupbearer, however, did not remember Joseph;
he forgot him.

v23



The butler is too busy ...

How do you cope with delays and disappointments ?

**We don't have all the pieces
and not much idea about the whole picture**



God is big enough to say no, or not yet



He is organizing the climate for 7 years of bumper harvests

No doubt God had lots of other things to “get in place”
before it’s time to release Joseph

So what should we and Joseph do ?



And Jesus said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 18:3