

# Genesis: God and the Originals

## THE CUPBEARER AND THE BAKER

### Joseph in Prison (39:20b-23)

#### Vv. 20b-21

1. Who is “with” Joseph? Who notices, showing him kindness and favor?
2. Compare 39:2 to 39:21. Yet where is Joseph’s God now, to liberate and rescue him?

#### Vv. 22-23

3. What does the prison warden do to Joseph and what are the results?

### The Cupbearer and the Baker are Imprisoned (40:1-8)

#### Vv. 1-5

4. How much time has elapsed since Joseph was imprisoned? How long were the cupbearer and baker imprisoned before they had their dreams?
5. How are the cupbearer’s and baker’s former positions on Pharaoh’s staff of great responsibility/importance?

#### Vv. 6-8

6. “Do not interpretations belong to \_\_\_\_\_? Tell me your dreams.” Why do they go to Joseph? How are Joseph’s and Daniel’s situations similar (Daniel 1-2)?

BONUS: Interpretation involves “\_\_\_\_\_”, not  
“\_\_\_\_\_.” Joseph indicates that he has a special God-given ability.

The Hebrew terms for “interpretation” (*pitron*) and “interpret” (*patar*) occur only in Genesis 40-41 in the OT.

### The Cupbearer’s Dream (40:9-15)

7. How does Joseph interpret the cupbearer’s dream? How long will it take to come true?
  
8. What does Joseph ask of the cupbearer in return (v. 14-15)? Joseph asks him to be \_\_\_\_\_ (*zakar*) and committed to show him \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ (*hesed*). Where else was Joseph unjustly imprisoned?

### The Baker’s Dream (40:16-19)

9. How does the chief baker hope his dream will be interpreted?
  
10. Compare and contrast at your tables the translations for the cupbearer’s (v. 13) and baker’s (v.19) heads being lifted?
  
11. How does this punishment continue even after the baker’s death?
  
12. What’s the (Hebrew) limit on the period of impaling (Deut. 21:22-23 and Joshua 10:26-27)?

### Pharaoh’s Birthday Party (40:20-23)

13. What does “Pharaoh’s birthday” mean?
  
14. How does Joseph’s interpretation of the dreams work out?

15. Does the cupbearer do what Joseph asks of him (*zakar* and *hesed*)? Instead of \_\_\_\_\_, there was \_\_\_\_\_.