



## BIBLE RADIO PRODUCTIONS

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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

**A2205 ~ Joseph Called Before Pharaoh.**

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*Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.*

If you recall the story of Noah's flood of the whole earth, once the waters had receded from the face of the earth, Noah's 3 sons spread out to live in different parts of the world. Noah's 2<sup>nd</sup> son Ham moved to the region that we now know as Egypt. But Ham's descendants soon forgot about their Creator God. It wasn't long before they considered that a ruler or a king of the country could be both human and god-like, and act as the go-between for the people of Egypt and the many man-made gods that they then worshipped.

Two full years had passed since Pharaoh's chief butler was released from prison and restored to his former position of serving Pharaoh again. During these 2 years, the chief butler didn't give a thought about Joseph who remained in prison after being falsely accused by his slave owner's wife. With God's help, Joseph had correctly interpreted the chief butler's dream while he was in prison. But then one day, the one true God gave Pharaoh two dreams that he didn't understand and he was upset about them.

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We never know what a new day will bring, but God does. What a surprise for Joseph to be called urgently from the prison to stand before the ruler of the country! To do so, he couldn't look like a prisoner either. Joseph had to hurriedly shave and change his clothes before standing in front of Pharaoh. What had he done to deserve this unexpected but important summons? He soon found out that it was because with God's help, he had correctly interpreted the dreams of two other prisoners in jail 2 years before.

When Joseph stood before the Pharaoh, the ruler asked him if he could interpret dreams. Joseph said that he couldn't do this but God can. Joseph didn't hesitate to give full credit for his interpretation abilities to the one true God.

The fact that Pharaoh had been given two forms of the same dream indicated that God certainly would bring these events to pass.

Joseph then gave Pharaoh good advice that he should start storing up the excess food in the good years so that there'd be enough food during the difficult years ahead. In this way, Egypt would be saved from ruin. Joseph then suggested that Pharaoh find a discerning and wise man to be in charge of the storage and distribution of grain. Pharaoh recognised that Joseph had the Spirit of the living God in him and appointed him as 2<sup>nd</sup> in command over all Egypt. In Genesis, Chapter 41, the Bible says that Joseph was only 30 years of age when he was appointed to this high office.

Pharaoh gave Joseph gifts and a wife who in time had two sons. Their names were Manasseh, which means: "For God has made me forget all my toil and all my father's house;" and Ephraim, which means: "For God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction." Their names should be remembered as Manasseh and Ephraim played a part in the future of Israel.

Joseph carried out his high office duties diligently. Soon, plentiful years began and there was so much excess grain collected and stored up for the future that they stopped measuring it. Because Joseph knew God's plans in advance, he didn't sit back and do nothing. Like Joseph, God expects us to take heed of His warnings and any action needed when He reveals the future to us as well.

In the Scriptures, there are over 50 names given to the Lord Jesus. Very early in the Lord Jesus' ministry, He referred to Himself as the 'Bridegroom'. In Mark, Chapter 2, the Pharisees wanted to know why Jesus' disciples didn't fast the same way that they and John the Baptist's disciples did. Jesus implied that He was the bridegroom and that his friends didn't need to fast while He was with them. But Jesus did tell the Pharisees that when the bridegroom was taken away his friends, that then the friends would need to fast.

Earlier, the Pharisees had asked John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, if he was the Messiah. John replied that he wasn't but that he was a friend of the bridegroom and was going ahead of the groom. This symbolism of marriage is applied to Christ and the body of believers, who are known as the church. The church is primarily made up of those who have trusted in Jesus Christ to be their personal Saviour and have received eternal life. In the New Testament, Christ, who is the Bridegroom, has sacrificially and lovingly chosen the church to be His bride.

Just as there was a betrothal or engagement period in New Testament times where the bride and groom were separated until the wedding, so is the bride of Christ separate from her Bridegroom during this time here on earth. The church's responsibility during this betrothal time is to be faithful to Jesus. One day, and many believe it'll happen soon, all the prophecies regarding the church will be fulfilled. When that happens, our Heavenly Father will tell Jesus to go and get His bride.

In 1 Corinthians, Chapter 15, it says: “For when the trumpet sounds, the dead will be raised, never to die again, and we shall all be changed ... what will die must be changed into what cannot die.” Or as the Scriptures say in 1 Thessalonians, Chapter 4: “There will be the shout of command, the arch-angel’s voice, the sound of God’s trumpet, and the Lord himself will come down from heaven. Those who have died believing in Christ will rise to life first; then we who are living at that time will be gathered up along with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord.”

Some people claim that the church will go through seven years of Tribulation where God’s anger against sin is cast all over the earth. These trials are recorded in the book of Revelation, chapters 6 to 19. But the Lord Jesus Himself said of His faithful servants in Revelation, Chapter 3: “Because you have kept my command to endure, I will also keep you safe from the time of trouble which is coming upon the world to test all the people on earth.”

That 7-year period will be a terrible time for all unbelieving Jewish people. But by the end of this time, they come to accept the Lord Jesus as their Messiah too. This Second Coming of Christ will be the most dramatic point in all of history. It will also be a time of God’s judgment. The Antichrist, the False Prophet, and Satan will inspire the armies of the world to invade Palestine in a gigantic effort to rid the world of the Jews and to fight against Christ. This coming battle is often dreaded and called ‘the Battle of Armageddon,’ but the Bible promises that Jesus will conquer those armies and the Antichrist himself.

Following that time as written in Revelations, Chapter 19, the church will be united with its Bridegroom. An official 'wedding ceremony' will take place and the eternal union of Christ and His bride will begin and last forever. Here's the warning: Don't think that if you go to church, you're automatically part of the bride of Christ. The Bible is clear that only those who worship Jesus Christ God's Son, in Spirit and in Truth as their personal Saviour, are the Bride or the true church.

In Matthew, Chapter 25, the Lord Jesus taught people a parable about 10 virgins getting ready to meet the bridegroom when he arrived at night. But he was delayed and the young women all fell slept. At midnight, a cry went out: "Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!" Then the young women all jumped up and trimmed their lamps. But 5 of them didn't have any spare oil and so they asked the others to lend them some so their lamps wouldn't go out. But the 5 wise virgins wouldn't, lest they all didn't have enough oil and missed greeting the bridegroom. So the foolish virgins had to go and buy more oil.

While the 5 foolish virgins were away getting oil, the bridegroom came and the 5 wise virgins met him joyfully. They then went into the wedding with the bridegroom and the door was closed. After the foolish young women returned, they found themselves locked out of the wedding. So they knocked on the door, asking to be let in. But they were refused entry. In the Scriptures, often the word 'oil' is symbolic of the Holy Spirit. The 5 wise virgins were filled with the Holy Spirit and they knew their Lord, as they are the ones chosen in the parable to go to the wedding feast.

According to this parable, 50% of those who consider themselves part of the wedding don't have the oil or Holy Spirit living in them. The warning is that they will have the door shut on them and they won't be able to enter the wedding festivities when they arrive.

Are you sure that you are part of the Bride of Christ and you are going to heaven?

John the Baptist said in John, Chapter 3, Verse 36: “He who believes in the Son (that’s Jesus Christ) has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.” Will you be ready in your heart when the shout is heard to come and greet Jesus, the church’s Bridegroom?

*The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.*

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