



## Introduction

At the end of Genesis 39 Joseph ends up in prison in Egypt. Joseph correctly interprets the meaning of dreams.



## Questions

1. To whom does Joseph say interpretations of dreams belong?
2. What did Joseph ask the cup bearer to do for him when he got his job back?
3. What was special about the third day when the baker was hanged?



## Summary Points

- **v 1 to 8** Pharaoh's chief cup bearer (see theme) and baker come into Joseph's care. They have offended Pharaoh and been put in prison by him. After some time they both have dreams the same night. Joseph asks to hear about the dreams
- **v 9 to 19** Joseph listens to both dreams and interprets them
- **v 20 to 23** Three days later the cup bearer is restored to his position and the baker is hanged as Joseph predicted

**Timeline** to 2000 BC (see below)



## Information

### Cup bearer

There are two Bible references to people being cup bearers:

*Genesis 40 verse 2*

*Nehemiah 1 verse 11*

There are also references to King Solomon having cup bearers:

*1 Kings 10 verses 4 and 5*

The Bible references don't give any indication of the importance and high rank of the position. A cup bearer served drinks at the royal table. Because of the constant fear of plots and intrigues, a cup bearer had to be thoroughly trustworthy to hold the position. He had to guard against poison in the king's cup and was sometimes required to swallow some of the wine before serving it. His confidential relations with the king often gave him a position of great influence.



## Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 8, Q 2: v 14, Q 3: v 20



# Bible timeline

