

God Speaks through Dreams and Visions

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Scripture References

Joel 2:28

1 Kings 3:5, 9, 11-15

Job 33:14-16

Daniel 7:1

Jeremiah 23:28

Matthew 1:20

Matthew 2:13, 19, 20

John 10:27

Job 20:8

Daniel 1:17

Daniel 5:12

Daniel 10:1

1 Peter 5:7

1 Thessalonians 5:18

Summary

*If there was ever a time we needed to hear from God, it is right now. One Word from Him changes everything; this is why, as Christians, we need to be in a position to hear Him. Dreams are a powerful way God communicates with us and gives us directions; they were a frequent occurrence in the Old Testament, and He has every intention of continuing these types of interactions with us today. One of the ways God gives us insights and revelations is while we are sleeping. Our success, our prosperity, our deliverance, and many other things concerning His will for our lives are invested in hearing from Him. We can act either on good ideas or on God's ideas; when we let **Him** lead us, we will succeed and prosper like never before. When we realize that our dreams are not just random thoughts we have while we sleep, but are actually one of the ways God talks to us, we can begin experiencing supernatural results.*

A. The significance of dreams and visions was prophesied in the Old Testament.

1. And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions (Joel 2:28).
 - a. We must be prepared for an invasion of the supernatural.
2. In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee...Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?... And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days. And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days. And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt

offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants (1 Kings 3:5, 9, 11-15).

- a. A dream can be an avenue through which God can speak and direct.
 - b. Out of all the things Solomon could have asked for, he asked God for a heart that was able to hear Him and comprehend what He was saying.
 - c. God was instructing and interacting with Solomon in a dream. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph also had the same type of interaction with God through dreams.
3. For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon men, in slumberings upon the bed; Then he openeth the ears of men, and sealet their instruction (Job 33:14-16).
- a. God can deal with us very effectively while we are asleep. Not only does He give us sleep, He also gives *to* us while we sleep.

B. God can speak to us in dreams to give us important instructions and directions.

1. In the Old Testament, God instructed the prophets to share the dreams He gave them.
 - a. In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters (Daniel 7:1).
 - b. The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD (Jeremiah 23:28).
2. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost (Matthew 1:20).
 - a. God had to deal with Joseph through a dream confirming what Mary had told him earlier. The angel convinced him to take her as his wife.
3. And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him...But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, Saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life (Matthew 2:13, 19, 20).
 - a. After announcing Jesus' birth, God again communicated with Joseph through an angel in a dream, giving him instructions on how to evade Herod; this was divine guidance that provided specific details. God followed with further instructions later, after Herod's death.
 - b. In the same way God gave instructions to Joseph, He can do the same thing today for His children. We are His sheep, and we hear His voice (John 10:27).

C. Dreams are by no means insignificant. We must pay attention when God gives us one.

1. He shall fly away as a dream, and shall not be found: yea, he shall be chased away as a vision of the night (Job 20:8).
 - a. We must learn to recognize the dreams that come from God, and be careful not to dismiss our dreams as meaningless. God can speak to our subconscious minds and our spirits.
 - b. We should pay closer attention to our dreams—they may contain instructions from God that we need to remember.

- c. Some dreams are warnings, and will not necessarily come to pass if we take heed and follow God's directions.
- 2. Daniel had an anointing to interpret dreams and visions, and the symbolism in them.
 - a. As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams (Daniel 1:17).
 - b. Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and shewing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar: now let Daniel be called, and he will shew the interpretation (Daniel 5:12).
 - c. In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing was true, but the time appointed was long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision (Daniel 10:1).
- 3. There are five things we need to know about dreams:
 - a. Not every dream is from God.
 - b. Dreams are often given to us as allegory or symbolism.
 - c. We must be willing to submit our dreams to those who have a gift to interpret them, after we ask God about them.
 - d. There is a particular timing involved; sometimes what we dream about takes a while to come to pass.
 - e. We must not reveal the dream prematurely. If a dream comes from God and we still cannot understand it, it may be intended for a future time.
- 4. We must take care not to let the clutter of the world get into our minds; this affects our dreams at night. It is not good to go to bed stressed and worried, because it blocks some of the things God wants to show us in our dreams.
 - a. Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you (1 Peter 5:7).
 - b. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you (1 Thessalonians 5:18).
 - c. What we see, hear, and speak the most will produce thoughts. If they are the *wrong* thoughts, houses will be built in our minds of all the negative thoughts from the enemy.
 - d. Getting into the Word daily helps us to dial in to God's frequency so that we can hear Him.

Category: spiritual growth

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