

Theme: DIVINE REVELATION THROUGH DREAMS

Memory Verse: *Joel 2:28 “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:”*

Texts: Genesis 20:3-7; 37:5-9; Job 33:14-16

One of the ways God speaks to men is through dreams. The first mention of dream in the Bible was in connection with God’s warning to Abimelech, the king of Gerar (Genesis 20:3-7). There are other examples of men who had dreams. They include Jacob (Genesis 28:12); Joseph (Genesis 37:5-9); Solomon (1 Kings 3:5-15); the wise men from the east (Matthew 2:11, 12); Pilate’s wife (Matthew 27:19) etc. However, not all dreams are from God. Some dreams come as a result of many activities during the waking hours (Ecclesiastes 5:3, 7). Also when the mind is strongly set upon certain desires, the thoughts may re-surface as dreams during sleep (Isaiah 29:8). Even Satan can manipulate the various gateways into the mind so as to produce spurious dreams which, if acted upon, can lead to bondage of fear and wrong decisions. Therefore we should be careful not to be deceived or terrified by all kinds of dreams (Deuteronomy 13:1-4; Jeremiah 23:26-29, 32; 27:9; Job 7:14).

We may briefly summarize the marks of genuine dreams from God as follows: (1.) Harmony with Scripture: True dreams from God never contradict the written word of God. Therefore we must reject any dream that leads us to think or act contrary to the word of God in any detail (Jeremiah 23:28; Psalm 138:2; Proverbs 30:5,6). (2.) Simplicity of Interpretation: Dreams from God are always simple to interpret. God does not speak to confuse His children. We observe that those who needed interpreters of dreams in the Scripture were men like Pharaoh and Nebuchadnezzar who had no knowledge of the true God.

Therefore, whenever a believer has any dream that he considers very significant, the proper step to take is to pray and wait on God for the meaning and message of the dream. If there is still some doubt about it, then one should ask for counselling from church leadership. We should never turn to so-called books of interpretation of dreams, or professional dream interpreters. The Holy Spirit that indwells us gives us understanding. (3.) Freedom from slavish Fear: God’s message to His obedient children is always “fear not.” It is the sinners in Zion who are afraid and seized with fearfulness in the presence of God (Isaiah 33:14). Any dream that seeks to impose bondage of fear upon the heart of a child of God is satanic in origin, and must be rejected. (4.) Certainty of fulfilment: Genuine dreams from God always come to pass (Deuteronomy 18:21, 22). We need to know, however, that dreams were prominent in the days before the full word of God was given but today believers have the mind of God revealed in His word. Believers cannot therefore, place much emphasis on dreams today. Whatever is not in total agreement with the word of God must be rejected.

	DAILY BIBLE READING	
	MORNING	EVENING
SUNDAY	Mark 7	Mark 8
MONDAY	Mark 9	Mark 10
TUESDAY	Mark 11	Mark 12
WEDNESDAY	Mark 13	Mark 14
THURSDAY	Mark 15	Mark 16
FRIDAY	Luke 1	Luke 2
SATURDAY	Luke 3	Luke 4