

FIND YOUR VOICE DEVELOPING THE PROPHETIC DREAMS AND INTERPRETATIONS A POWERFUL TOOL FOR MISSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

INTRODUCTION

In our culture I wonder what you think the prevailing attitude might be - ***any suggestions?***

Polycarp, Tertullian, Justyn Martyr, Origen, Jerome, Gregory.

The Creed

Einstein, Kekule, Mendeljeff, Niels Bohr, Mathias, Newton, Edison, Werner, Goodyear

Alexander The Great and David Parkinson in World War II

'I don't dream'; a common misconception.....

Dreams and visions Biblical Old Testament & New Testament

God wants us personally and the church corporately to benefit from dreams & visions

There are over references to dreams and visions combined and around of scripture itself is related to the fulfilment of dreams and visions.

DREAMS IN THE OLDEST BOOK

Job 4:13 Amid **dreams**

Job 7:14 even then you with dreams

Job 20:8 Like a dream **he** **away,**

Job 33 v 14 For God does speak

The body

God speaks through

DREAMS IN SCRIPTURE - AN OVERVIEW

- individuals - Abimilech
- families - Joseph
- nations - Pharaoh
- international community - Daniel
- cosmic applications – Daniel
- birth & survival of Jesus

THE IMPORTANCE OF DREAMS IN 2010

Joel 2 28 A unique period of history

What is the significance of Joel 2 and Acts 2 in the context of dreams? . . .
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*Acts 2:17 "In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.*

WHY DREAMS ?

Why would God choose to give us dreams - **any suggestions?**

- i.
- ii.
- iii.
- iv.
- v.

Their purpose is to INSTRUCT

TYPES OF DREAMS AND THEIR PURPOSE

1. A Warning Gene 20:3
2. Protection. Gene 20:6
3. Destiny Gene 28:12
4. Business Strategy or Insight Gene 31:10
5. Personal foretelling *Gene 40:5*
6. National disaster & strategic solutions *Gene 41:5*
7. Dreams to encourage Judges 7
8. Answers *1Sam 28:6*
9. Direction. *Matt 1 v 20*
10. Soul Expression eg Anxiety Eccles 5v3
11. Solution dreams-
12. Invention Dreams -
13. Dreams & Evangelism - Missional Communities

NB For a fuller treatment of types of dreams and material relating to dreams & interpretations the new book Find Your Voice – developing the prophetic in you and your church should be available or sign up on the sheet

GUIDELINES FOR INTERPRETATION

Writing Dreams

Interpretations come from God

- i.
- ii.
- iii.
- iv.
- v.
- vi.
- vii.

Be aware of the dreams purpose

- i. Who is it for or about?
 - a) If you are the centre of focus then the dream is about you and for you
 - b) If you are not the focus but you are participating then the dream is likely primarily for others but may involve you
 - c) When you are not in the dream at all then it is likely to be something not directly related to you a church a town a nation
- ii. Is it a warning or a direction or insight?
- iii. Draw out the main thought you are watching. Ask yourself and Note well what were you feeling and how did it leave you!

Remember dreams are usually symbolic

- i. View them as parables

- ii. Biblical interpretations often seem simpler than the dream does

What kind of Symbols

Scripture can give us a clue e.g. bread, seed, manna all symbolically refer to the word of God.

Often common place things in our experience form the basis of the dream language for us.

Symbols to one person will be different to another.

Transport

- Bikes and motor bikes, can often refer to ministry or sphere of gifting. It is usually in the singular and usually mine.
- Cars can likewise refer to ministry or sphere of operating but this time involving a small group or team
- Buses could mean reasonably large churches. Planes or huge ships might relate to church streams or denominations.

Buildings

- A small house might represent your own sphere.
- Bigger buildings might represent churches or groups, large buildings, skyscrapers.
- Large office blocks might represent church movements or streams.

Creatures

- Horses speak of power; often national power.
- Snakes, unsurprisingly, will likely represent the demonic, or lies, or seduction.
- A spider might indicate a web of intrigue or a hidden trap, it can also indicate an occult presence.
- Hornets, bees, wasps are likely to be harbingers of pain and damage.

Weather

- Dark foreboding weather is likely to be the enemy or the enemy's plans.
- Bright weather with blue skies is likely to be the favour of God or hope.

Please note: These symbols are illustrative not definitive. The book of Ecclesiastes reminds us:

*'Much dreaming and many words are meaningless.'*¹

Dreams are wonderful but in comparison with the written word of God, it is like Jeremiahs contrast between straw and grain.

Are All Dreams From God?

Double Dreams?

- **Please write down at least two things that have impacted you**
- **Please write down 3 questions or thoughts**
- **Let's trust Him for release**



Ram Headquarters in Sturges Michigan where the acrylic was produced for NASA's space programme

¹ Ecclesiastes 5:7