

~DREAM (848)

.. Dreams From God

.. Natural Dreams

.. False Dreams

- The thoughts or mental images a person has while asleep. The Scriptures refer to dreams from God.
- And he went on to say; Hear my words, please. If there came to be a prophet of yours for Yehowah, it would be in a vision I would make myself known to him. In a **dream** I would speak to him. (**Numbers 12:6**)
- **Natural dreams**
- Like a **dream** he will fly off, and they will not find him, and he will be chased away like a vision of the night. (**Job 20:8**)
- **False dreams**
- For this is what Yehowah of armies, the God of Israel, has said, Let not your prophets who are in among you and your practicers of divination deceive you, and do not you listen to their **dreams** that they are **dreaming**. (**Jeremiah 29:8**)
- For it is in falsehood that they are prophesying to you in my name. I have not sent them, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 29:9**)
- **Dreams**, that involve divination.
- For the teraphim themselves have spoken what is uncanny, and the practicers of divination, for their part, have visioned falsehood, and valueless **dreams** are what they keep speaking, and in vain they try to comfort. That is why they will certainly depart like a flock, they will become afflicted, because there is no shepherd. (**Zechariah 10:2**)

.. Dreams From God

- **Dreams** from God were received by Yehowah's servants and by persons not devoted to him.

- In Gibeon Yehowah appeared to Solomon in a **dream** by night, and God proceeded to say; Request what I should give you. (**1 Kings 3:5**)
- Gideon now came, and, look! There was a man relating a **dream** to his companion, and he went on to say; Here is a **dream** that I have **dreamed**. And, look! There was a round cake of barley bread turning over and over into the camp of Midian. Then it came to a tent and struck it so that it fell, and it went turning it upside down, and the tent fell flat. (**Judges 7:13**)
- At this his companion answered and said; This is nothing else but the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel. The true God has given Midian and all the camp into his hand. (**Judges 7:14**)
- Some furnished warnings that protected his servants, and others gave them guidance. Thus, in a **dream** God warned Abimelech the king of Gerar not to touch Sarah, with the result that she remained undefiled. (**Genesis Chapter 20**) Complying with divine warning in a **dream**, the astrologers who visited Jesus did not return to murderous Herod.
- And when they went into the house they saw the young child with Mary its mother, and, falling down, they did obeisance to it. They also opened their treasures and presented it with gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. (**Matthew 2:11**)
- However, because they were **given divine warning in a dream not to return to Herod**, they withdrew to their country by another way. (**Matthew 2:12**)
- In response to angelic instruction in **dreams**, Joseph took Mary as his wife and also fled with Jesus and Mary into Egypt. Later dreams from God led Joseph to return from Egypt with them and settle in Nazareth in order to fulfill the prophecy, He will be called a Nazarene.
- But the birth of Jesus Christ was in this way. During the time his mother Mary was promised in marriage to Joseph, she was found to be pregnant by Holy Spirit before they were united. (**Matthew 1:18**)
- However, Joseph her husband, because he was righteous and did

- not want to make her a public spectacle, intended to divorce her secretly. (**Matthew 1:19**)
- But after he had thought these things over, look! Yehowah's angel appeared to him in a **dream**, saying; Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife home, for that which has been begotten in her is by Holy Spirit. (**Matthew 1:20**)
 - She will give birth to a son, and you must call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. (**Matthew 1:21**)
 - All this actually came about for that to be fulfilled which was spoken by Yehowah through his prophet, saying; (**Matthew 1:22**)
 - Look! The virgin will become pregnant and will give birth to a son, and they will call his name Immanuel, which means, when translated, **With Us Is God**. (**Matthew 1:23**)
 - Then Joseph woke up from his sleep and did as the angel of Yehowah had directed him, and he took his wife home. (**Matthew 1:24**)
 - But he had no intercourse with her until she gave birth to a son, and he called his name Jesus. (**Matthew 1:25**)
 - After they had withdrawn, look! Yehowah's angel appeared in a **dream** to Joseph, saying; Get up, take the young child and its mother and flee into Egypt, and stay there until I give you word, for Herod is about to search for the young child to destroy it. (**Matthew 2:13**)
 - So he got up and took along the young child and its mother by night and withdrew into Egypt. (**Matthew 2:14**)
 - And he stayed there until the decease of Herod, for that to be fulfilled which was spoken by Yehowah through his prophet, saying; Out of Egypt I called my son. (**Matthew 2:15**)
 - When Herod had deceased, look! Yehowah's angel appeared in a **dream** to Joseph in Egypt (**Matthew 2:19**)
 - And said; Get up, take the young child and its mother and be on your way into the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the soul of the young child are dead. (**Matthew 2:20**)

- So he got up and took the young child and its mother and entered into the land of Israel. ([Matthew 2:21](#))
- But hearing that Archelaus ruled as king of Judea instead of his father Herod, he became afraid to depart for there. Moreover, being given divine warning in a **dream**, he withdrew into the territory of Galilee. ([Matthew 2:22](#))
- And came and dwelt in a city named Nazareth, that there might be fulfilled what was spoken through the prophets; He will be called a Nazarene. ([Matthew 2:23](#))
- Some **dreams** from God gave his servants assurance of divine favor or helped them to understand how Yehowah was aiding them. When God was about to conclude a covenant with Abram or Abraham, a deep sleep and great darkness fell upon the patriarch, and Yehowah then apparently spoke to him in a **dream**.
- After a while the sun was about to set, and a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and, look! A frightfully great darkness was falling upon him. ([Genesis 15:12](#))
- And he began to say to Abram; You may know for sure that your seed will become an alien resident in a land not theirs, and they will have to serve them, and these will certainly afflict them for four hundred years. ([Genesis 15:13](#))
- But the nation that they will serve I am judging, and after that they will go out with many goods. ([Genesis 15:14](#))
- As for you, you will go to your forefathers in peace; You will be buried at a good old age. ([Genesis 15:15](#))
- But in the fourth generation they will return here, because the error of the Amorites has not yet come to completion. ([Genesis 15:16](#))
- At Luz, Bethel, God caused Jacob to have a **dream** in which he saw a ladder reaching from earth to heaven, thus denoting communication with heaven. Angels ascended and descended on it, a representation of Yehowah was stationed above it, and God pronounced a blessing on Jacob.

- **And Jacob continued on his way out from Beersheba and kept going to Haran. (Genesis 28:10)**
- **In time he came across a place and set about spending the night there because the sun had set. So he took one of the stones of the place and set it as his head supporter and lay down in that place. (Genesis 28:11)**
- **And he began to **dream**, and, look! There was a ladder stationed upon the earth and its top reaching up to the heavens, and, look! There were God's angels ascending and descending on it. (Genesis 28:12)**
- **And, look! there was Yehowah stationed above it, and he proceeded to say; I am Yehowah the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land upon which you are lying, to you I am going to give it and to your seed. (Genesis 28:13)**
- **And your seed will certainly become like the dust particles of the earth, and you will certainly spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and by means of you and by means of your seed all the families of the ground will certainly bless themselves. (Genesis 28:14)**
- **And here I am with you and I will keep you in all the way you are going and I will return you to this ground, because I am not going to leave you until I have actually done what I have spoken to you. (Genesis 28:15)**
- **Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said; Truly Yehowah is in this place and I myself did not know it. (Genesis 28:16)**
- **And he grew fearful and added; How fear-inspiring this place is! This is nothing else but the house of God and this is the gate of the heavens. (Genesis 28:17)**
- **So Jacob got up early in the morning and took the stone that was there as his head supporter and he set it up as a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. (Genesis 28:18)**
- **Further, he called the name of that place Bethel, but the fact is, Luz was the city's name formerly. (Genesis 28:19)**
- **He further said to him; Most truly I say to you men, you will see**

heaven opened up and the angels of God ascending and descending to the Son of man. ([John 1:51](#))

- It was also by means of a **dream** that God, years later, showed his approval of Jacob and gave him angelic instruction to return to his homeland.
- Then the angel of the true God said to me in the **dream**, Jacob! To which I said; Here I am. ([Genesis 31:11](#))
- And he continued; Raise your eyes, please, and see all the he-goats springing upon the flock are striped, speckled and spotty, for I have seen all that Laban is doing to you. ([Genesis 31:12](#))
- I am the true God of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar and where you vowed a vow to me. Now get up, go out of this land and return to the land of your birth. ([Genesis 31:13](#))
- As a youth, Jacob's son Joseph had **dreams** that indicated he had divine favor, these **dreams also being prophetic**. In one, he and his brothers were binding sheaves in the field. Joseph's sheaf stood erect, and those of his brothers encircled it and bowed down to it. In another dream, the sun, moon, and 11 stars bowed down to him.
- Later on Joseph had a **dream** and told it to his brothers, and they found further reason to hate him. ([Genesis 37:5](#))
- And he went on to say to them; Listen, please, to this **dream** that I have **dreamed**. ([Genesis 37:6](#))
- Well, here we were binding sheaves in the middle of the field when here my sheaf got up and also stood erect and here your sheaves proceeded to encircle and bow down to my sheaf. ([Genesis 37:7](#))
- And his brothers began to say to him; Are you going to be king over us for certain? Or; Are you going to dominate over us for certain? So they found fresh reason to hate him over his **dreams** and over his words. ([Genesis 37:8](#))
- After that he had still another **dream**, and he related it to his brothers and said; Here I have had a **dream** once more, and here the sun and the moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me. ([Genesis 37:9](#))

- Then he related it to his father as well as his brothers, and his father began to rebuke him and say to him; What does this **dream** that you have **dreamed** mean? Am I and also your mother and your brothers for certain going to come and bow down to the earth to you? (**Genesis 37:10**)
- And his brothers grew jealous of him, but his father observed the saying; (**Genesis 37:11**)
- Both of these **dreams** were fulfilled when Jacob and his household moved to Egypt during a severe famine. To obtain food, they all became dependent upon Joseph, then Egypt's food administrator.
- Eventually Jacob got to see that there were cereals in Egypt. Then Jacob said to his sons; Why do you keep looking at one another? (**Genesis 42:1**)
- And he added; Here I have heard that there are cereals in Egypt. Go down there and buy for us from there, that we may keep alive and not die off. (**Genesis 42:2**)
- Accordingly ten brothers of Joseph went down to buy grain from Egypt. (**Genesis 42:3**)
- So Israel's sons came along with the others who were coming to buy, because the famine existed in the land of Canaan. (**Genesis 42:5**)
- And Joseph was the man in power over the land. He was the one that did the selling to all people of the earth. Consequently Joseph's brothers came and bowed low to him with their faces to the earth. (**Genesis 42:6**)
- When Joseph got to see his brothers, he at once recognized them, but he made himself unrecognizable to them. So he spoke harshly with them and said to them; Where have you come from? To which they said; From the land of Canaan to buy foodstuffs. (**Genesis 42:7**)
- Thus Joseph recognized his brothers, but they themselves did not recognize him. (**Genesis 42:8**)

- Immediately Joseph remembered the **dreams** that he had dreamed respecting them, and he went on to say to them; You are spies! You have come to see the exposed condition of the land! (**Genesis 42:9**)
- Some **dreams** from God experienced by persons not worshipping him were also prophetic. In Egypt, while Joseph was imprisoned with Pharaoh's chief of the cupbearers and chief of the bakers, these men had **dreams** that God enabled Joseph to explain as meaning that in three days the chief of the cupbearers would be restored to his position, whereas the chief of the bakers would be executed.
- These events occurred three days later, on Pharaoh's birthday. In time these **dreams** served the purpose of bringing Joseph to Pharaoh's attention as a man having God's spirit. (**Genesis Chapter 40**)
- Warning and the prophetic element were combined in two **dreams** that Pharaoh of Joseph's day had in one night. In the first, he saw seven fat-fleshed cows devoured by seven poor, thin-fleshed cows. In Pharaoh's second **dream**, seven full and good ears of grain came up on one stalk, only to be swallowed up by seven shriveled, thin, wind-scorched ears of grain.
- Joseph, ascribing the interpretation to God, correctly explained that both **dreams** pointed to seven years of plenty to be followed by seven of famine. (**Genesis Chapter 41**) It was God's direction to save many from starvation and particularly to preserve the life of Abraham's descendants, to fulfill his promises to Abraham.
- But now do not feel hurt and do not be angry with yourselves because you sold me here, because for the preservation of life God has sent me ahead of you. (**Genesis 45:5**)
- For this is the second year of the famine in the midst of the earth, and there are yet five years in which there will be no plowing time or harvest. (**Genesis 45:6**)
- Consequently God sent me ahead of you in order to place a remnant for you men in the earth and to keep you alive by a great escape. (**Genesis 45:7**)
- So now it was not you who sent me here, but it was the true God, that he might appoint me a father to Pharaoh and a lord for all his house and as one dominating over all the land of Egypt.

(Genesis 45:8)

- **Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar also had two prophetic **dreams** from God. One was of a metallic image with a head of gold, breast and arms of silver, belly and thighs of copper, legs of iron, and feet of iron and clay.**
- **A stone cut out without hands struck and crushed its feet and then pulverized the rest of the image. Daniel identified Nebuchadnezzar as the head of gold and explained that a succession of human kingdoms would follow that of Babylon. Ultimately, God himself would set up a Kingdom that would never be brought to ruin.**
- **As for you, O king, on your bed your own thoughts came up as regards what is to occur after this, and the One who is the Revealer of secrets has made known to you what is to occur. (Daniel 2:29)**
- **And as for me, it is not through any wisdom that exists in me more than in any others alive that this secret is revealed to me, except to the intent that the interpretation may be made known to the king himself and that the thoughts of your heart you may know. (Daniel 2:30)**
- **You, O king, happened to be beholding, and, look! A certain immense image. That image, which was large and the brightness of which was extraordinary, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was dreadful. (Daniel 2:31)**
- **As regards that image, its head was of good gold, its breasts and its arms were of silver, its belly and its thighs were of copper. (Daniel 2:32)**
- **Its legs were of iron, its feet were partly of iron and partly of molded clay. (Daniel 2:33)**
- **You kept on looking until a stone was cut out not by hands, and it struck the image on its feet of iron and of molded clay and crushed them. (Daniel 2:34)**
- **At that time the iron, the molded clay, the copper, the silver and the gold were, all together, crushed and became like the chaff from the summer threshing floor, and the wind carried them away so that no trace at all was found of them. And as for the**

- stone that struck the image, it became a large mountain and filled the whole earth. ([Daniel 2:35](#))
- This is the **dream**, and its interpretation we shall say before the king. ([Daniel 2:36](#))
 - You, O king, the king of kings, you to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the might, and the strength and the dignity. ([Daniel 2:37](#))
 - And into whose hand he has given, wherever the sons of mankind are dwelling, the beasts of the field and the winged creatures of the heavens, and whom he has made ruler over all of them, you yourself are the head of gold. ([Daniel 2:38](#))
 - And after you there will rise another kingdom inferior to you, and another kingdom, a third one, of copper, that will rule over the whole earth. ([Daniel 2:39](#))
 - And as for the fourth kingdom, it will prove to be strong like iron. Forasmuch as iron is crushing and grinding everything else, so, like iron that shatters, it will crush and shatter even all these. ([Daniel 2:40](#))
 - And whereas you beheld the feet and the toes to be partly of molded clay of a potter and partly of iron, the kingdom itself will prove to be divided, but somewhat of the hardness of iron will prove to be in it, forasmuch as you beheld the iron mixed with moist clay. ([Daniel 2:41](#))
 - And as for the toes of the feet being partly of iron and partly of molded clay, the kingdom will partly prove to be strong and will partly prove to be fragile. ([Daniel 2:42](#))
 - Whereas you beheld iron mixed with moist clay, they will come to be mixed with the offspring of mankind, but they will not prove to be sticking together, this one to that one, just as iron is not mixing with molded clay. ([Daniel 2:43](#))
 - And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be brought to ruin. And the kingdom itself will not be passed on to any other people. It will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, and it itself will stand to times indefinite; ([Daniel 2:44](#))

- Forasmuch as you beheld that out of the mountain a stone was cut not by hands, and that it crushed the iron, the copper, the molded clay, the silver and the gold. The grand God himself has made known to the king what is to occur after this. And the **dream** is reliable, and the interpretation of it is trustworthy. (**Daniel 2:45**)
- In another **dream** from God, Nebuchadnezzar beheld a great tree that was chopped down, its remaining rootstock being restrained with a banding of iron and of copper until seven times passed over it. In keeping with Daniel's explanation, boasting Nebuchadnezzar, symbolized by the tree that was cut down, went mad, remaining in that state until seven times, or years, passed.
- Thereafter he acknowledged God's supremacy, and his sanity having returned, he was reestablished in his kingship. (**Daniel Chapter 4**)

See Also APPOINTED TIMES OF THE NATIONS

- Daniel himself had a **dream** from Yehowah in which he beheld four huge beasts coming up out of the sea, these creatures representing human governments.
- In the first year of Belshazzar the king of Babylon, Daniel himself beheld a **dream** and visions of his head upon his bed. At that time he wrote down the dream itself. The complete account of the matters he told. (**Daniel 7:1**)
- And four huge beasts were coming up out of the sea, each one being different from the others. (**Daniel 7:3**)
- As for these huge beasts, because they are four, there are four kings that will stand up from the earth. (**Daniel 7:17**)
- Daniel also saw the Ancient of Days, from whom someone like a son of man received lasting rulership and dignity and kingdom.
- I kept on beholding in the visions of the night, and, see there! with the clouds of the heavens someone like a son of man happened to be coming, and to the Ancient of Days he gained access, and they brought him up close even before that One. (**Daniel 7:13**)

- And to him there were given rulership and dignity and kingdom, that the peoples, national groups and languages should all serve even him. His rulership is an indefinitely lasting rulership that will not pass away, and his kingdom one that will not be brought to ruin. ([Daniel 7:14](#))

See Also **BEASTS, SYMBOLIC**

- Joel foretold that the outpouring of God's spirit would be followed by such manifestations as prophesying and the **dreaming** of inspired **dreams**.
- And after that it must occur that I shall pour out my spirit on every sort of flesh, and your sons and your daughters will certainly prophesy. As for your old men, **dreams** they will dream. As for your young men, visions they will see. ([Joel 2:28](#))
- It was on the day of Pentecost in the year **33 C.E.** that some 120 disciples of Jesus Christ received the Holy Spirit and began speaking in various tongues about the magnificent things of God.
- Now while the day of the festival of Pentecost was in progress they were all together at the same place. ([Acts of Apostles 2:1](#))
- And suddenly there occurred from heaven a noise just like that of a rushing stiff breeze, and it filled the whole house in which they were sitting. ([Acts of Apostles 2:2](#))
- And tongues as if of fire became visible to them and were distributed about, and one sat upon each one of them. ([Acts of Apostles 2:3](#))
- And they all became filled with Holy Spirit and started to speak with different tongues, just as the spirit was granting them to make utterance. ([Acts of Apostles 2:4](#))
- As it was, there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, reverent men, from every nation of those under heaven. ([Acts of Apostles 2:5](#))
- So, when this sound occurred, the multitude came together and were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. ([Acts of Apostles 2:6](#))

- **Indeed, they were astonished and began to wonder and say; See here, all these who are speaking are Galileans, are they not? (Acts of Apostles 2:7)**
- **And yet how is it we are hearing, each one of us, his own language in which we were born? (Acts of Apostles 2:8)**
- **Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and the inhabitants of Mesopotamia, and Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and the district of Asia. (Acts of Apostles 2:9)**
- **And Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya, which is toward Cyrene, and sojourners from Rome, both Jews and proselytes. (Acts of Apostles 2:10)**
- **Cretans and Arabians, we hear them speaking in our tongues about the magnificent things of God. (Acts of Apostles 2:11)**
- **Yes, they were all astonished and were in perplexity, saying one to another; What does this thing purport to be? (Acts of Apostles 2:12)**
- **However, different ones mocked at them and began to say; They are full of sweet wine. (Acts of Apostles 2:13)**
- **But Peter stood up with the eleven and raised his voice and made this utterance to them; Men of Judea and all you inhabitants of Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give ear to my sayings. (Acts of Apostles 2:14)**
- **These people are, in fact, not drunk, as you suppose, for it is the third hour of the day. (Acts of Apostles 2:15)**
- **On the contrary, this is what was said through the prophet Joel. (Acts of Apostles 2:16)**
- **And in the last days, God says; I shall pour out some of my spirit upon every sort of flesh, and your sons and your daughters will prophesy and your young men will see visions and your old men will **dream dreams**. (Acts of Apostles 2:17)**
- **And even upon my men slaves and upon my women slaves I will pour out some of my spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. (Acts of Apostles 2:18)**

- **Later, other believers, including the former persecutor Saul, Paul, received the Holy Spirit and were empowered with miraculous gifts.**
- **Then they went laying their hands upon them, and they began to receive Holy Spirit. (Acts of Apostles 8:17)**
- **Now when Simon saw that through the laying on of the hands of the apostles the spirit was given, he offered them money. (Acts of Apostles 8:18)**
- **Saying; Give me also this authority, that anyone upon whom I lay my hands may receive Holy Spirit. (Acts of Apostles 8:19)**
- **So Ananias went off and entered into the house, and he laid his hands upon him and said; Saul, brother, the Lord, the Jesus that appeared to you on the road over which you were coming, has sent me forth, in order, that you may recover sight and be filled with Holy Spirit. (Acts of Apostles 9:17)**
- **While Peter was yet speaking about these matters the Holy Spirit fell upon all those hearing the word. (Acts of Apostles 10:44)**
- **And the faithful ones that had come with Peter who were of those circumcised were amazed, because the free gift of the Holy Spirit was being poured out also upon people of the nations. (Acts of Apostles 10:45)**
- **For they heard them speaking with tongues and magnifying God. Then Peter responded. (Acts of Apostles 10:46)**
- **While in Troas, Paul had a night vision or **dream** that provided guidance as to where he and his associates were to preach the Good News.**
- **And **during the night a vision** appeared to Paul, a certain Macedonian man was standing and entreating him and saying, Step over into Macedonia and help us. (Acts of Apostles 16:9)**
- **Now as soon as he had seen the vision, we sought to go forth into Macedonia, drawing the conclusion that God had summoned us to declare the Good News to them. (Acts of Apostles 16:10)**

- Other disciples doubtless also had **dreams** under the influence of God's spirit, fulfilling the words of Joel's prophecy.
- When Jesus Christ stood on trial before Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor's wife sent him this message respecting Jesus; Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I suffered a lot today in a **dream** because of him.
- Moreover, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent out to him, saying; Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I suffered a lot today in a **dream** because of him. (**Matthew 27:19**)
- Evidently of divine origin, the **dream** should have warned Pilate that Christ's case was one of extreme importance.

· Natural Dreams

- Natural **dreams** may be stimulated by certain thoughts or emotions, sensations or daily activities, anxiety, ones physical condition, his occupation, and so forth.
- For a **dream** certainly comes in because of abundance of occupation, and the voice of a stupid one because of the abundance of words. (**Ecclesiastes 5:3**)
- These **dreams** are of no great significance.
- Like a **dream** after awaking, O Yehowah, so when arousing yourself you will despise their very image. (**Psalms 73:20**)
- A hungry person may **dream** of eating and a thirsty one of drinking, but they awake unsatisfied. Comparable delusion was in store for all the nations waging war against Mount Zion.
- And it must occur just as in a **dream**, in a vision of the night, regarding the crowd of all the nations that are waging war against Ariel, even all those waging war against her, and the siege towers against her and those making things tight for her. (**Isaiah 29:7**)
- Yes, it must occur just as when someone hungry **dreams** and here he is eating, and he actually awakes and his soul is empty, and just as when someone thirsty **dreams** and here he is

drinking, and he actually awakes and here he is tired and his soul is dried out, thus it will occur with the crowd of all the nations that are waging war against Mount Zion. (**Isaiah 29:8**)

- Concerning the pagan view of **dreams**, it is stated; **Babylonians** had such trust in dreams that on the eve of important decisions they slept in temples, hoping for counsel. **Greeks** desiring health instruction slept in shrines of Aesculapius, and **Romans** in temples of Serapis. **Egyptians** prepared elaborate books for **dream** interpretation. [Harper's Bible Dictionary, by M. and J. L. Miller, 1961, p. 141]
- But such practices did not exist among faithful Hebrews and early Christians. The Scriptures **warn against looking for omens, whether in natural dreams or in various incidents.**
- There should not be found in you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, anyone who employs divination, a practitioner of magic **or anyone who looks for omens** or a sorcerer. (**Deuteronomy 18:10**)
- Or one who binds others with a spell or anyone who consults a spirit medium or a professional foreteller of events or anyone who inquires of the dead. (**Deuteronomy 18:11**)
- For everybody doing these things is something detestable to Yehowah, and on account of these detestable things Yehowah your God is driving them away from before you. (**Deuteronomy 18:12**)

See Also DIVINATION

•• **False Dreams**

- **False dreams** are Biblically condemned. According to the Law, a false **dreamer** who urged the committing of idolatry was to be put to death.
- In case a prophet or a **dreamer** of a **dream** arises in your midst and does give you a sign or a portent. (**Deuteronomy 13:1**)
- And the sign or the portent does come true of which he spoke to you, saying; Let us walk after other gods, whom you have not known, and let us serve them. (**Deuteronomy 13:2**)
- You must not listen to the words of that prophet or to the

- dreamer** of that **dream**, because Yehowah your God is testing you to know whether you are loving Yehowah your God with all your heart and all your soul. (**Deuteronomy 13:3**)
- After Yehowah your God you should walk, and him you should fear, and his commandments you should keep, and to his voice you should listen, and him you should serve, and to him you should cling. (**Deuteronomy 13:4**)
 - And that prophet or that **dreamer** of the **dream** should be put to death, because he has spoken of revolt against Yehowah your God, who has brought you out of the land of Egypt and has redeemed you from the house of slaves, to turn you from the way in which Yehowah your God has commanded you to walk, and you must clear out what is evil from your midst. (**Deuteronomy 13:5**)
 - God might sometimes speak to his true prophets by means of **dreams**.
 - And he went on to say; Hear my words, please. If there came to be a prophet of yours for Yehowah, it would be in a vision I would make myself known to him. In a **dream I would speak to him**. (**Numbers 12:6**)
 - But he was against **the prophets of false dreams**, who led his people away from true worship.
 - I have heard what the prophets who are prophesying falsehood in my own name have said; saying; I have had a **dream!** I have had a **dream!** (**Jeremiah 23:25**)
 - How long will it exist in the heart of the prophets who are prophesying the falsehood and who are prophets of the trickiness of their own heart? (**Jeremiah 23:26**)
 - They are thinking of making my people forget my name by means of their **dreams** that they keep relating each one to the other, just as their fathers forgot my name by means of Baal. (**Jeremiah 23:27**)
 - The prophet with whom there is a **dream**, let him relate the dream, but the one with whom my own word is, let him speak forth my word truthfully. What does the straw have to do with

- the grain, is the utterance of Yehowah? (**Jeremiah 23:28**)
- Is not my word correspondingly like a fire, is the utterance of Yehowah, and like a forge hammer that smashes the crag? (**Jeremiah 23:29**)
 - Therefore here I am against the prophets, is the utterance of Yehowah, the ones who are stealing away my words, each one from his companion. (**Jeremiah 23:30**)
 - Here I am against the prophets, is the utterance of Yehowah, the ones who are employing their tongue that they may utter forth, an utterance! (**Jeremiah 23:31**)
 - Here I am against the prophets of false **dreams**, is the utterance of Yehowah, who relate them and cause my people to wander about because of their falsehoods and because of their boasting. But I myself did not send them or command them. So they will by no means benefit this people, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 23:32**)
 - And as for you men, do not listen to your prophets and to your practicers of divination and to your **dreamers** and to your practicers of magic and to your sorcerers, who are saying to you; **You** men will not serve the king of Babylon. (**Jeremiah 27:9**)
 - For falsehood is what they are prophesying to you, for the purpose of having you taken far away from off your ground, and I shall have to disperse you, and you will have to perish. (**Jeremiah 27:10**)
 - Practicers of divination were described as speaking **valueless dreams**.
 - For the teraphim themselves have spoken what is uncanny, and the practicers of divination, for their part, have visioned falsehood, and valueless **dreams** are what they keep speaking, and in vain they try to comfort. That is why they will certainly depart like a flock, they will become afflicted, because there is no shepherd. (**Zechariah 10:2**)
 - The Bible speaks of **dreams** in a figurative sense in describing the ungodly defilers of the flesh who slipped into the Christian congregation. Jude warned fellow believers against such men

indulging in dreams, these persons apparently **dreaming**, **imagining**, that they could with impunity violate God's Word and defile flesh in the congregation. This was a mistake, for they would inescapably receive adverse judgment from the Supreme Judge, Yehowah.

- In like manner, notwithstanding, these men, too, indulging in **dreams**, are defiling the flesh and disregarding lordship and speaking abusively of glorious ones. (**Jude 1:8**)
- What! Do you not know that unrighteous persons will not inherit God's kingdom? Do not be misled! Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men kept for unnatural purposes, nor men who lie with men. (**1 Corinthians 6:9**)
- Nor thieves, nor greedy persons, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit God's kingdom. (**1 Corinthians 6:10**)
- Flee from fornication. Every other sin that a man may commit is outside his body, but he that practices fornication is sinning against his own body. (**1 Corinthians 6:18**)
- What! Do you not know that the body of you people is the temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? Also, you do not belong to yourselves. (**1 Corinthians 6:19**)
- For you were bought with a price. By all means, glorify God in the body of you people. (**1 Corinthians 6:20**)