



DREAMS & VISIONS

BLOCK TWO

JOEL
2:28

And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.

IMPORTANT POINTS

1. God is a Spirit and He interacts with us on a spiritual plane.
2. God knows the future and often desires to make us aware of it.
3. Dreams and visions are the language of the Spirit.
4. The Holy Spirit will never violate the Word of God.
5. Ask God to speak to you about the future and what you should pray and do to accomplish His will.

Dr. Paul Yonggi Cho, pastor of Yoido Full Gospel Church in Seoul, Korea, which by the way holds the distinction of being the largest Church in the history of Christendom thus far at one time boasting an active membership near 1,000,000 people, says that “dreams and visions are the language of the Spirit.”

In his seventies, Dr. Cho set new goals for his church, which included a decade committed to the establishment of 5,000 satellite churches and 500 houses of prayer. Dr. Cho is an example of what God can do with the future through those who believe in dreams and visions they see which others cannot yet see.

Joseph, the son of Jacob, was also a man of dreams and visions.

Now Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him even more.

GENESIS
37:5

At this point in Joseph’s life, he was 17 years old and near last in a long line of brothers. Joseph had no claim to the inheritance or the covenant of his father. Yet Joseph dreamed a dream that encouraged him to believe that one day he would lead his whole family. At the time, this seemed impossible, yet the Holy Spirit bore witness to Joseph in a dream.

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When Joseph was 17 years old he spoke about his dream, later in his life, Joseph's dream spoke about him.

The scriptures tell us God knows the end from the beginning. His way of communicating with us concerning the future is often done through dreams and visions. The prophet Joel spoke of a time when God would interact with His children by pouring His Spirit out upon all flesh.

And it shall come to pass afterward
That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh;
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
Your old men shall dream dreams,
Your young men shall see visions.

JOEL
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This began to be fulfilled at Pentecost, just seven weeks after the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. When bystanders questioned what they were hearing, the Apostle Peter responded:

But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy.

ACTS
2:16-18

The Holy Spirit's interaction with us often produces dreams and visions to aid us in our understanding and our approach to what God wants in our future. Even Job, in his pain filled dilemma of life, was encouraged by a friend to hear

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that God opens our ears and seals our instruction while we sleep at night, having dreams and visions (Job 33:14-15).

Every dream is not given by God as Solomon revealed when he said that some dreams come because we have been so busy minded. However, many dreams are given to us by God so that we can:

- Know how to pray
- Know what to do
- Understand what will happen in the future

Not every dream comes to us at nighttime nor do visions always open spiritual portals into future events. Some do, however, many can merely be spiritual impressions which speak to our heart, strengthen our faith, and lead us forward.

When we receive some strong spiritual impression, a dream in the night, or a vision we feel is connected to our future, we must always do our due diligence to make sure it bears witness to the word of God before using it as a cause for pursuit. The Holy Spirit will never violate the word, the will, or the way of God. Make sure your dreams and your visions line up with God's Word, His purpose, and His ways before you act.

NOTES
