

GENESIS

(BERE'SHEET)¹

CHAPTER 41:1 And it was, from the end of² two years of days, and Pharaoh was dreaming, and look!—he was standing by the stream.³ **2** And look!—going up from the stream *were* seven cows, beautiful of sight⁴ and fat of flesh, and they pastured in the reeds. **3** And look!—seven other cows went up after them from the stream, bad of sight, and thin of flesh. And they stood near the cows on the lip of the stream. **4** And the cows bad of sight^d, and thin of the flesh ate up the seven cows beautiful of sight^d, and of fat^d, and Pharaoh awoke. **5** And he slept and dreamed a second time, and look!—seven ears were going up on one stalk, fat and good, **6** and look!—seven ears thin,⁵ and blasted by an east wind, sprung up after them. **7** And the thin ears⁶ swallowed the seven fat and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and look!—*it was* a dream. **8** And it was in the morning, that his spirit⁷ was troubled, and he sent and called all the learned ones⁸ of Egypt, and all its wise men, and Pharaoh recounted to them his dream, and there *was* no opener⁹ of them to Pharaoh. **9** And the chief of the drink-bearers spoke with Pharaoh, saying, “My error I remember today:¹⁰ **10** Pharaoh was angry against his servants, and he gave me into the guarding of the house of the chief of the slaughterers, me and the chief of the ones baking. **11** And we dreamed a dream in one night, **I** and **he**, a man according to the opening of his dream,

¹ The books of the Hebrew Bible are named from their opening words: here *Bere'sheet*, meaning “At *the* first of”

² I.e., after.

³ Heb *ye'or*. In this context, and in most all cases, it means the Nile River. However, this is not always the case, the term can refer to other rivers, streams, and estuaries, in general (Dan 12:5-7; Isa 33:21).

⁴ I.e., appearance.

⁵ DSS omit “thin.”

⁶ DSS and LXX add “blasted by the east wind.”

⁷ Heb *ruach*, lit “wind.”

⁸ Lit “those who write or engrave,” thus scribes or literate ones in these matters.

⁹ I.e., interpreter.

¹⁰ Lit “the day.”

we dreamed. **12** And there *was* with us a lad, a Hebrew, a servant to the chief of the slaughterers, and we recounted to him, and he opened to us our dreams, a man according to his dream, he opened. **13** And it was, as he had opened to us, thus it was—me he caused to return upon my position, and him he hanged. **14** And Pharaoh sent and called ward Joseph, and they caused him to run of the pit, and he shaved, and changed his outer-garments, and came to Pharaoh. **15** And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I dreamed a dream, and there *is* none opening it, and **I** have heard upon you¹¹ saying, that you hear a dream, to open it. **16** And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, “Not me, ELOHIM will answer Pharaoh with peace.”¹² **17** And Pharaoh spoke toward Joseph, “In my dream, look, I!—was standing by the lip of the stream, **18** and look!—from the stream seven cows went up, fat of flesh, and beautiful of form, and they pastured in the reeds. **19** And look!—seven other cows went up after them, thin, and bad of shape, exceedingly, and lean of flesh; I have not seen any as bad as these in all the land of Egypt. **20** And the lean and the bad cows ate the first seven fat cows. **21** And they came toward their middle, and it was not known that they came toward their middle^s, and their sight *was* bad as in the beginning.¹³ And I awoke. **22** And I saw in my dream, and look!—seven ears were going up on one stalk, full and good; **23** and look!—seven ears, withered, thin, being scorched with an east *wind*, sprouted after them. **24** And the¹⁴ thin ears swallowed the seven good ears. I said toward the learned ones,¹⁵ and there *is* none telling to me.”¹⁶ **25** And Joseph said toward Pharaoh, “The dream of Pharaoh, it is one: what the ELOHIM is doing he has told to Pharaoh. **26** The seven good cows, seven years *are* they, and the seven good ears, seven years *are* they, the dream is one. **27** And the seven thin and bad cows that went up after them, seven years *are* they, and the seven thin ears, scorched with an east *wind*, *are* seven years of hunger. **28** This *is* the *spoken*-thing I have spoken toward Pharaoh: that which the ELOHIM is doing, he has shown Pharaoh. **29** Look!— seven

¹¹ I.e., regarding you.

¹² DSS, LXX, and SP have here, as Joseph’s response: “Apart from ELOHIM the welfare (or salvation) of Pharaoh will receive no answer.”

¹³ I.e., even after they ate them they looked just as bad.

¹⁴ DSS adds “seven.”

¹⁵ Lit “those who write or engrave,” thus scribes or literate ones in these matters.

¹⁶ I.e., who could explain these things.

years are coming of large satiety¹⁷ in all the land of Egypt, **30** and seven years of hunger will arise after them, and all the satiety in the land of Egypt will be forgotten, and the hunger will finish the land. **31** And the satiety will not be known in the land, from the face^p of the hunger, the one after, for weighty it *will be* exceedingly. **32** And upon the repeating of the dream toward Pharaoh two times, then the thing is made firm from with the ELOHIM, and the ELOHIM hurries to do it. **33** And now, let Pharaoh see a man understanding and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt. **34** Let Pharaoh make¹⁸ and single out those who single out¹⁹ over the land, and take a fifth of the land of Egypt in the seven years of satiety, **35** and they will gather all the eatable *things* of these good years, the ones coming, and heap up grain under the hand of Pharaoh, eatable *things* in the cities, and they will guard *it*. **36** And the eatable *things* will be a numbered thing²⁰ for the land, for the seven years of hunger which will be in the land of Egypt, and the land is not cut off²¹ by hunger. **37** And the thing was good in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his servants.

¹⁷ In Hebrew the word “seven” (*sheva* ‘) and “plenty” (*sava* ‘) sound alike.

¹⁸ Or “do.”

¹⁹ I.e., to number or oversee.

²⁰ I.e., rationed in the numbering.

²¹ DSS “is not destroyed.”