



# DREAM INTERPRETATION

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# DREAM INTERPRETATION

## INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL BIBLICAL DREAM INTERPRETATION

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# DREAM INTERPRETATION

## INTRODUCTION

Dreams are a gift from God. He speaks directly to our spirit man while our soul (mind, emotions and reasoning) is disabled, often sealing future events or future instructions in our spirits, while we remain unaware of it.

Dreams are one of the ways the Lord imparts wisdom, knowledge and prophetic words. He also uses our dreams to warn us, and to call us into times of intercession.

In order to interpret dreams accurately, we need to rely solely on Holy Spirit to interpret for us, even when we use aids like books on dream interpretation.

Dream language and the use of symbols can be very universal, or could be profoundly personal...two people might dream about a car...to one it might reference to a personal ministry and to another it could be a warning of an accident that needs to be covered in prayer and to yet another, it could be the answer to a prayer regarding a new car.

Dreams can have either positive or negative meanings. Holy Spirit needs to help us discern which, as our natural inclination is to interpret dreams according to what we want to hear, instead of what is being said.

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## SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

Before we get into the nuts and bolts of dream interpretation, let's establish a Biblical foundation for interpreting dreams, by reading some scriptures together. It's interesting to note that there are 22 dreams recorded in the Bible, and more than 120 references to dreams and visions. This is significant and alludes to the Lord placing value on this form of communication.

Genesis 20:3

But God came to Abimelech in a dream of the night, and said to him, "Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is married."

In Genesis, chapter 20, verse 7, God speaks to an unbeliever, an evil king in fact, and has a two-way conversation with him, in which he warns him of disaster but also tells him that He protected him from sinning. This is interesting, as it confirms to us that the Lord will speak to unbelievers in dreams too.

Let's continue with some more scriptures:

Genesis 28:11-22

He came to a certain place and spent the night there, because the sun had set; and he took one of the stones of the place and put it under his head and lay down in that place.

Judges 7:13-15

When Gideon came, behold, a man was relating a dream to his friend. And he said, "Behold, I had a dream; a loaf of barley bread was tumbling into the camp of Midian, and it came to the tent and struck it so that it fell, and turned it upside down so that the tent lay flat."

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Genesis 37:5-10

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

Genesis 41:15

Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have had a dream, but no one can interpret it; and I have heard it said about you, that when you hear a dream you can interpret it."

Genesis 41:15

Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have had a dream, but no one can interpret it; and I have heard it said about you, that when you hear a dream you can interpret it."

Deuteronomy 13:1

"If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder,

Genesis 40:8

Then they said to him, "We have had a dream and there is no one to interpret it." Then Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell it to me, please."

Genesis 15:1

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great."

Job 33:14-16

"Indeed God speaks once, or twice, yet no one notices it. "In a dream, a vision night, When sleep falls on men, While they slumber in their beds, Then He opens the ears of men, And seals their instruction,...

Matthew 1:20

But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.

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Daniel 2:1-3

Now in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was troubled and his sleep left him.

Numbers 12:6

He said, "Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, shall make Myself known to him in a vision I shall speak with him in a dream.

Daniel 2:26-28

The king said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, "Are you able to make known to me the dream which I have seen and its interpretation?"

Joel 2:28

"It will come about after this That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions.

Genesis 31:24

God came to Laban the Aramean in a dream of the night and said to him, "Be careful that you do not speak to Jacob either good or bad."

# DREAM INTERPRETATION

## BASIC PRINCIPALS OF DREAM INTERPRETATION

### TYPES OF DREAMS

Laura Harris Smith, in her book "Seeing the Voice of God" categorised dreams as follows:

#### Prophetic dreams for Now:

- *Waking dreams*: Dreams you dream as you are waking up – these are significant and important as they are your first impressions about your day and require action
- *Decision dreams*: You are asked a question, and you need to decide or answer..these dreams reveal your heart.

An example of a dream like this is a dream I had where I was standing on the bow of a ship. In one part of the dream, I was talking with a man I could not see. He asked me what I would do if I knew the exact day Jesus was returning. I stated to list the things I would do, the people I would tell etc. I knew this was a dream in which the Lord was discerning my heart.

- *Encouraging dreams*: Prophetic glimpses of future blessings and/or victory
- *Audible dreams*: These dreams are also called "Dark speeches", where The Lord will speak to you in riddles. The Hebrew word is *chiydah*, meaning riddle, parable, dark obscure utterance or enigma to be guessed.

I often dream like this, where I will be having conversations with the Lord which does not make sense at the time of waking up. These need to be prayed through and interpreted. I will often have words or phrases drop into my mind as I am in the process of waking up.

*Pizza dreams*: phrase used for non-sensical dreams. Prayer, meditation and probing will make sense of it, and it serves to give direction and instruction. This term is also used by some to describe dreams that the dreamer does not consider to be from the Lord.

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## Prophetic dreams for Later:

*Warnings:* Deals with coming danger, the enemy's work, wrong decisions etc.

An example from a dream like this, from my own life was I dream I had about rats in our church building. The building was beautifully renovated and clean, but rats were nesting in the basement. The Lord was showing me that there were something hiding in the foundation of the building. Without going into too many details, I submitted the dream to leadership, but it was ignored and the outcome was division, strife and eventually a church split.



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- *Directional dreams*: "seals instructions" as per Job 33:16 An example of this is a number of dreams I had about Lou Engle, a man known for the intercessory call and mantle on his life. I understood it to be the Lord calling me to a deeper level of intercession, and a fasting lifestyle.
- *Recurring dreams*: A process is being worked out, or you have unresolved issues to tend to. They may indicate, or point to
  - hurt or unhealed wounds of the past
  - emotional scars that need healing
- bondages or strongholds that need to come down
- divine insights you may have missed
- misunderstanding or partial understanding of previous messages
- no or inappropriate response to previous dreams
- *Incubation dreams*: These dreams have no immediate application. They need to be stored away for a next season, as the interpretation is "waiting to hatch"
- *Apocalyptic dreams*: Reveals world events...Moses, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Ezekiel and Zechariah dreamed of world events.

An example of this kind of dream came to me as I was waking up one morning. I heard one word..." Greece". It was in a season where there were many severe, and catastrophic earthquakes happening all over the world. In my immaturity I assumed the Lord was calling me to pray for the safety of the people in Greece as there was going to be an earthquake there too. There wasn't, but there was a catastrophic economic collapse, and through this I learned to be more circumspect about dream interpretation and not to assume I know what the Lord was saying.

*Impartation dreams*: Dreams about prominent leaders/spiritual leaders, prophets etc. in which an impartation is given to the dreamer.

When apostles, prophets, teachers, pastors and evangelists appear in our dream it's not necessarily because you are called to that specific office, but it does indicate that the Lord wants you to learn something about that function. The same could be true for missionaries, church planters etc. You may or may not be called to follow suit, or support them in some way, therefor accurate interpretation is vital.

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In his book, *The Illustrated Dream Dictionary*, Dr Joe Ibojie gives his take on types of dreams:

- Healing and deliverance dreams
- Calls to service or commissioning dreams
- Proclamation dreams, in which an angel or messenger speaks to you
- Predicative dreams
- Prophetic
- Speaks of blessings
- Reveals destiny
- Indicate turning points
- Correction
- Warnings and corrections
- Encouragements
- Confirmations
- Guidance
- Theophanic dreams in which God appears in the fullness of His glory and with awesome reverential fear.

It is interesting to note that seer prophets will often fall into a deep and heavy sleep when God wants to break through daily routines. In Genesis 15:12 Abram falls into a deep sleep during which time God reveals to him what his mind was unable to comprehend.

God sends such deep sleep, in order to bypass the mind, connect with the spirit man and avoid the seer's mind-set. This is necessary to impress upon the spirit what the mind cannot comprehend or absorb at the time.

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## RECEIVING AND REMEMBERING DREAMS

According to research you have an 80% chance of remembering dreams if you record them immediately upon waking up.

Laura Harris Smith's book "Seeing the Voice of God" offers valuable information regarding sleep patterns, sleep disorders, supplements like Vit.B6, Magnesium, Zinc, calcium, Vit.D3, Melatonin and various herbs and essential oils to aid better sleep.

The spiritual aspect of sleep disorders should also be addressed. As a deliverance minister, I have a front row seat to the battle many Christians have in their night seasons. The enemy will use any means possible to disrupt sleep, interfere with dreams or terrorise people in the night, in order to block the divine intelligence that the Lord releases to us in our dreams.

In order to receive dreams, it is helpful to commit the last moments of each day to meditating on God's Word, listen to worship music or praying in tongues. We should also prepare to record dreams by keeping a pen and notebook handy. Some people prefer to make a voice recording on their phone. I find it valuable to share the dreams with someone, as retelling it solidifies it for me.

Meditate on the meaning of the dream after you record it and note any impression you receive from the Lord. In my experience, the more you engage with your dreams and dialogue with the Lord about it, the easier it becomes to interpret your dreams. More often than not, I now wake up with a pretty clear indication of the gist of the dream. I may have to research some symbols, but the general message is clear.

Prayer and fasting will often intensify dreams. When we have times of intense warfare, especially if you are called to be a watchman, dreams will intensify as the Lord is giving intel and divine strategy for intercession.

Upon waking, spend some time meditating on your dreams, so as to retain as much detail as possible. If possible, submit your dreams to a trusted friend, or group, who is able to help you interpret accurately.

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## Hinderances to receiving dreams:

- The lack of taking action, may result in the Lord withholding further revelation or instruction
- Our spirits must be at peace in order to release the mind to receive from God, therefore it is good to be proactive about inner healing and deliverance
- Grieving the Holy Spirit will cause Him to withdraw from us and we won't receive revelation. Enquire of the Lord whether there are areas of disobedience, or unconfessed sin in your life
- Not dealing with anger in our hearts will inhibit the planting of dreams and vision in our spirit. Ask Holy Spirit to search your heart, and have a teachable, repentant attitude
- A prideful life will hinder our dreams as God resists the proud but exalts the humble. He may protect us from growing in pride by sealing our dreams
- Drug and alcohol use will inhibit our dream life as it depresses the reception and retention of dreams. It could also open us up to dreams and/or hallucinations that are not from the Lord

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## DREAM SEASONS

There are normal, seasonal variations in the reception of dreams. Dr Ibojie refers to high-volume dreamers, medium and low-volume dreamers and dreamers who do not retain dreams at all. He further states that everyone has seasons of intense dreaming, followed by seasons when dreams are scarce.

Times of normal, seasonal lows in receiving and remembering dreams are characterized by:

- Peace and liberty, maintaining Holy Spirit's presence, even though dreams are scarce
- God is speaking through other means, and the dreamer is sharpening other abilities
- Inner assurance...no emptiness or unholy fear
- Lack of anxiety or frustration, usually for brief periods

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## COMMON DREAMS

Here is a list of 20 of the most common dreams, or themes people dream about.

### 1. *Dreams of your house*

It normally represents aspects of your life, depending on the context and activities in the dream. It could also represent your church.

### 2. *Dreams of going to school*

These dreams often centre around tests or exams (promotion if you pass) or searching for a class (needing guidance). Repeating classes means you have an opportunity to learn from past mistakes and dreaming of High school might mean you are enrolled in the School of Holy Spirit.

### 3. *Dreams regarding various vehicles*

May indicate the calling on your life or symbolic of different types of ministry...the size of the vehicle will determine the size of ministry. The colour and type of vehicle is important, also who is driving it.

### 4. *Dreams concerning storms*

These tend to be intercessory, spiritual war-fare dreams. They are very common for people who have the gift of discerning spirits. They can be negative or positive

### 5. *Dreams of flying or soaring*

Deals with your spiritual capacity to rise above problems and difficulties.

### 6. *Dreams of being naked or exposed*

Indicate you are or will be transparent and vulnerable. Depending on context, you may feel exhilarated, fearful, expose or ashamed and can often appear during times of transition, when you are dismantled in order to receive a new mantle.

### 7. *Dreams about the condition of your teeth*

Reveals a need for wisdom. Loose teeth mean you may need wisdom in a particular situation and shiny teeth that you have it.

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## 8. *Dreams of past relationships*

May indicate that you are falling back into old patterns of thinking or behaviour or that you need to renew former passions, dreams and desires. These dreams should be interpreted in context and not necessarily be taken literally. It could also indicate a soul tie that needs taking care of. Context is very important

## 9. *Dreams of dying*

Usually not to be taken literally, but symbolic of something that is passing away or departing from your life.

## 10. *Dreams of birth*

Usually not about an actual birth, but new seasons of purpose and destiny coming forth, but it can be about an actual baby

## 11. *Dreams of taking a shower, bath or using the toilet*

Reveals a process of cleansing. Stuff is being flushed out of your life.

## 12. *Dreams of falling*

May reveal your fear of losing control over an aspect of your life (negative) or that you are being set free of your desire and need to be in control (positive). Note the primary emotion in these dreams to indicate how to interpret them.

## 13. *Dreams of chasing/being chased*

Exposes enemies at work, coming against your life and purpose. Note who is chasing, primary emotions etc. In a positive light, it may indicate the Lord is chasing after you and you need to respond to Him

## 14. *Dreams of relatives, dead or alive*

Most likely generational issues are at work in your life – blessings and curses, particularly grandparents appearing in dreams.

## 15. *Dreams called nightmares*

More frequent to children and new believers, as they are more vulnerable. May reveal generational issues, or demonic activity and open doors.

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## 16. *Dreams of snakes*

Most common of all animal-related dreams. They reveal the serpent at work through lying, accusation, attacks etc. The colour of the snake is very important to help interpret these dreams. Spider dreams are also very common and reveal witchcraft and the occult at work, as is bear dreams, revealing fear.

## 17. *Dreams of dogs and cats*

Dogs usually indicate friendship, loyalty, protection and good feelings. On the other hands, it could represent, backbiting, attack

or growling...indicating a betrayal. Cat dreams also vary according to or growling...indicating a betrayal. Cat dreams also vary according to context, from feelings of being loved to witchcraft.

## 18. *Dreams of going through doors*

Generally, these reveal that change is coming. New ways, opportunities and advancements are on the way. Escalators, stairs and elevators can mean the same things, indicating that you are rising up into your calling and purpose.

## 19. *Dreams of clocks and watches*

Reveals the times and seasons of your life, or the need to wake up, or calls you to be alert and watchful.

## 20. *Dreams with scripture verses*

These are messages from God and may appear as verbal quotes (hearing a voice), digital clock-type readouts (seeing the words) or dramatizations.

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## SHARING PROPHETIC DREAMS

Let me share a few thoughts on how to share your dreams in such a manner that they are received well, especially by people who are more linear in their thinking. We have to remember that every person has a way that they receive information from the Lord, in a similar way as we all have different learning styles.

To effectively communicate the heart of God, we have to know our audience. When you share with other dreamers or seer prophets, they will be equally excited by the process that led you to the revelation, but for most people, sharing every detail will overload them with information, and your key message gets lost in the process.

*Then the Lord replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it lingers, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay." Habakkuk 2:2, 3 NIV*

### **Make it plain**

Simplify what you are hearing from the Lord. Know your audience and use wisdom regarding the amount of detail you share. If you overcomplicate the message, or overwhelm your audience with information, you have lost an opportunity to impact the person.

### **Know your timing**

A word out of season, even if it's an accurate word, is still going to miss the mark. Lean into Holy Spirit about the timing and trust Him to create the perfect, Kairos moment.

Follow up with a solid theological and/or scriptural anchor

As Holy spirit for the perfect example or scripture from the Word to anchor your message. Yes, we see in colour and images, but we are to remind ourselves the Word reigns supreme. The Lord will not speak against Himself. If the dream does not line up with scripture and the heart of God, we discard it. Quickly.

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## INTERPRETING DREAMS

What language do you speak?

You must understand the language of revelation and understand how the Lord speaks to you personally. You need to get familiar with your spiritual "alphabet", which will be unique to you. Doctors and teachers, for example, speak jargon related to their professions and musicians read and write musical notes...totally unintelligible to someone not fluent in that "language".

Three basic steps to get started:

- Research biblical references to symbols, colours, directions etc. Example: in the Bible the Israelites would go East when they walked away from God, but return from the east when they repented
- Journal: write down distinct features, colours, directions, sounds, colours, emotions etc in as much detail as you can remember
- Welcome the anointing, gift and presence of Holy Spirit. Rely on Him to help you interpret and allow Him to lead you into all truth.

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## Other factors to consider:

### Culture and social interpretation

East vs West, European vs African, youth vs elderly – we interpret the world through our culture, upbringing, stage of life, education and so forth. Dreams are no different

- Keep interpretations simple
- Interpret on a personal basis first (what's God saying to me?)
- Interpret, don't take it literally
- God will use terms and/or images familiar to you
- Mediate on it – ask HS for insight
- Reduce dreams to its simplest forms – what are the main thoughts or points?
- Confirm interpretation through the Word – God never speaks against Himself
- What is the primary emotion?
- How does it relate to current circumstances or your sphere of influence?
- Consecutive dreams have similar meanings – God's way of saying "let Me put it another way"
- Colour or black and white?
- What level is the dream on...personal, church, national?
- Context. More than one interpretation is possible
- Remember some dreams will only make sense in the future or in a next season
- Ask for help – from Holy Spirit, trusted advisors or books by reputable, Christian authors. Never search the internet for dream interpretation as it is riddled with New Age and occultic interpreters
- Check the source – is the dream from God, the enemy or your own carnal nature?

# DREAM INTERPRETATION

## DREAM SYMBOLS

### People

People who appear in your dreams are usually symbolic and shouldn't be interpreted literally, although there are always exceptions to the rule.

Questions that you can ask to help you:

- Who is this person to me?
- What does the person's name mean?
- What character trait or calling does this person represent?

Common people or types of people appearing in dreams:

- Man or woman of God: A particular type of message is being delivered so we need to consider what anointing or mantle the person carries.
- Untrustworthy person from your past: This may indicate that Holy Spirit is warning you of a situation is coming that shouldn't be trusted
- A healing evangelist/prophet etc.: Impartation of their specific gift may be coming your way
- Husband: This usually represents Jesus drawing you closer into a covenant relationship
- Getting married: It may indicate that you are growing in intimacy with the Lord or a new joining is on its way.
- Dreams of dead people: These dreams may speak of the common sentiment attached to those people. They do not indicate that you are crossing over, and you are definitely not being visited by a dead loved one in order to receive guidance.
- Dreams of presidents and other people in authority: You may be called to pray for national events.
- A faceless person: Indicates the presence of Holy Spirit and/or angels.

Some more people that may appear in your dreams:

Baby – new beginnings, dreams etc

Baker – instigator/originator

Black man – one with evil intent, demon

Bride – church, covenant (also groom)

Brother – natural brother or someone he reminds you of

Brother-in-law – partiality or adversary

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Carpenter – builder, preacher, labourer, Christ

Cartoon character – someone with those characteristics

Clown – fool, old man, childish

Doctor – healer, authority, Christ, preacher

Driver – control: self, Jesus, teachers etc.

Passenger – self: church member, family member, not in control

Drunk – influenced, under a spell, controlled, addicted, stubborn, rebellious, selfish etc

Employer – authority, Jesus, Satan

Employee – servant

Family – relatives, church family

Father - authority: God the Father, author, originator, source, inheritance, traditions, customs

Father-in-law – law, legalism, problem relationships

Foreigner – alien: not of God, of the flesh, demonic

Friend – self, represents another friend, actual friend

Giant – strongman, champion, stronghold, trouble, spiritual warfare

Governor – ruler, Christ, person in charge

Grandchild – heir, inherited blessing, spiritual legacy

Grandparent – spiritual legacy or inheritance, inherited traits/faults

Harlot – seduction, worldly church, adultery, fornication, temptation, snare, unclean person, stubborn

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Husband – authority, God or Christ, natural husband, Satan

Judge – authority, God, conscience

Lawyer – advocate, Christ, legalistic minister

Man (stranger) – angel, demon, oneself. Kind stranger – Jesus, helper.

White-headed stranger – wisdom.

Mother – source, church, spiritual or natural mother, love and kindness.

Mother-in-law – Legalistic church, meddler, troublemaker

Old man – wisdom, carnal – old fool, weak

Children – church members, natural family

Police – authority good or evil, protection, angels or demons, enforcer of a curse or the law

Preacher – messenger, God's representative, spiritual authority, deception

Sister – self, spiritual or natural sister, the church

Soldier – warfare, angel, demon, persecution

Thief – hidden, deceiver, fraud, destruction, Satan, evil intent, works of flesh, unexpected loss

Wife – covenant, joined, business, hobby, church, may represent herself

Witch – witchcraft, control, evil influence, temptation, seduction, rebellion, slander, gossip

Woman (stranger) – seducing spirit, temptation, witchcraft, deception, God's messenger, self

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## X-rated dreams

Often dreams of a sexual nature have little to do with literal sexual intercourse and one shouldn't assume that they are revealing a dirty mind or moral problems. God isn't a prude and often uses sexual language to illustrate the sins of Israel, calling her a harlot bride or a prostitute. An example of this is found in Hosea 1:2.

The prophet Isaiah was called upon by God to go around naked for 3 years, prophesying as he went. In saying that, one also shouldn't immediately spiritualise the dream either.

Generally, they can indicate

- A spiritual call to greater intimacy
- A warning of cleansing needed in attitudes of the mind, motives or the heart and/or acts of immorality
- A calling to join or unite with another person, or even group of people

To aid understanding and interpretation, ponder these questions:

- Is it the same sex? Opposite sex? Dreaming of same-gender sex could indicate a call to mix with people not only of your particular denomination/stream, and that you are avoiding spiritual "inbreeding", which is robbing you of a rich spiritual experience.
- Old or new love? This could indicate what you were or are passionate about, what you might have to rekindle, or let go or a new passion might be on the horizon.
- Does this person take Jesus' place? Serious repentance and cleansing are called for.
- Do you feel dirty or clean? If it left you feeling dirty, cleansing and repentance might be needed or there might be an old, unaddressed wound or issue that needs to be addressed. If you feel clean, it will usually indicate a positive interpretation.
- Are you/others naked in the dream? Transparency is a good thing, but it could also indicate that you are feeling exposed and vulnerable.

However, Dr Joe Ibojie suggests sexual dreams could indicate that you are/are about to make decisions out of a carnal mindset as God often uses sexual immorality as an allegory for unfaithfulness or deviation from spiritual truth. Furthermore, it could indicate carnality or an unbroken stronghold of lust...rape indicates a violation of the dreamer's person or integrity.

# DREAM INTERPRETATION

## Numbers

- 1 – undivided, importance, first, covenant, single-minded, evil one, foolish person
- 2 – divided, pair, agreement, different levels, double-minded
- 3 – perfect Trinity, in His likeness, divine completion, resurrection, sacred, called, disharmony, tempted
- 4 – direction, revival, reign, seasons, nature, iniquity, wisdom of man, ignorance
- 5 – grace, responsibility, fruitful, heart, incompleteness, smallness, religious spirit
- 6 – spirit of man, fallen-ness, antichrist, sexual sin, delivered
- 7 – spiritual perfection, purity, sabbatical, marriage feast, victory, blessing, Seven-fold spirit, beautiful character, completeness, day of rest, godly wisdom, sacred, worthy
- 8 – righteous, new beginnings, arise, peace, resurrection, new cycle, ancestor worship, morning star (Satan)
- 9 – harvest time, darkness, almost complete
- 10 – perfection, congregation, righteousness, law, leadership, good, servant, difficulty. Bereaved, temptations

## Colours

Shades and hues of colours significantly alter the meaning of colours...the following meanings are very basic

Black – lack: sin, ignorance, grief, mourning, evil, famine, burned

Blue – spiritual: spiritual gift, divine revelation, heavenly visitation, depressed, God's spirit, Word, blessing, healing, good will,

Light blue: evil spirit, corruption

Brown – dead, born-again, repented, without spirit

Gray – undefined: unclear, vague, non-specific, hazy, deception, hidden, crafty, false doctrine

Hair – wisdom, age, weakness

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Green – life: mortal, flesh, carnal, envy, inexperienced, renewal, eternal life

Orange – danger: great jeopardy, harm. Bright/fire orange: power, force, energy, energetic

Pink – flesh: sensual, sensuous, immoral, moral, chaste, female infant

Purple – royalty, rule, majesty, noble

Red – passion, emotion, anger, hatred, lust, Sin, enthusiasm, zeal

White – pure, without mixture, unblemished, spotless, righteousness, blameless, truth, innocence

Yellow – gift from God, marriage, family, honour, deceitful gift, timidity, fear, cowardice, welcome home

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## Metals

Brass – Word: of God or man, judgment, hypocrisy, fake, man's tradition

Gold – Glory or wisdom: truth, precious, righteousness, self-glorification

Iron – Strength: powerful, invincible, stronghold, stubborn (also steel)

Lead – Weight: wickedness, sin, burden, judgment, foolishness

Silver – knowledge of God: redemption, Knowledge of the world: idolatry, spiritual adultery, (silver coins – revelation knowledge)

Tin – Dross: waste, worthless, cheap or purification

## Directions

Back – past: previous event/experience, hidden, memory, unaware, unsuspecting

Front - Future or now, immediate, current

East – Beginning: Law of Moses, birth, first, anticipate, false religion

North – Spiritual: judgment, heaven/heavenly, spiritual warfare

South – natural: world, sin, temptation, trial, flesh, corruption, deception

West – end, grace, death, last, conform

Left – spiritual: weakness (of man), God's strength demonstrated through man's weakness, rejection, spiritual change

Right – natural: authority, power, strength of man, accepted, natural change

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## Objects

Some of the most common objects that appear in dreams are:

Apples – fruit: words, sin, temptation, appreciation, fruit of the spirit

Arms – strength or weakness: Saviour, deliverer, helper, striker

Bed – rest: salvation, meditation, intimacy, peace, covenant

Blood – Life of the flesh: covenant, murder, defiled, unclean, purging

Books – record: Word of God, heart of man, witness, remembrance, conscience, education, knowledge

Bow/Arrow – Words or person: accusation, slander, gossip, prayer, quiver - heart

Bread – Life or words: doctrine, covenant, Church, substance, provision

Clothing – covering: righteousness, spirit

Coat – covering: anointing, authority, protection, grief, shame, confusion, legalism, temptation

Crossroads – decisions: confusion, choice, geographical move, career change

Crown – authority or reward: rule, honour, glory, power, promotion

Drowning – overcome: self-pity, depression, grief, sorrow, backslid

Feet – heart: walk, way, thoughts, offense, stubborn

Flowers – glory: temporary, gift, romance

Furnace/oven – heart: passion, imaginations, judgments, meditations

Guns/bullets – words: accusations, slander, gossip, power

Jewellery – treasure: desire, precious, God's gift, idolatry, pride

Key – knowledge: authority, wisdom, understanding, ability, important

# DREAM INTERPRETATION

Knives – words: revelation, truth, accusation, gossip

Ladder/stairs – ascent or descend

Money – power: provision, wealth, spiritual riches, power, authority, strength of man, covetousness

Mountain – exalted: obstacle, difficulty, challenge, kingdom, nation

Pregnancy – in process: sin or righteousness in process, desire, anticipation, expectancy

Water – Spirit: Word, Spirit of God, spirit of man. Context dictate meaning

## **Vehicles**

Airplane – person or work: large...church, small...personal ministry. Flying

or soaring – moved by the Spirit, gifts of the Spirit. Crash – failure, church split

Jet – powerful, fast

Passenger plane – church

Fighter - individual person or ministry

Helicopter – ministry: individual or church just hovering

Car – life: personal or ministry. New car – new ministry/way of life

Limo – pride. Car breakdown – sickness, trouble, opposition, hinderance

Convertible – top up: covered, top down: uncovered

Truck – work

Auto junkyard: ruined: wasted, wrecked, lost souls, corruption

Car accident - strife: contention, conflict, confrontation, calamity, offense, sin in ministry

Bicycle – works: flesh, legalism, self-righteous, under own steam

# DREAM INTERPRETATION

Boat – support: life, person, recreation

Large ship – church

Small boat – personal ministry

Powerboat – powerful ministry, fast progress

Sailboat – moved by Holy Spirit

Battleship – spiritual warfare, rescue

Raft – adrift, directionless, aimless, powerless, makeshift

Bus – church: school bus – teaching or youth ministry

Passenger or tour bus – sojourners, sightseers

Motorcycle – personal ministry, independence, rebellion, selfish, pride, swift progress

Rollercoaster – emotional unstable, unfaithfulness, wavering, manic-depressive, depression, trials, excitement

Train – continuous: unceasing work, Church, fast, connected

## BASIC PRINCIPLES TO GET YOU STARTED

- Who is the dream about?
- What are the main symbols or points?
- Is it a good or a bad dream?

# DREAM INTERPRETATION

## READING LIST

Understanding the Dreams you Dream, Volume 1 & 2 by Ira Milligan

- Volume 1 Dictionary
- Volume 2 A guide to understanding dreams

Hearing God: Dream Dictionary by Martin van der Merwe  
[www.ruachmedia.org.za](http://www.ruachmedia.org.za) Email: [ruachmedia@telkomsa.net](mailto:ruachmedia@telkomsa.net)

The Divinity Code by Thompson & Beale

Numbers that preach: Understanding God's Numerical Lingo by Troy A. Brewer

The Dream Interpreter by Billy C. S. Wong

The Illustrated Dream Dictionary by Joe Ibojie

Dream Language by James W. Goll

Seeing the Voice of God by Laura Harris Smith

# DREAM INTERPRETATION

## INTERESTING STORIES OF DREAMERS

### John Lennon's '#9 Dream'

Perhaps the most famous dreamer in recent history, John Lennon wrote a best-selling song -- one of his most iconic solo works -- based on a dream he had. The chorus of "#9 Dream" repeats a nonsensical phrase he heard in the dream, "Ah! böwakawa poussé, poussé," and the lyrics refer to the feeling of a dream being real: "So long ago/ Was it in a dream, was it just a dream? /Seemed so very real, it seemed so real to me."

### Salvador Dali's *Persistence of Memory*

"One day it will have to be officially admitted that what we have christened reality is an even greater illusion than the world of dreams," Dali once said.

Surrealist painter Salvador Dali has called many of his works "hand-painted dream photographs," and one of his most famous renderings was inspired by an actual dream. With the imagery of melting clocks in "Persistence of Memory," Dali plays with the idea that our concept of time becomes arbitrary when we're in a dream state. The iconic dream landscape helped to introduce the public to surrealism in the early 1930s and put Dali on the map as a game-changing artist.

### The Beatles' 'Yesterday'

Beatles legend has it that Paul McCartney composed the melody for "Yesterday" -- the most-covered song in music history -- in a dream one night in 1964. McCartney described the process of composing the song in *The Beatles Anthology*.

I was living in a little flat at the top of a house, and I had a piano by my bed. I woke up one morning with a tune in my head and I thought, 'Hey, I don't know this tune -- or do I?' It was like a jazz melody.... I went to the piano and found the chords to it, made sure I remembered it and then hawked it round to all my friends, asking what it was: 'Do you know this? It's a good little tune, but I couldn't have written it because I dreamt it.'

### The Periodic Table

It's said that Dmitry Mendeleev was on a three-day work bender when he finally gave in for a few minutes of shut eye. Instead of falling asleep for 17 hours like most sleep deprived people, Mendeleev dreamt of an arrangement of elements that would change modern chemistry forever, then popped up about 20 minutes later to record it. "I saw in a dream a table where all the elements fell into place as required. Awakening, I immediately wrote it down on a piece of paper ... Only in one place did a correction later seem necessary."

# DREAM INTERPRETATION

## Jack Nicklaus' Golf Swing

Nicklaus figured out why his game was off after he dreamed that he was owning the links in a way he hadn't for a while. After analysing the dream, the six-time Masters champ realized he was gripping the club differently in the dream than he did in real life. "I tried it the way I did in my dream, and it worked. I feel kind of foolish admitting it, but it really happened in a dream."

## The Sewing Machine Needle

Elias Howe, inventor of the modern sewing machine, had been troubled by how to get the needle to work in his new invention. Having the eye at the base (as in handheld needles) was out of the question. Then, Popular Mechanics reported in 1905, he fell asleep:

"One night he dreamed that he was building a sewing machine in a strange country for a savage king. The king had given him 24 hours to complete the machine and make it sew, but try as he would he could not make the needle work, and finally gave up in despair. At sunrise he was taken out to be executed, and with the mechanical action of the mind in times of great crises he noted that the spears carried by the warriors were pierced near the head. Suddenly, he realized that here was the solution of the sewing machine needle. He begged for time—and while still begging, awoke. It was four o'clock. Hastily he dressed and went to his workshop—at nine o'clock the model of the needle with an eye at the point was finished."

## DNA

The shape and structure of DNA eluded scientists until 1953, when Dr James Watson had a dream that made him consider the double helix. According to Dr Watson's alma mater, Indiana University, the dream was of two intertwined serpents with heads at opposite ends, though other accounts say the dream was of a double-sided staircase.

# DREAM INTERPRETATION

## Einstein Dreams About Electrocuting Cows, Creates Special Theory of Relativity

Albert Einstein is perhaps the only person whose name became a synonym for "smart." Solving the mysteries of the universe was more a hobby for him than a job. And if his brain power wasn't obnoxious enough already, many of his biographies recount that the theory of relativity came to him in a dream. *When he was a teenager.*

It's said that Einstein dreamed that he was walking through a farm when he came upon a bunch of cows huddled up against an electric fence. The farmer suddenly switched the fence on, because apparently, he was that sort of a man, and Einstein watched all of the cows jump back at the same time as they got shocked. Assuming that he'd witnessed some kind of synchronized cow acrobatics, Einstein recounted what he'd seen to the farmer, who had been standing at the opposite end of the field. But what the farmer had seen was different -- he'd seen the cows jump away one by one, like they were doing the wave at a football game. This would have been hilarious, and one assumes this is why he did it.

Of course, Einstein, being Einstein, wasn't content with simply waving this away as a silly dream. If he'd dreamed about wearing a hat made of pudding, he would have assumed there was a physics problem to solve there. So, after ruminating on the problem for a while, he started to put together the idea that events look different depending on where you're standing because of the time it takes the light to reach your eyes. In other words, the theory of relativity.