

God spoke to Joseph in two dreams. In these dreams, God revealed some of His plans for Joseph's life. Let's take a look at the two dreams Joseph dreamed.

This first dream in Genesis 37:5-8 was of Joseph and his brothers gathering grain in a field. They were cutting wheat and binding it up in sheaves. In the dream, Joseph's sheaf stood up, and the sheaves belonging to his brothers bowed down before it. His brothers immediately interpreted the dream to mean that Joseph would one day rule over them, and they reacted in anger. They defied the dream and hated Joseph even more than they had before.

In verses 9-11, the second dream consisted of the sun, the moon, and eleven stars all bowing down to Joseph. This time, he not only tells his brothers but also tells his father. Jacob immediately understands the implications of this dream and issues a mild rebuke. But, we are told that he "observed the saying." This means "to take heed to." Jacob is having his choice of Joseph confirmed by a dream from the Lord. Of course, this dream, like the other, caused the rift between Joseph and his brothers to grow even wider. Not only has their father obviously chosen Joseph over them, but now God is speaking through Joseph. They see all these things and become increasingly jealous of their brother. These dreams are the first indication that God has big plans for Joseph. Eventually, they will be completely fulfilled.

It was these dreams that sustained Joseph through the pain of the pit, 21 Dennis Nickel Potipher's house, and the prison. It was these dreams that reassured him that God had a plan for his life and that eventually everything would turn out all right.