Chapter 41

Pharao dreaming of fat & leane kine: 5. also of ful and thinne eares of corne, 8. no other being able to interprete, 9. Ioseph is remembred. 25. Who interpreting the same, 38. is made ruler ouer al Ægypt, 50. marieth, and hath two sonnes, Manasses and Ephraim.

fter two yeares a)Pharao faw a dreame. He thought he ftood vpon a riuer, 2 out of the which came vp feuen kine, faire and fat exceedingly: and they fed in marish places. ³ Other feuen also came vp out of the river, soule, and carvan leane: and they fed on the very banke of the riuer, in grene places: 4 and they deuoured them, that had the meruewlous beautie and good ftate of bodies. Pharao after he waked, ⁵ flept againe, and faw an other dreame: Seuen eares of corne grew forth vpon one ftalke ful and faire: 6 there fprang also other eares as many, thinne and blasted with adultion, ⁷ deuouring al the beautie of the former. Pharao awaking vp after his reft, 8 and when morning was come, being frighted with feare, he fent to all the interpreters of Ægypt, and to all the wife men: and they being called for. told them his dreame, neither was there anie that could interprete it. ⁹ Then at length the maifter of the cupbearers remembring himfelfe, faid: I confesse my finne: ¹⁰ The king being angrie with his feruantes, commanded me and the chiefe of the bakers to be caft into the prifon of the captaine of the fouldiers: 11 where in one night both of vs faw a dreame portending things to come. 12 There was there a young man an Hebrew, feruant to the fame captaine of the fouldiers: to whom telling our dreames, 13 we heard whatfoeuer afterward the euent of the thing proued to be fo. For I was reftored to my office: and he was hanged vpon a gibbet. 14 Forthwith at

^a Pharao his dreames, and his Eunuches were prophetical. For by them God forfhewed things to come: v. 25. yet they were no prophets, but Iofeph: who had the gift to interpret them. S. Aug. li. 12. c. 9. de Gen. ad lit. S. Greq. li. 12. Moral in c. 13. Iob.

the kinges commandment, Iofeph being brought out of the prison they polled him: and changing his apparel, brought him vnto him. 15 To whom he faid: I haue feene dreames, and there is not anie that can expound them: which I have heard, thou doeft most wifely in-¹⁶ Iofeph answered: Without me, God shal answere prosperous thinges to Pharao. 17 Pharao therfore told that he had feene: Me thought I ftoode vpon the banke of the riuer, 18 and feuen kine came vp out of the banke of the river, exceeding faire, and ful of flesh: which grazed on greene places in a marish pasture. ¹⁹ And behold, there followed thefe, other feuen kine, fo paffing il fauored and leane, that I neuer faw the like in the land of Ægypt, ²⁰ which having devoured and confumed the former, 21 gaue no token of their fulnes: but with the like leanenes and deformitie, looked heauelie. Awaking, and fallen againe into a deepe fleepe, ²² I fawe a dreame: Seuen eares of corne grew forth vpon one ftalke, ful and verie faire. ²³ Other feuen also thinne and blafted, with adultion, fprang of the ftalke: 24 which deuoured the beautie of the former: I told the dreame to the conjecturers, and there is no man that can declare it. ²⁵ Iofeph answered: The kinges dreame is one: God hath flowed to Pharao a) the thinges that he wil doe. ²⁶ The feuen faire kine, and the feuen ful eares: be feuen yeres of plentifulnes: and both conteins the felfe fame meaning of the dreame. ²⁷ Alfo the feuen leane and thinne kine, that came vp after them, and the feuen thinne eares, and blafted with the burning winde: are feuen yeares of famine to come. 28 Which shal be fulfilled in this order. ²⁹ Behold there fhal come feuen years of great fertilitie in the whole Land of Ægypt: ³⁰ after which fhal followe other feuen yeares of fo great fterilitie, that all the abundance before flal be forgotten: for the famine shal confume al the land, 31 and the greatnes of the fcarfitie, shall deftroy the greatnes of the plentie. 32 And in that thou dideft fee the fecond time

^a These things came to passe by Gods particular prouidèce. *Pfalm. 4.* God called (or caused) a famine vpon the land.

a dreame perteining to the fame thing: it is a token of the certeintie, for that the worde of God shal come to paffe, and be fulfilled fpedely. 33 Now therfore let the king prouide a wife man and industrious, and make him ruler ouer the Land of Ægypt: 34 that he may appointe ouerfeers ouer al countries: and gether into barnes the fifth part of the fruites, during the feuen yeares of the fertilitie, 35 that now prefently shal enfewe: and let al the corne be laid vp, vnder Pharaoes handes, and let it be referred in the cities. ³⁶ And let it be in a readines. against the famine of seuen yeares to come, which shal oppresse Egypt, and the land shal not be confumed with fcarfitie. ³⁷ The counfel pleafed Pharao, and al his feruants: 38 and he fpake to them: Can we find fuch an other man, that is ful of the spirite of God? ³⁹ He said therfore to Iofeph: Becaufe God hath shewed thee al things that thou haft fpoken, can I find a wifer and one like vnto thee? 40 Thou shalt be ouer my house, and at the commandment of thy mouth all the people shall obey: only in the throne of the kingdome I wil goe before thee. 41 And againe Pharao faid to Iofeph: Behold, I have appointed thee ouer the whole land of Ægypt. 42 And he tooke his ring from his owne hand, and gaue it into his hand: and he put vpon him a filke roabe, and put a chaine of gold about his necke. 43 And he made him goe vp into his fecond chariot, the cryer proclayming that all should bowe their knee before him, and that they should know he was *made gouernour ouer the whole Land of Ægypt. 44 And the king faid to Iofeph: I am Pharao: without thy commandment no man shal moue hand or foote in al the land of Ægypt. 45 And he turned his name, and called him in the Ægyptian tongue the Sauiour of the world. And he gaue him to wife Afeneth the daughter of Putiphar a)prieft of Heliopolis. Iofeph therfore went forth to the land of Ægypt (46 and he was thirtie yeares

^a Cohen fignifieth prieft; as not only the latin, but also the 70. & Philo and Iosephus here translate though sometimes it fignifieth prince, as the Chaldey paraphrasis interpreteth, wherby it is probable that this Putiphar was both a prieft, and a prince.

old when he ftood in the fight of king Pharao) and did circuite al the countries of Ægypt. 47 And the fertilitie of the feuen yeares came: and the corne being bound vp into fheaues was gethered togeather into the barnes of Ægypt. 48 Al the abundance also of graine was laid vp in euerie citie. ⁴⁹ And there was fo great abundance of wheat, that it became equal to the fand of the fea, and the plentie exceeded measure. ⁵⁰ And there were borne vnto Iofeph two fonnes before the famine came: whom Afeneth the daughter of Putiphar prieft of Heliopolis bare him. 51 And he called the name of the first begotten Manaffes, faing: God made me to forget al my labours, & my fathers house. 52 The name also of the fecond he called Ephraim, faing: God hath made me to encrease in the land of my pouertie. 53 Therfore when the feuen yeares of the plentifulnes, that had bene in Ægypt were paffed: 54 the feuen yeares of fcarcitie beganne to come, which Iofeph foretold: and in the whole world the famine prevailed, but in all the land of Ægypt there was bread. 55 The which being in hunger, the people cried to Pharao, defiring foode. To whom he answered: Goe ye to Iofeph: and whatfoeuer he fhal fay to you, that doe ye. ⁵⁶ And the famine dayly encreased in al the land: and Iofeph opened at the barnes, and fold to the Ægyptians: for them also the famine had opressed. ⁵⁷ And al prouinces came into Ægypt, to buy victuales, and to

Obligion.

Fruitful or Grovving.

ANNOTATIONS

moderate the miferie of the fcarfitie.

Eccli. 11. li. de Iofeph. 43 Made gouernour.) It is eafie in the eyes of God, fuddenly to enrich the poore. For who would have thought (faith Philo) that in one day a bondman fhould be made a lord, a poore prifoner the chiefe of the nobilitie, an vnder gaolor the viceroy, or kings deputie, for a common prifon to have a kinglie court of his owne, from extreme ignominie, to afcend into fo hiegh a roome of dignitie!

45 Sauiour of the vvorld.) In the original text the new name and title geuen by Pharao to Iofeph is expreffed by thefe two wordes, Saphnath pahanaach: the former Saphnath in Hebrew fignifieth a fecrete or hidden thing, of faphan to hide: but

Holie Iofeph fuddenly aduanced.

the fignification of the other word pahanaach, is more vncertaine, being found no where els in the holie Bible. The Rabins do commonly interprete them both together, The man to vyhom fecretes are reueled, or, The reueler of fecretes, and fo this name agreeth wel to Iofeph, in respect of the gift of interpreting dreames. But befides his interpreting, he also gaue most wife counsel, that tended to the faftie of manie, which, it is like, Pharao ment to expresse by this new name. And S. Hierom, who doubtles with great diligence, and no leffe judgement, fearched the true fignification therof, faith, that albeit this name in Hebrew foundeth The finder out of fecrets, yet feing it was imposed by an Ægyptian (who knew no Hebrew) the reason therof must be had of the same tongue; and thefe two wordes in the Ægyptian language are interpreted The Saujour of the vvorld: for that he delivered the world from the iminent ruine of famine. Thus faith S. Hierom. And fo most aptly the figure answereth to Chrift, the true Saviour of the world.

Iofeph truly called the reueler of fecrets.

But more honorably, the Sauiour of the world.

Therin a figure of Chrift.