



“Have You Lost Your Dream?”

Genesis 37:1-19

This month’s Black history theme is *It Started With A Dream!!* All of our actions begin with some type of inspiration, motivation, thought, idea, vision or maybe a dream. At one time or another, we have all experienced the act of dreaming. Some people may simply allow their thoughts to drift off during their waking hours and we refer to that as daydreaming. Then there is another form of dreaming which occurs when we fall asleep and ideas, suggestions, revelations or insights seem to overwhelm our feelings about a topic, an issue or a decision.

Dreaming is as old as time itself. The Word of God reveals to us that God used dreams to inform, encourage, enlighten and/or guide His chosen leaders. In today’s text, we read the story of Jacob’s favorite son, Joseph. Joseph was a young man whom God personally selected to place dreams in his life to show people the future. Joseph’s dreams were not popular and his young life was made miserable by those closest to him, but God continued to use dreams, through Joseph, to achieve His goals. Earlier, God came to Abimelech in a dream (Genesis 20:3). Jacob had a dream about a stairway resting on the earth with its top reaching to heaven (Genesis 28:12).

Pharaoh was a dreamer (Genesis 41:1). None of us should forget how God used dreams in the life of Gideon to defeat the Midianites (Judges 7:1-13). The Lord appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream (I Kings 3:5). Nebuchadnezzar experienced dreaming during his second year of reign (Daniel 2:1-11). Even in the New Testament God used dreams to prepare Joseph and Mary for His entry into the world (Matthew 1:20, 21; 2:12, 13, 19, 22; 27:19).

Great inventors, writers, musicians, philosophers, teachers, ministers, mothers, fathers and on and on have all been inspired by dreams. Everything begins with a thought whether it is negative or positive. Thoughts come in various forms, but they influence our behavior. We become who we think we are and behave on the thoughts, which influence our lives.

Do you have a dream for your life? Is dreaming a part of your life’s existence? Have you dreamed about who God wants you to be? Have you allowed the Word of God to penetrate so deeply, into your very being that during your waking and sleeping hours your thoughts are on His desire for your life?

HAVE YOU LOST YOUR DREAM? The Bible says, ‘As a person thinketh, so are they.’ Dreams are real. They are related to the inner urgings and thoughts of our being. If our dream world is filled with secular, worldly negative impressions our behavior will reflect that life style.

Today I am suggesting that we begin, during our waking hours, to dwell on thoughts from the inspiration of God’s Word, and when we recline to rest or sleep our dreams will give us fresh, positive insights. Block out negative, satanic thoughts and concentrate on what God is saying and doing in and for your life.

What dreams are influencing your life right now? Do your dreams point you into more service for the Lord and a greater love for your neighbor? **THIS MORNING, ASK YOURSELF, “HAVE I LOST MY DREAM?”** God has a plan, a direction, a course of action—**A DREAM JUST FOR YOUR LIFE.**

Find a **QUIET PLACE AND ASK GOD TO PUT HIS DESIRE FOR YOUR LIFE IN A DREAM.**

Pastor Gerald L. Durley