

## 1 NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S NIGHTMARE

Daniel 2:1-13

### 2 Daniel 2:1-3

•*Now in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was so troubled that his sleep left him. <sup>2</sup> Then the king gave the command to call the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king. <sup>3</sup> And the king said to them, "I have had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to know the dream."*

### 3 Daniel 2:4-5

•*<sup>4</sup> Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will give the interpretation." <sup>5</sup> The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, "My decision is firm: if you do not make known the dream to me, and its interpretation, you shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made an ash heap."*

### 4 Daniel 2:6-8

•*<sup>6</sup> However, if you tell the dream and its interpretation, you shall receive from me gifts, rewards, and great honor. Therefore tell me the dream and its interpretation." <sup>7</sup> They answered again and said, "Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will give its interpretation." <sup>8</sup> The king answered and said, "I know for certain that you would gain time, because you see that my decision is firm:"*

### 5 Daniel 2:9-10

•*<sup>9</sup> if you do not make known the dream to me, there is only one decree for you! For you have agreed to speak lying and corrupt words before me till the time has changed. Therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can give me its interpretation." <sup>10</sup> The Chaldeans answered the king, and said, "There is not a man on earth who can tell the king's matter; therefore no king, lord, or ruler has ever asked such things of any magician, astrologer, or Chaldean."*

### 6 Daniel 2:11-13

•*<sup>11</sup> It is a difficult thing that the king requests, and there is no other who can tell it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh." <sup>12</sup> For this reason the king was angry and very furious, and gave the command to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. <sup>13</sup> So the decree went out, and they began killing the wise men; and they sought Daniel and his companions, to kill them."*

### 7 Cambridge Dictionary

- A nightmare is "a very upsetting or frightening dream, or an extremely unpleasant event or experience."
- RLS nightmares
- Dale's nightmare from the past

### 8 THE DREAMER

**His powerful position:**

•2 Chronicles 36:17-18: *Therefore He brought up against them the king of the Chaldeans who*

*slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion on young man or virgin, old man or infirm; He gave them all into his hand. <sup>18</sup> All the articles of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king and of his officers, he brought them all to Babylon.*

9  **His ruthless nature**

- Jeremiah 29:22: *And because of them a curse shall be taken up by all the captivity of Judah who are in Babylon, saying, "The Lord make you like Zedekiah and Ahab, whom the king of Babylon roasted in the fire."*
- Daniel 3 – Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah thrown into the fiery furnace

10  **THE DIFFICULTY OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR**

- v. 3: *"I have had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to know the dream."*
- The Restless Dreamer
- Daniel 2:29: *"As for you, O king, thoughts came to your mind while on your bed, about what would come to pass after this; and He who reveals secrets has made known to you what will be."*

11  **The Scope of the Dream**

- 2:28: *"He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. . ."*
- "latter days"* = unfolding of world history from the time of Nebuchadnezzar until White Throne Judgment and the establishing of God's eternal kingdom.

12  **Special significance in relation to Israel**

- Isaiah 2:1-2: *"The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the LORD'S house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it." Daniel 10:14: *"Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come."**

13  **"The times of the Gentiles"**

- Luke 21:24: *"And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are filled."*

14  **"Fullness of the Gentiles"**

- Romans 11:25: *". . . that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in."*
- The door of opportunity for the Gentiles:
- One day that door is going to be closed.
- Romans 11:26: *"And so all Israel will be saved . . ."*

15  **Frederick the Great**

- Once asked his court chaplain, "Can you give me proof that the Bible is inspired and infallible?" His chaplain gave one answer: "The Jew, sire."
- Remember, God's covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12:2-3; 15, and 17:7)

16  **Adrian Rogers:**

- "Throughout history, God's dealings with Israel prove it is a God-created, God-decreed, God-*

*loved, God-called, God-elected, and God-protected people. Significantly, not Washington, Moscow, London, Paris, or Tokyo, but Jerusalem, Israel's capital, is the most important city on earth. That should surprise none of us who are students of Scripture."*

#### 17 **THE DEMAND OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR**

- The King's Command:
  - Vv. 2-3: *Then the king gave the command to call the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king. <sup>3</sup> And the king said to them, "I have had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to know the dream."*
- Had the king forgotten the dream?

#### 18 **The Chaldean's Claim**

- V. 4: *"Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will give the interpretation."*
  - Their flattery
  - Their cocky attitude
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#### 19 **THE DILEMMA OF THE WISE MEN**

- v. 5: *The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, "My decision is firm: if you do not make known the dream to me, and its interpretation, you shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made an ash heap."*
- The wise men assembled before the king –
- Four classes mentioned
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#### 20 **Their Pathetic Protests**

- v. 10: <sup>10</sup> *The Chaldeans answered the king, and said, "There is not a man on earth who can tell the king's matter; therefore no king, lord, or ruler has ever asked such things of any magician, astrologer, or Chaldean."*

#### 21 **The Language of the Wise Men**

- v. 4: *"Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic. . ."*
  - Aramaic was the native tongue of Babylon
  - Aramaic was the language that Jesus spoke.
  - Beginning with 2:4 through chapter 7, the book of Daniel is written in the Aramaic language. Why?

#### 22 **Their Appeal**

- They were appealing for understanding and leniency from the king.
- At the same time, they were confessing their own limitations.

#### 23 **THE DECREE OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR**

- Vv. 12-13: <sup>12</sup> *For this reason the king was angry and very furious, and gave the command to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. <sup>13</sup> So the decree went out, and they began killing the wise men; and they sought Daniel and his companions, to kill them.*

- Kill All the Wise Men!!!

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24  **The Plot**

- A plot by Satan to destroy Daniel and his godly companions:
- 2:13: <sup>13</sup> *So the decree went out, and they began killing the wise men; and they sought Daniel and his companions, to kill them.*

25  **Satan's Plot**

- 1 Thessalonians 2:18: *Therefore we wanted to come to you—even I, Paul, time and again—but Satan hindered us.*
- 2 Thessalonians 3:1-2: *Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you, <sup>2</sup> and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith.*