

## 1 NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S NIGHTMARE UNFOLDS

Daniel 2:14-30

## 2 HISTORY

- HIS STORY
- The central character is Jesus Christ.
- Jesus Christ is the key character in the book of Daniel

## 3 Babylonian History

- Six centuries before Christ came into the world, Nabopolassar, the king of Babylon, had begun his rise to power (626–605 B.C.).
- His son, Nebuchadnezzar, was made commander of his armies.
- He defeated the combined Assyrian and Egyptian armies at Charchemish.
- Took Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah captive.

## 4 The Dream

- In the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, he had a dream that left him deeply troubled.
- He demanded that his wise men first tell him the dream and then give the explanation of it.
- So Nebuchadnezzar gave a command to kill all of his counselors and advisors which also included Daniel and his three Hebrew companions.

## 5 THE DECISION OF DANIEL (2:14-23)

- The king's decree, "KILL ALL THE WISE MEN!"
- Daniel realized that he had to act quickly
- What would Daniel's response be?

## 6 Wisdom demonstrated by Daniel

- 2:14-16: <sup>14</sup> Then with counsel and wisdom Daniel answered Arioch, the captain of the king's guard, who had gone out to kill the wise men of Babylon; <sup>15</sup> he answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, "Why is the decree from the king so urgent?" Then Arioch made the decision known to Daniel. <sup>16</sup> So Daniel went in and asked the king to give him time, that he might tell the king the interpretation.

## 7 Weapons Deployed by Daniel

- 2:17-19: <sup>17</sup> Then Daniel went to his house, and made the decision known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions, <sup>18</sup> that they might seek mercies from the God of heaven concerning this secret, so that Daniel and his companions might not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. <sup>19</sup> Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. So Daniel blessed the God of heaven."

## 8 PRAYER!!!

- Daniel's Defense against the Danger
- Daniel knew that VICTORY COMES FROM ABOVE!!!
- Prayer confesses our need for God's help & mercy.

**9  Prayer breaks down strongholds**

- 2 Corinthians 10:4: *"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds. . ."*
- Ephesians 6:18: *". . . praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints. . ."*

**10  Daniel's Actions display great faith in God.**

- Mark 11:23-24: *For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. <sup>24</sup> Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.*

**11  Worship displayed by Daniel**

- <sup>20</sup>*"Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. <sup>21</sup> And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding. <sup>22</sup> He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him. <sup>23</sup> "I thank You and praise You, O God of my fathers; You have given me wisdom and might, And have now made known to me what we asked of You, For You have made known to us the king's demand."*

**12  THE DISCLAIMER BY DANIEL**

- The reasonable request by Daniel, v. 24: *Therefore Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon. He went and said thus to him: "Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon; take me before the king, and I will tell the king the interpretation."*

**13  The Ridiculous Response of Arioch**

- v. 25: <sup>25</sup> *Then Arioch quickly brought Daniel before the king, and said thus to him, "I have found a man of the captives of Judah, who will make known to the king the interpretation."*

**14  The King's Question**

- <sup>26</sup> *The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, "Are you able to make known to me the dream which I have seen, and its interpretation?"*

**15  Daniel's Righteous Response**

- 2:27: *Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, "The secret which the king has demanded, the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, and the soothsayers cannot declare to the king.*

**16  Mysteries are revealed only by God**

- v. 28: *But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days.*

**17  The Humility of Daniel**

- v. 30: *"But as for me, this secret has not been revealed to me because I have more wisdom than anyone living, but for our sakes who make known the interpretation to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your heart."*

**18  Example of Joseph**

- Genesis 41:15-16: " *And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that you can understand a dream, to interpret it." <sup>16</sup> So Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace."*
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- Poem: NONE OF SELF AND ALL OF THEE