

DANIEL

MESSAGE: CHALIE MENG

MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH

DATE: JULY 3, 2022

Daniel 2: Vision of a Future King

Review

1. Remember the history: Abraham → Egypt → Exodus → David → Exile
2. God honored Daniel's resolve and loyalty by...
 - ...granting him intellectual vigor. (v. 1:17a)
 - ...making Daniel his personal spokesman. (v. 1:17b)
 - ...establishing Daniel in the King's confidence. (v. 1:20)

Overview

1. Nebuchadnezzar has a dream and wants to understand it. (vv. 2:1-12)
Dan. 2:3 And the king said to them, "I had a dream, and my spirit is troubled to know the dream." **4** Then the Chaldeans said to the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation." **5** The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, "The word from me is firm: if you do not make known to me the dream and its interpretation, you shall be torn limb from limb, and your houses shall be laid in ruins.
2. Daniel responds to danger by seeking mercy and revelation from God. (vv. 2:13-23)
Dan. 2:17 Then Daniel went to his house and made the matter known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions, **18** and told them to seek mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his companions might not be destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. **19** Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision of the night. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven.
3. Daniel reveals the dream and interpretation to Nebuchadnezzar. (vv. 2:24-45)
Dan. 2:27 Daniel answered the king and said, "No wise men, enchanters, magicians, or astrologers can show to the king the mystery that the king has asked, **28** but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and he has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. Your dream and the visions of your head as you lay in bed are these:
4. Nebuchadnezzar responds favorably, both to Daniel and his God. (vv. 2:46-49)
Dan. 2:46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face and paid homage to Daniel, and commanded that an offering and incense be offered up to him. **47** The king answered and said to Daniel, "Truly, your God is God of gods and Lord of kings, and a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this mystery."

Nebuchadnezzar's dream reveals the sovereignty and plan of God.

1. The statue represents the mighty kingdoms of earth. (vv. 2:31; 37-43)
Dan. 2:31 "You saw, O king, and behold, a great image. This image, mighty and of exceeding brightness, stood before you, and its appearance was frightening.
2. The materials of the statue represent Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom, and those that would arise after it. (vv. 2:36-43)

A possible interpretation:

- a. Head of gold – Babylonian Empire (vv. 2:37-38)
 - b. Silver breast and arms – Media-Persian Empire (v. 2:39)
 - c. Brass belly and thighs – Grecian Empire (v. 2:39)
 - d. Iron legs, iron/clay feet – Roman Empire (vv. 2:40-43)
3. The total destruction of the statue represents a coming king/kingdom that will reign eternally and in totality. (v. 2:44)
Dan. 2:44 And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever

The point: Christ's eternal kingdom will supersede all earthly nations and abolish all opposition.

2 Sam. 7:12 When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. **13** He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. **14** I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son.

Reflection/Discussion

1. Read through the chapter, paying special attention to Daniel's attitudes and actions in the face of a life-threatening situation. Do you live with the same confidence and boldness? Why or why not?
2. In what ways does the certainty of Christ's eternal kingdom influence the way you live in a culture opposed to God? How does this truth guide the way you relate to those far from God?

SONGS

"FOUND IN YOU" - Paul Baloche and Andi Rozier

"GOD IS FOR US" - M. Farren, J. Ferguson, T. Kleyn, J. Reeves, J. Robinson, J. Tealy, R. Thompson

"FOUNTAINS" - Josh Baldwin, Johnathan David Helser, Bobby Strand, Tony Brown, Joe Volk

"IN CHRIST ALONE" - Stuart Townsend, Keith Getty

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 21,473.86
WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,093.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$853,460.62
Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$938,418.00