

King Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

Harvest Community Church

Series- Daniel

Text: Daniel 2:1-13

Around 605 B.C. Babylon became the leading world power with King Nebuchadnezzar leading the empire. Make no mistake about it, God does speak to world leaders, even those who are not Christians or God fearing. The Book of Daniel reminds us that God is the true world Leader and the only wise Sovereign and Potentate. Jesus is the King of all kings and the Lord of all lords.

Revelation 17:14, 1Timothy 6:14-15 (NKJV & NLT)

Several times in this passage we find the word ‘Chaldean’. These were people who lived in southern Iraq. Abraham came from this part of the world, Ur of Chaldea. The city was on the river Euphrates and about 100 miles southeast of Babylon. At the height of the Babylonian empire during Daniel’s time, the Chaldeans were known as highly educated. To find the answer to his dream the king consulted educators, the stars (astrologers), magicians (the occult) and sorcerers (the demonic). Daniel was considered among the wise men, or those who knew how to solve problems and deal with issues. The king was covering all the bases.

The king surrounded himself with counselors that he trusted but he gave them an impossible task. **Daniel 2:10-11, Jeremiah 17:10, 1 Corinthians 2:11-13** While these men were worldly men, they knew that they could not know what they did not know. While they did not acknowledge God as God, they recognized that only God could reveal what the king was asking.

Today many people are looking for advice and counsel from all the wrong places. We must be sure that we choose our advisors carefully. These people were educated and mystical, but they were not truly wise or spiritual, although they were recognized as both. In scripture the use of mystics and the occult, the use of herbs, charms and potions are expressly forbidden in scripture. Many people today still consult mediums, fortune tellers, tarot cards, astrology and horoscopes, even hypnosis. No matter how you dress them up, modernize them or digitize them, a witch doctor is still practicing witchcraft.

Exodus 22:18, Deut. 18:10, Isaiah 47:9, Jeremiah 27:9 Today many peoples' lives are directed by fakes. These can even be false prophets who just tell you what you desire to hear.
Isaiah 30:9-13, Matthew 24:11 & 24-25

Daniel 2:14-23

When faced with an impossible task, the first thing that Daniel did was call a prayer meeting. The Bible tells us that we are to ask, seek and knock. If God did not answer Daniel and his friends, they would die. While there was some self-interest involved for Daniel, God used that as motivation to move him to seek HIM. Whenever God gives a vision or a dream, He desires to reveal secret things. A secret is only a mystery and mysterious to those who don't know it. God will always reveal what He is doing to His prophets. **Amos 3:7-8,**

Psalm 25:14 (NKJV& AMP) Notice that Daniel understands God's direction over times, seasons and Kingdoms.

Daniel 2:24-30

Daniel takes none of the credit for the revelation of the dream. He lets King Nebuchadnezzar know that it was the God of heaven who had some things to reveal to him. God knew that He could trust Daniel to not only deliver the message but honor Him as God. It was not just the message Daniel was called to convey, but to introduce the king to the living God. It takes courage to stand in the face of paganism. There are times that God will place you, as a believer, in the middle of a pagan culture to deliver His message.

❖ The Dream – Daniel 2:31-35

Imagine as the king of the current world power is hearing verbatim the dream that he had. God was using a young Jewish captive to tell the king the secrets only he should have known. It is important that we understand that this is not just a lesson from ancient history, you and I are in this vision. This dream reveals to us by God's wisdom exactly where we are in the big scheme of things and in the history of mankind. (Let that sink in.)

❖ The meaning of the Dream – Daniel 2:36-38

God revealed that King Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon were the head of gold. God was about to layout from this time until the return of Jesus Christ the sequence of Gentile world powers. There are many nations not mentioned here. Including Britain, Spain, Portugal, India, Japan, Germany or America. Neither were the Aztecs, Incas, and many others. Those obviously were not necessary to Bible prophecy, though all were great empires.

Remember that God always promised that Israel would be a people with a designated land with boundaries throughout history. These nations in the king's dream would be the significant world powers that play a part in His overall plan for mankind, and Israel. They also show that God is the true Sovereign over all the nations. Babylon has already come to pass.

Each succeeding nation would be inferior to Babylon.

The second kingdom was silver and was in two parts. **Daniel 2:39** This would be the MEDO- PERSION Empire or the Medes and the Persians (modern day Iran).

The third kingdom was made of brass and was the country of Greece ruled by Alexander the Great. This is an amazing prophecy of the statue is found nowhere else in any book or writing.

We know from history that Babylon lasted less than a century from 605 B.C to 539 B.C.

Medo-Persia lasted for 208 years from 539 B.C. to 331 B.C.

Greece lasted 185 years from 331B.C. to 146 B.C.

The next part of the Prophecy is found in the legs of iron that represent the Roman Empire. This Empire lasted from 168 B.C to 476 A.D. This was 1,000 years. This is the longest lasting empire in history. Within several hundred years of Jesus, the once unified empire of Rome was divided east and west.

Rome remained the capital in the west and Istanbul the center of Eastern Rome until it was named Constantinople after the Emperor Constantine. Throughout history there was a constant lessening from head to toe. **Daniel 2:40**

The last is the weak foundation of the feet of iron and clay. This represents a revived Roman Empire that dates from 476 A.D. until the second coming of Christ or the second advent. The first advent being the birth of Jesus. **Daniel 2:41-43**

In the last days gentile rule (our day and time), there will be little unity but there will be a mingling. Ten toes represents ten factions. We live in a global world economy. All of us are interconnected. With the ease of communication and travel mingling is a normal part of everyday life. Jesus only traveled in three nations. Paul was in a few countries around the Mediterranean. Today many have the opportunity to travel to many nations.

Daniel 2:44-45 At the very end of the gentile period, the God of heaven will set up a Kingdom that will never be destroyed. **Revelation 11:15**

What will finally bring division and break up the Kingdoms of this world?

The Cornerstone Jesus Christ. **Daniel 2:34, Psalm 118:22-23, Mark 12:1-11**

Daniel shows us that God is the true Sovereign and laid out the plan to the king of the known world, the power for the next 2500 years. The prophecy has been fulfilled and is literally in the history books. We are now living in the “toe period”. The next step in the prophecy is for Jesus Christ Himself to come back to earth and establish HIS global Kingdom.

If we know that the first parts of this prophecy have happened, and we do, we can be certain that the rest will as well.

Daniel 2:46-48

It sounds like the king was converted to God but if you read his declaration, he only added and elevated Jehovah to the first of many gods. As we will see in the coming chapters King Nebuchadnezzar will still be so full of himself that , even after this obviously supernatural event, God will have to humble him. Just because you have had an amazing encounter with God, it does not put you in right relationship with God.

Because Daniel humbled himself God gave Him favor in the midst of his enemies.

Psalm 23:4-5 Just as God did for Daniel, He will do the same for us. We will see that just because Daniel and his friends were courageous and were rewarded, it did not mean that their faith and commitment would not be tested again.

The Dream of King Nebuchadnezzar

Daniel 2:31-45
World History Foretold

Head of Gold

Babylon

B.C. 605-539

Breast of Silver

Medo-Persia

B.C. 539-331

Thighs of Brass

Greece

B.C. 331-168

Legs of Iron

Rome

B.C. 168 - A.D. 476

Feet of Iron & Clay

Divided Roman Empire

A.D. 476 - 2nd Advent

The European Union

