

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

May 24, 2015

Daniel 2:14-45

The set up of Daniel 1:

And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand.

Daniel 1:2

Remember, while the disobedience was what brought on the captivity of God's people by Nebuchadnezzar, the Lord did allow it for His purposes. The allowance was for His people to come back to Him and for God's glory.

A few of the Israelites had chosen to follow the Lord and this included **Daniel**.

But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

Daniel 1:8

The food wasn't "**Kosher**".

And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

Joshua 24:15

And in all matters of wisdom and understanding about which the king examined them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers who were in all his realm.

Daniel 1:20

God's favor was on Daniel and his three friends.

This brings us to our Bible study this week and our text today!

1) Like Daniel, we are to seek **Godly counsel**.

We are to seek Godly counsel from the Lord and also from Godly people.

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; 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.

Daniel 2:14-15

Then Daniel went to his house, and made the decision known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions, 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.

Daniel 2:17-18

Godly men and woman pray before acting while also seeking Godly counsel, not opinions, or only want they want to hear.

And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by you, says the LORD.

Jeremiah 29:13-14

God uses His People for His purposes; it's greater to do so as a willing participant.

Daniel's Prayer. "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. ²¹ 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. ²² He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him. ²³ "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."

Daniel 2:20-23

2) Trying to find out **answers** on our own is **inadequate**.

King Nebuchadnezzar found this out; he couldn't get an answer. We shouldn't "expect" to hear from the Lord when we are actively seeking answers and hope elsewhere.

Still looking to yourself for answers? How is that working for you?

3) All the kingdoms of the world will eventually fall. Only God's Kingdom will stand.

And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.” **Daniel 2:44-45**

Daniel 2:42-45 discusses all of the kingdoms that will come and will eventually fall.

HEAD OF GOLD—KINGDOM OF **BABYLONIA** WHICH THE LORD GAVE NEBUCHADNEZZAR CHEST AND ARMS OF SILVER—KINGDOM OF **MEDO-PERSIA**, WOULD BE CONQUERED BY ANOTHER

BELLY AND THIGHS OF BRONZE—KINGDOM OF **GREECE** OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT, WOULD BE CONQUERED BY ANOTHER

LEGS AND FEET OF IRON AND IRON AND CLAY—POWERFUL, MIXED, STRONG AND WEAK, NOT UNITED—TODAY

NO **COMPETITION**--THE ROCK—CUT OUT NOT BY HUMAN HANDS—STRUCK THE STATUE ON ITS FEET OF IRON AND CLAY AND BROKE THEM TO PIECES, WHOLE STATUE BROKEN AND BLOWN AWAY; BECAME A MOUNTAIN THAT FILLED THE EARTH

And all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. **1 Corinthians 10:4**

As it is written: "Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offense, And whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." **Romans 9:33**

Are you seeking to build your kingdom or God's?

God is in charge and totally in control.

4) Ultimately, every believer is to be for God's plan and purpose.

Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face, prostrate before Daniel, and commanded that they should present an offering and incense to him. The king answered Daniel, and said, "Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret." Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise men of Babylon. Also Daniel petitioned the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego over the affairs of the province of Babylon; but Daniel sat in the gate of the king. **Daniel 2:46-49**

If I am about God's plan and purpose He will grow me and use me, but not for **me or my own desires, but for His!**

The king answered Daniel, and said, "Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret." ⁴⁸ Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise men of Babylon. **Daniel 2:47-48**

Daniel was a man of **Purpose**.

Daniel was a man of **Prayer**.

Daniel was a man of **Prophecy**.

Are you seeking God, His plans and counsel or are you seeking yours and "other opinions?" Are you seeking to build your kingdom or God's? Are you about your purpose or God's?