

## Bethany Bible Study & Discussion Daniel (Part-3) (Chapter 2:1-28)

- King's dream (1-10): What was King Nebuchadnezzar's reaction to his dream? Who did he call and what was his unreasonable request? What was the risk-reward offer made by the King? What was Chaldean's response and why does it reveal his ignorance of God? How did King react to Chaldean? What does it say about King's character and leadership? Do you face sleepless nights caused by anxiety, and how do you cope?
- Daniel's intervention & intercession (11-18) How did Daniel negotiate the crisis situation? How did Daniel proceed to solve the seemingly impossible problem? What can we learn from Daniel's response to extraordinary crisis?
- Secret revealed (19-28): How was the secret revealed? What did Daniel do after the revelation? What attributes of God does Daniel recognize in his worship? What are some errors in Arioch's statement in v.26? Who does Daniel deflect glory to?

**Chapter 2** 11.18.2021

### King's Dream (1-10)

- What was King Nebuchadnezzar's reaction to his dream?
- Who did he call and what was his unreasonable request?
- What was the risk-reward offer made by the King?
- What was Chaldean's response and why does it reveal his ignorance of God?
- How did King react to Chaldean? What does it say about King's character and leadership?
- Do you face sleepless nights caused by anxiety, and how do you cope?

## King's dream

#### King troubled and restless (1)

Even kings with all the comforts and powers can be weak, vulnerable, and without peace

#### Calls magicians, astrologers, sorcerers, the Chaldeans (2)

Chaldeans (men having ancient wisdom)
(NIV equates Chaldeans to astrologers)

**How about you?** Do you go through times of anxious, restless and sleepless nights? How do you cope with it?

The unreasonable request (6)

Shew me the dream and its interpretation

## The risk-reward offer (5,6)

Gifts, rewards and great honor

OR

Death and destruction (cut in pieces and houses made a dunghill)

#### Response of Chaldean (10,11)

"10 The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, There is not a man upon the earth that can shew the king's matter: therefore there is no king, lord, nor ruler, that asked such things at any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean. <sup>11</sup> And it is a rare thing that the king required, and there is none other that can shew it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.

Chaldean confirms the impossibility of task and ignorance of God

\* Without the right perception of God, many things seem impossible!

## Our God makes the impossible possible

For with God nothing shall be impossible (Luke 1:37)

And he said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God (Luke 18:27)

Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me? (Jeremiah 32:27)

Jesus said to him, "If you **can believe**, all things are possible to him who believes." **Mark 9:23** 

God's living presence believer's life

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God .... And the Word was made flesh, and **dwelt among us**, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth (John 1:1, 14)

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him (John 14:16,23)

Chaldean, the wise men, said "God's dwelling is not among flesh"

How about you?

Is God's presence real in your life?

King's reaction to Chaldean's response (12-13)

#### Furious

• Issues hasty and irrational decree - All wise men to be executed (including those who were not given the task of interpreting, such as Daniel!)

Shows poor leadership and flawed character

# Daniel's intervention & intercession (11-18)

- How did Daniel negotiate the crisis situation?
- How did Daniel proceed to solve the seemingly impossible problem?
- What can we learn from Daniel's response to extraordinary crisis?

Daniel's crisis intervention & intercession

• Daniel asks for time (16)

- Daniel displays **confidence** in being able to interpret (16)
- Secret of confidence:
  - Prayer with godly friends (17)
  - Calling on God's mercy (18)

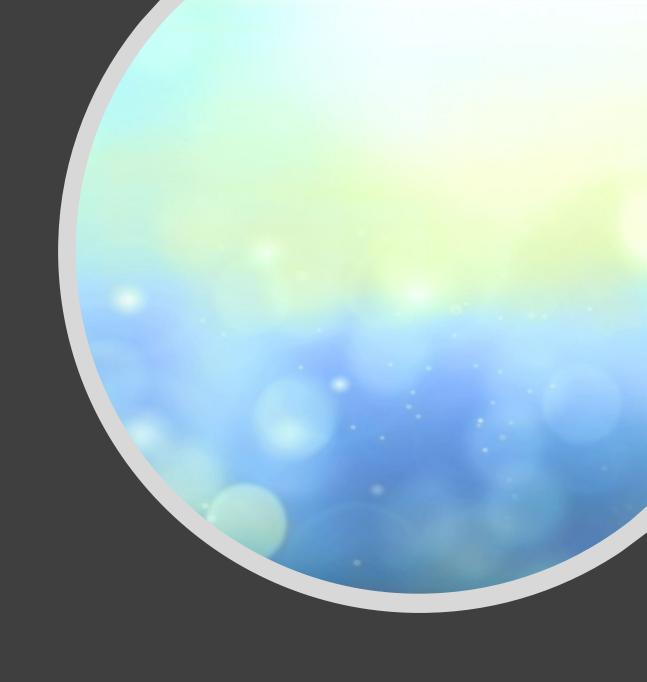
### Secret Revealed (19-28)

- How was the secret revealed?
- What did Daniel do after the revelation?
- What attributes of God does Daniel recognize in his worship?
- What are some errors in Arioch's statement in v.26?
- Who does Daniel deflect glory to?

## Secret revealed (19)

Secret revealed in a night vision

Daniel responds by blessing God and worshipping Him



# Daniel's worship (even while in exile) recognizes God's unchanging greatness

God is wise and powerful (20)

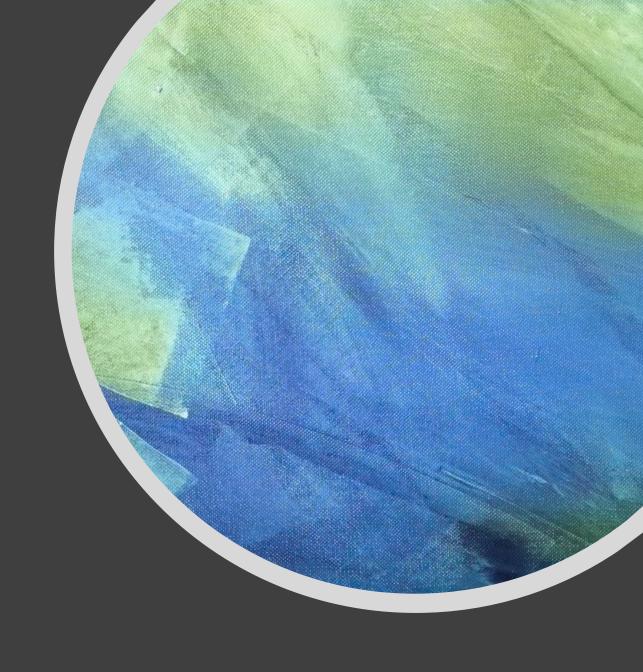
God controls time and seasons (21)

God appoints and disposes leaders (21)

God giveth wisdom and knowledge (21, 23)

God revealeth secrets (22)

God is worthy of eternal worship (20)



Can you sing the Lord's song and worship while being held captive in a strange land?

- By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion ... and they that wasted us *required of us* mirth, *saying*, Sing us *one* of the songs of Zion. How shall we sing the LORD'S song in a strange land? **Psalms 137:1-4**
- John 4:21-24 .... Location and circumstances does not matter for true worshippers

Arioch was captain of the King's guard (14)

Errors by Arioch (26)

He found Daniel (<u>not true</u>, Daniel approached him, 14-16)

Daniel will make known the dream and interpretation (<u>not true</u>, God of Daniel will, 28)

#### Secrets

# Uncertainty of future leads to anxiety

Would we be happier if God were to fully reveal all secrets of our future?

# Conclusion, Daniel (part III)

<sup>27</sup> Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king; <sup>28</sup> But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets

Chapter 2 ....To be continued ....