

E2E- Part 107a

Daniel 2

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1. Biblically, the era we are living in is called “the times of the gentiles.” In chapter 2, Daniel interprets a vision that depicts successive gentile kingdoms until the second coming of Jesus.
2. Nebuchadnezzar’s vivid dream is so disturbing that he is willing to execute his wise men if they cannot tell him its meaning. Their failure would mean death.
3. Nebuchadnezzar’s conflict is rooted in his rejection of God’s authority. He is not prepared to allow God to show Himself and His authority.
4. Spiritual wisdom is a highly developed sense of God’s ways that are learned through experience in obedience to His Word. It’s a high level of sensitive awareness that is appropriate to one who belongs to God.
5. When Daniel learns of the situation, he arranges for prayer with his friends. They ask for “compassion from the God of heaven concerning this mystery...” (Daniel 2:17).
6. The wisdom Daniel displays and the revelation of the dream are not something he achieves on his own. Wisdom isn’t acquired by gaining knowledge but rather received directly from God.
7. God governs the eras and events of human history and structures them at His own will.
8. The great existential questions of life remain unknowable to those who are wise in the things of the world. The Living God is the source of truth- without it, there is only conjecture and opinion.
9. Daniel makes it clear that the revelation of the dream is beyond any human. Only the God of Heaven can reveal such mysteries.
10. Whatever we face, we can call on the God of Heaven first for relationship and then for wisdom. He controls all things, solves impossible problems, supplies all our needs, and is more than able. He loves us beyond measure.

GREEK & HEBREW WORDS

Racham (raw-kham ´); to love, especially to :—have compassion (on, upon), - (obtain, shew) mercy

TODAY'S WORSHIP

In Tenderness
Trust in God
10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)
What A Beautiful Name

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Nebuchadnezzar's dream shook him so deeply that he demanded answers, and when the wise men couldn't deliver, he responded with fear and rage.

When life feels uncertain or threatening, what do you think we tend to reach for first: control, reassurance, distraction, or God? What does that reveal about what we trust most?

2. The wise men of Babylon were considered the smartest and most capable people in the empire, but Daniel makes it abundantly clear that this mystery is beyond human ability.

Where do you see the limits of "worldly wisdom" showing up today, even in people who are highly intelligent and experienced?

3. When Daniel hears about the death sentence he doesn't rush into panic or persuasion. Instead, he gathers his friends and asks God for compassion.

What does Daniel's response teach us about what it looks like to face pressure with faith over fear? How might our relationships change if prayer became our *first* response instead of our last resort?

4. Daniel receives the answer, but he doesn't take credit. He points upward and gives God the glory.

Why do you think it can be so tempting to claim credit when things go well or to spiral into despair when they don't? What does Daniel's humility show us about trusting in God for both outcomes?