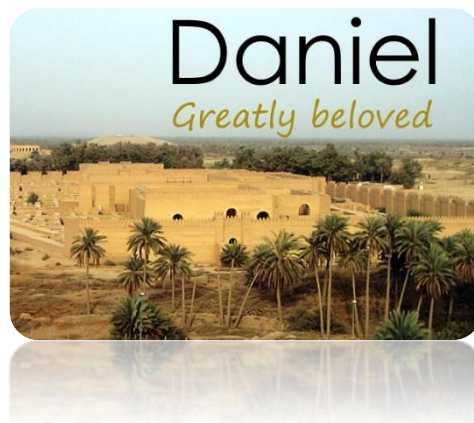


DANIEL 2 vs 1

In the previous chapter, we learn that Daniel had understanding in dreams, and here we have an early instance of it, which soon made him famous in the court of Babylon. This chapter is a history of prophecy, by a dream and an interpretation of it. Nebuchadnezzar had a dream, and the interpretation Daniel gave looked into four governments, and the concerns of Israel in them, and the kingdom of Messiah which He sets up in the world upon the ruin of them – Matthew Henry.



¹ And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; his spirit was troubled, and his sleep left him.

² Then the king commanded that the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans be summoned to tell the king his dreams.

So they came and stood before the king.

³ And the king said to them, I had a dream, and my spirit is troubled to know the dream.

And the following verses from chapter 2:4 – 7:28 are written in the Aramaic language – used commonly by the Assyrian kingdom, as well as in both the neo-Babylonian and Persian kingdoms as a diplomatic and commercial trade language.

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 sure / it is firm:

if you do not make known to me the dream and its interpretation, you will be cut in pieces, and your houses will be made a dunghill / one ruinous pile of crap.

⁶ But if you show the dream and its interpretation,

you will receive from me gifts and rewards and great honor.

So, show me the dream and its interpretation.

⁷ They answered again / a second time... and said,

Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will show its interpretation.

DANIEL 2 vs 1

⁸ The king answered and said, I know with certainty that you are trying to gain time, because you see that the word from me is firm --

⁹ if you do **not** make the dream known to me, there is but one sentence for you.

You have agreed to speak lying and corrupt words before me till the times change.

Therefore, tell me the dream, and I will know that you can show me its interpretation.

¹⁰ The Chaldeans answered the king, and said,

There is **not** a man / in Aramaic: **nas**, meaning: a person -- man or woman,

There is not a person on earth who can show the king's demand:

and so, no great and powerful king has ever asked such thing like this of any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean.

¹¹ Moreover, the thing that the king asks is rare,

and no one can show it to the king, except the gods,

whose dwelling is not with mortal flesh.

¹² Because of this, the king was angry and very furious, and commanded that all the wise men of Babylon be destroyed.

¹³ So the decree went forth, and the wise men would be killed; and they sought Daniel and his companions, to kill them.

¹⁴ Then Daniel answered with prudence and discretion to Arioch, the captain of the king's guard, who had gone out to kill the wise men of Babylon.

¹⁵ He answered and said to Arioch, the king's captain,

Why is the decree from the king so urgent? Then Arioch made the matter known to Daniel.

¹⁶ Then Daniel went and requested the king to give him time, that he would show the king the interpretation.

¹⁷ Then Daniel went to his house and made the matter known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions:

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¹⁸ and told them to seek mercies from the God of heaven concerning this mystery; so that Daniel and his companions are not destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

¹⁹ Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a night vision.

Then Daniel kneeled in praise of the God of heaven.

²⁰ Daniel answered and said,

Blessed be the name of God forever and ever:

to whom belongs wisdom and might:

²¹ **[1]** He changes times and seasons: **[2]** He removes kings and establishes kings:

[3] He gives wisdom to the wise, and knowledge to those who have understanding:

²² **[4]** He reveals deep and hidden things: **[5]** He knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with Him.

²³ **To You, O God of my fathers**, I give thanks and praise, for You give me wisdom and might, and now made known to me what we asked of You:

for You have made known to us the king's matter.

²⁴ Therefore Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon. He went and said thus to him:

Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon; bring me before the king, and I will show the interpretation to the king.

²⁵ Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste and said thus to him,

I have found among the captives of **Judah** a man who will make known to the king the interpretation.

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