

Truly, your God is the greatest of gods, the Lord over kings. Daniel 2: 47



Learning At Home

Overview:

Nebuchadnezzar has a disturbing dream and wants it to be interpreted. None of the Babylonian "wise" men can oblige. God gives Daniel the ability to interpret Nebuchadnezzar's dream, which results in the Babylonian king praising God who will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed (v 44).

Things to consider:

- The king wisely doesn't divulge the dream, but instead demands that the "wise" men discern it.
- Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah were all in danger of being put to death along with the Babylonian magicians.
- Daniel saved all the "wise" men from being put to death.
- Daniel made it clear to Nebuchadnezzar that God was responsible for providing an interpretation for the dream

Bible Study:

Read Daniel chapter 2. Consider how God gave the most powerful pagan king of the day a vision of a much greater kingdom that was coming. And Nebuchadnezzar *praised* Him as a result!

Read Isaiah 20-25, and see the clear gospel proclamation that

- 1) God intends to bring salvation to all nations through the nation of Israel
- 2) EVERY knee will bow and EVERY tongue confess that in the Lord alone are righteousness and strength
- 3) Those who opposed Him will "be put to shame" but those who became family (through Jesus' salvation) will celebrate!

The gospel in the story:

Nebuchadnezzar's dream clearly shows that there will be no earthly kingdom that will endure. Instead, God is going to create His Kingdom on earth, and gather a people unto Himself to be with Him, living in His presence and glory forever. In this particular story, God gives this news and vision to a pagan king – a huge reminder that God promised to bless all nations through Abraham's descendants. Another gospel element in the story is seen in the way God spares the Babylonian magicians even though they didn't deserve it; it's a clear picture of the God's graciousness.