

Wed Night



FRESH ENCOUNTER

# DARE TO BE A DANIEL

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 | MARK RASMUSSEN

*"19 Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. 20 Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: 21 And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: 22 He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. 23 I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter. 24 Therefore Daniel went in unto Arioch, whom the king had ordained to destroy the wise men of Babylon: he went and said thus unto him; Destroy not the wise men of Babylon: bring me in before the king, and I will shew unto the king the interpretation. 25 Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto him, I have found a man of the captives of Judah, that will make known unto the king the interpretation. 26 The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, Art thou able to make known unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof? 27 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; 28 But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;" (Daniel 2:19-28)*

## INTRODUCTION

- Father of King Nebuchadnezzar
  - \* Nabopolassar
- King Nebuchadnezzar ruled from 605 BC - 562 BC
  - \* While his father was alive, he defeated Egyptian Pharaoh Necho II
  - \* he also conquered Assyrian empire during his father's reign
  - \* after his father's death, he eliminated Egypt's influence & conquered Phoenician city of Tyre

"Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon." (Daniel 2:48) Nebuchadnezzar King

## 1. DANIEL WAS Aware THAT HE NEEDED TO PRAY

A. The King Was angry

B. The King Wanted to destroy the Wise Men

"They sought Daniel and his fellows to be slain" (Daniel 2:13)

"And now for a little space grace hath been showed from the Lord our God..." (Ezra 9:8) Ezra's prayer

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16)

"...the Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him." (Psalm 145:18)

## 2. DANIEL Recruited OTHERS TO PRAY WITH HIM

"That they would desire mercies of the God of Heaven..." (Daniel 2:18)

- Daniel asked his 3 companions Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah (Dan 2:17)

death sentence imposed

- A. Daniel Knew He Needed mercy Jacob's prayer  
 "I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies." (Genesis 32:10)
- B. Daniel Got Other Strong "Christians" to Pray with Him - people of God  
 "Daniel made the thing known to Hananiah, Mischeal, and Azariah" (Daniel 2:17)
- C. Daniel Did Not receive an Immediate Answer  
 "Then was the secret revealed to Daniel in a night vision." (Daniel 2:19)  
 "But we will gather ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word." (Acts 6:4) Apostles

### 3. DANIEL Thanked GOD FOR ANSWERED PRAYER

"Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God forever and ever for wisdom and might are His." (Daniel 2:19-20)

"But in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be known unto God." (Philippians 4:6)

"I thank thee and praise thee Oh God of my fathers who hast given me wisdom and might." (Daniel 2:23)

- A. Daniel's cause for Thanksgiving  
 THE DREAM COULD BE REMEMBERED (2: ~~23~~ 19)  
 THE DEATHS COULD BE AVERTED (2:24)
- B. Daniel's consequence from the Thanksgiving  
 IT HONORED GOD (2:28)  
 IT CREATED HUMILITY (2:30)  
 "But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the later days." (Daniel 2:28)

*"And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me; God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace." (Genesis 41:16)*

*"And Joseph said unto Pharaoh, the dream of Pharaoh is one, God has showed Pharaoh what he is about to do." (Genesis 41:25)*

*"...what God is about to do, he sheweth unto Pharaoh." (Genesis 41:28)*

**SO IF WE ARE GOING TO DARE TO BE LIKE DANIEL, WE NEED TO REMEMBER TO**

1. Be aware of the need of prayer.
2. Get others to pray with us and be willing to pray for others.
3. Be thankful to God for answered prayer.

**CONCLUSION - Attacks on Jerusalem**

605 BC Nebuchadnezzar's 1st attack

598 BC 2nd attack

587 BC 3rd attack

- temple & Jerusalem destroyed

- Hanging gardens of Babylon - one of 7 ancient wonders of the world



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