

## **“Nebuchadnezzar’s Nightmare”**

### **Daniel 2**

1. Soon after Nebuchadnezzar ascends to the throne, he is plagued by a recurring dream. This nightmare left Nebuchadnezzar so troubled and agitated that he was unable to sleep. The king then summons the wise men of his realm in order to understand the meaning of this dream. The Chaldean wise men request that the king tell them about the dream and they seemed confident that their collective wisdom would allow them to interpret the dream. What does the king say will happen if they are unable to interpret the dream? What will happen if they can “declare the dream and its interpretation” (Dan. 2:5-6)?
2. The wise men ask the king a second time to share the dream with them but the king complains that they are now just stalling for time. In order to defend themselves, the wise men say that the king is making an unreasonable request of them and no other king or ruler has asked for such a thing. They also attest that knowing the future belongs to gods...not to mortal men. What is the king’s response in verse 12?
3. Since Daniel and his three friends were classified as wise men, the judgment also fell on them. But Daniel was unaware of this decree of a death sentence so he asks Arioch, the captain of the king’s bodyguard, to fill him in on what has taken place in the royal court. What bold request does Daniel then make of the king in verse 16?  
Where in chapter 1 did we see that God had given Daniel understanding of visions and dreams?

What does Daniel then wisely do in verses 17 and 18 of chapter 1?

In times of testing, who are the people in your life that you easily can turn to as you seek the Lord together in prayer? Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12. As Pastor Roger spoke of last week with the illustration of the rope, who are the “strands” that strengthen you when facing trials?

4. In response to the prayers of the four men, the dream was revealed to Daniel, evidently that same night. And Daniel responds appropriately to this revelation by giving praise to God. He acknowledges in verse 20 that God is a God of wisdom, knowing the end from the beginning, and a God of power, for whatever He determines, God can do. What does Daniel give thanks for at the end of this section (verse 23)?
5. Daniel is taken at once into the king’s presence and what does the king ask Daniel?

How is Daniel’s initial answer in agreement with what the Chaldean wise men said of the dream in 2:10?

To whom does Daniel point to as the One who reveals mysteries and knows the future?

Read Matthew 6:33-34; Jeremiah 29:11; and James 4:13-15. How are these verses an encouragement as we trust God for our future?