

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 4/3-4/2023 *Daniel 2:1-49*

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS107, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!! Beginning 4/10/23, will meet CC Living Word, 17101 Armstrong, Irvine, CA

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

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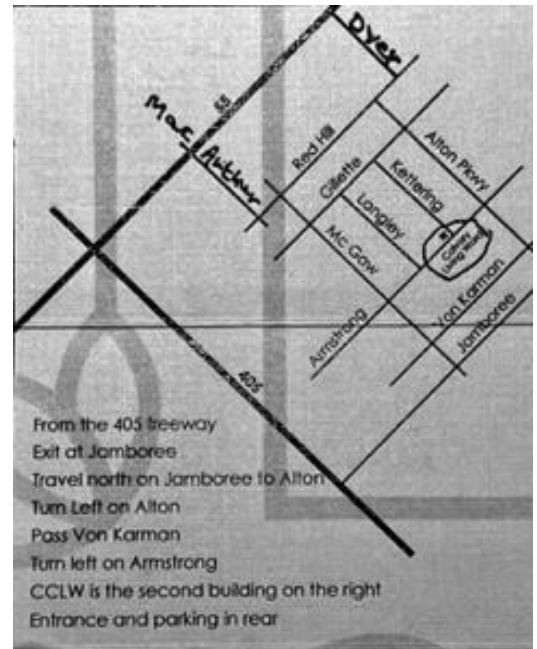
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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).

THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE CCCM FAMILY ROOM, Beginning 4/11/23, will meet CC Living Word, 17101 Armstrong, Irvine, CA

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER

Daniel - The Sovereignty of God – He Rules Over All; He Overrules All!

Chapter 2 Nebuchadnezzar's Dream – vs. 1-13; God Reveals Nebuchadnezzar's Dream – vs. 14-23; Daniel Explains the Dream – vs. 24-45; Daniel and His Friends Promoted – vs. 46-49!

The Book of Daniel! We are in one of the great sections of the Word of God, with respect to Biblical prophecy! The Great Image, here in chapter two, as well as the four beasts in chapter seven and the seventy weeks of Daniel in chapter nine, form the backbone and ribs of biblical prophecy. Everything in the Olivet Discourse was based on the Book of Daniel. We are thankful that God tells us what is going to happen, to encourage and prepare us for what is ahead!

Palm Sunday, the Triumphal Entry of the Messiah, was predicted to the exact day, prophesied in Daniel! (**Luk 19:41,42,44c**) *Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, [42] saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes....[44c] and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation."* (**Mar 11:7-9**) *Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their clothes on it, and He sat on it. [8] And many spread their clothes on the road, and others cut down leafy branches from the trees and spread them on the road. [9] Then those who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna! 'BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!'"*

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream – vs. 1-13:

[1] Now in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was so troubled that his sleep left him.

- **Nebuchadnezzar's sleep left him.** At times in the evening or night when you have a thought, a dream and in his case a dream, and when you wake up from it your mind starts to work so that you cannot go back to sleep. That was the case with Nebuchadnezzar. He was unable to go back to sleep. There was something disturbing about this dream and Nebuchadnezzar knew that it must be significant. We see that even the most powerful and wealthy in this world do not have control over their ability to sleep!

[2] Then the king gave the command to call the magicians, the astrologers (necromancers), the sorcerers (practitioners of magic), and the Chaldeans (astrologers, soothsayers, a priestly class involved in defeating the Assyrians) to tell the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.

- **He could not sleep. He was troubled.** So, he called for the wise men, which Nebuchadnezzar inherited from his father, Nabopolassar, to come in that they might show him his dreams. We are not told if Nebuchadnezzar really remembered the dream or not. It seems that he must have remembered the dream to some degree, or how else would he know whether his *magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans* were telling him was true.

[3] And the king said to them, "I have had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to know the dream."

- **He felt that there was some kind of a spiritual implication** to that dream, and he wanted to know it.

[4] Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will give the interpretation."

- **In Aramaic – (The times of the Gentiles).** Now, at this point in (**Dan 2:4**) through (**Dan 7:28**), the text is not written in Hebrew, but in the Aramaic language, which was the common language in Babylon. Until the end of chapter 7, the book is written in Aramaic. Beginning with chapter 8, it goes back to the Hebrew language. There are three Greek words in the book of Daniel, and there are fifteen Persian words.
- **Daniel was in the king's court, and after interpreting of the dream** for Nebuchadnezzar, he was placed as one of the top men in the court of Nebuchadnezzar. It would be natural that he would receive emissaries from the foreign countries, picking up a part of the Persian and Greek languages. His native tongue was Hebrew, but he was taught in Aramaic for the three years. He was a brilliant fellow and no doubt picked up the language well. The portion of the book that deals with the Gentile powers that will be reigning through history is written in the Gentile language, the Aramaic (95% in subject, object, verb from the 6th century BC, not subject, verb, object as in the 2nd century BC, which also proves that Daniel was not "late dated"). But, when he talks about the place of Israel in the future he then goes back to the Hebrew language.

[5] *The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, "My decision is firm: if you do not make known the dream to me, and its interpretation, you shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made an ash heap.*

- **King Nebuchadnezzar's wise men were brought into his court.** He was a tough guy, not to be messed with. This does indicate the tremendous authority and power that he had. When the Medo-Persian Empire conquered the Babylonian Empire, and Darius the king was tricked into making a decree that no one could offer a petition or prayer to anyone except the king for a period of thirty days, and how that Daniel knowing that the decree had been signed, went to his home and with windows opened kneeled towards Jerusalem and prayed unto God! It was reported to Darius that Daniel had disobeyed the decree. It tells us that the king sought to try to rescind the decree, but even though he was the king, the law of the Medes and the Persian was such that once a decree had been made and sealed there could be no changing of the decree. Though he was king, he was bound by the laws. Yet, Nebuchadnezzar was a law to himself. So, he did not give his wise men many options! They either had to tell him the dream and to make known its interpretation or they *would be cut in pieces and their houses would be made ash heaps, dunghills.*

[6] *However, if you tell the dream and its interpretation, you shall receive from me gifts, rewards, and great honor. Therefore tell me the dream and its interpretation."*

- So, he actually commands them, show it to me.

[7] *They answered again and said, "Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will give its interpretation."*

- They repeat again, "Tell us and we will tell you."

[8] *The king answered and said, "I know for certain that you would gain (buy) time, because you see that my decision is firm:*

[9] *if you do not make known the dream to me, there is only one decree for you! For you have agreed to speak lying and corrupt words before me till the time has changed. Therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can give me its interpretation."*

- It seems clear that Nebuchadnezzar was not willing to accept any easy interpretation of his dream but wanted proof that his wise men had divine sources of information beyond the ordinary. There are those who believe that the king actually had not forgotten the dream, but he was trying to prove, test, them to find out how good they really were. They were being paid for their wisdom, to counsel the king. Thus, in order to really prove them, he was pretending to forget. The scripture is not indicating that, but it is a possibility.

[10] *The Chaldeans answered the king, and said, "There is not a man on earth who can tell the king's matter; therefore, no king, lord, or ruler has ever asked such things of any magician, astrologer, or Chaldean.*

- This is unprecedented. No one has ever done this before. They were indicating the problem is not with them, it that what he was asking was unprecedented. The king's request was the problem!

[11] *It is a difficult (rare) thing that the king requests, and there is no other who can tell it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh."*

[12] *For this reason the king was angry and very furious and gave the command to destroy all the wise men of Babylon.*

[13] *So the decree went out, and they began killing the wise men; and they sought Daniel and his companions, to kill them.*

- They had just been introduced into this council and now the order goes out for them to be slain.

God Reveals Nebuchadnezzar's Dream – vs. 14-23

[14] *Then with counsel and wisdom Daniel answered Arioch, the captain of the king's guard, who had gone out to kill the wise men of Babylon;*

- Again, we see the example of Daniel's, God given counsel and wisdom!
- Among his other duties, Arioch served as the king's chief executioner, although he personally may not have had the responsibility of killing the wise men.

[15] he answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, "Why is the decree from the king so urgent?" Then Arioch made the decision known to Daniel.

- **Then Arioch told Daniel what had happened.** These guys mouthed off to Nebuchadnezzar. They made him mad, so this is what happened.
- **The fact that an official of the king would take time to explain this to Daniel,** one already condemned to death, speaks well both of Daniel's approach and of Arioch's regard for him!

[16] So Daniel went in and asked the king to give him time, that he might tell the king the interpretation.

[17] Then Daniel went to his house, and to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions,

[18] that they might seek mercies from the God of heaven concerning this secret, so that Daniel and his companions might not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

- **Daniel evidently received this time from Nebuchadnezzar!** He then he went to his friends, the three Hebrew children, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, that they might have a prayer meeting. He said fellows we have to pray, and we have to pray quickly! We do not have much time to hear from the Lord to find out the king's dream and the interpretation.
- **What a lesson this is for us! The problem moved Daniel to prayer.** He knew God could do this, but he did not want to presume upon the sovereignty of God. Maybe God wanted them to die for their faith! Later the men who were put into the fiery furnace were aware that it might be God's will for them to die. They accepted that willingly! But if they were killed along with all the wise men, the opportunity for God to show Himself strong through Daniel and his friends proclaiming God's prophetic truth of coming world powers, would be lost! We see, importantly, that they prayed for *mercies from the God of heaven!* We face difficulties in life, too. May they move us to prayer as Daniel was moved!
- **In both the Old and New Testaments, God often spoke through dreams and visions.** The king had a dream, which had spiritual significance. God was speaking to him. Daniel received the dream and the interpretation through a night vision. We find that in the New Testament the Lord also spoke through dreams. Joseph was warned by the Lord in a dream to take the child Jesus and flee to Egypt because Herod was going to try to kill Him. The Lord spoke through visions, sometimes night visions. Paul said, *(Act 23:11) But the following night the Lord stood by him and said, "Be of good cheer, Paul; for as you have testified for Me in Jerusalem, so you must also bear witness at Rome.*
- **There are those who believe that once we had the full canon of scripture, God no longer spoke through dreams and visions.** However, in the prophecy of Joel, he promised that in the last days God would pour out His spirit on all flesh. He said *(Joe 2:28) "And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions.*
- **I have never had a dream or a vision, that I can remember,** that had any spiritual implications, but the door is not closed in my mind to these things. I am open if God would want to speak to me in a dream.

[19] Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. So Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

[20] Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His.

[21] And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding.

[22] He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him (Psa 139).

[23] "I thank You and praise You, O God of my fathers; You have given me wisdom and might And have now made known to me what we asked of You, For You have made known to us the king's demand."

- **Now in this sort of a Psalm, a blessing of God and what an extraordinary blessings it is!** Daniel in giving thanks, tells us much about God, quoting no less than fifteen different portions of the scriptures, including Genesis, Exodus, 2 Chronicles, Job, three times, out of the Psalms several times, and even out of Isaiah. This indicates that Daniel had a tremendous working knowledge of the scriptures, indicating already many of the scriptures had been canonized, and were accepted as God's

Word and studied as the Word of God. Later, in the ninth chapter, we see that he was familiar with Jeremiah, knowing from the scriptures that Jeremiah had predicted the seventy years of Babylonian captivity, and recognizing that time was just about up. This is a good example for us in praying and blessing God! We are also shown that it is most appropriate to include scripture in our prayers and blessings.

- **He was a man of prayer. He was a man of commitment. He had purposed in his heart** not to defile himself. Here, Daniel demonstrates the fact that he is a man of the Word. No wonder he stands out in the scriptures as such an outstanding character! It is not surprising that God used him. The man that God uses is a man of commitment. He is a man of prayer. He is a man of the Word, recognizing that God ordains who is to rule.
- **You have made known to us! God has showed it to Daniel, and now he rejoices, praising God, and giving thanks** to God for revealing to him these things! Oh, how exciting this is! There is nothing much more exciting and encouraging than to experience God's answering our prayers, immediately! How frequently am I giving thanks to Him? How thankful am I?

Daniel Explains the Dream – vs. 24-45;

[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; take me before the king, and I will tell the king the interpretation."*

[25] *Then Arioch quickly brought Daniel before the king, and said thus to him, (and notice how he tries to take credit for it.) "I have found a man of the captives of Judah, who will make known to the king the interpretation." (I came through for you king.)*

[26] *The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, "Are you able to make known to me the dream which I have seen, and its interpretation?"*

[27] *Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, "The secret which the king has demanded, the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, and the soothsayers cannot declare to the king.*

[28] ***But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days.** (It is a dream that has prophetic significance.) Your dream, and the visions of your head upon your bed, were these:*

[29] *As for you, O king, thoughts came to your mind while on your bed, about what would come to pass after this; and He who reveals secrets has made known to you what will be.*

- **That was the thought of the king as he was going to sleep.** I wonder what the future holds. He had just entered into the kingship of Babylon. He was only a year on the throne, but he started wondering about the future. What does the future hold?
- **Notice Daniel is telling King Nebuchadnezzar even** more than just the interpretation of the dream. He is also telling what the King was thinking! Considering Nebuchadnezzar's meteoric recent rise to being the world leader, it was only natural that Nebuchadnezzar should wonder what was going to come next. While Daniel still had the king's eager attention, he pressed home the fact that the dream was a means of divine revelation in which God had signally honored the Babylonian monarch.

[30] *But as for me, this secret has not been revealed to me because I have more wisdom than anyone living, but for our sakes who make known the interpretation to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your heart.*

- **The next characteristic that we observe here about Daniel, is that he is a man who is not taking credit or ready to receive glory for something that God has done!** He is not really taking credit for himself! The king says, I understand, you can tell me. **Daniel says, no, there is a God who reveals it!** He points the king to God, rather than seeking to get glory for himself for what God has done! (*Psa 115:1*) *Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, But to Your name give glory, Because of Your mercy, Because of Your truth. (Isa 42:8) I am the LORD, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images.* Do we have a tendency to take God's glory?
- **This is an extremely important characteristic necessary for any man** who is going to be used by God in any kind of continuing work, in any capacity. Because if God begins to use you, then the danger is always when people come to praise you for what the Lord has done, accepting that praise

rather than turning them to the Lord. Daniel wisely does not accept the credit but gives the glory to God for what God has revealed! Again, a great example for us!

- **Daniel's answer is a masterpiece of setting the matter in its proper light and giving God the glory!** Although the temptation to imagine that he had supernatural powers, Daniel immediately declared that what had been revealed to him was a secret that no wise men of Babylonia could have discovered. Having disposed of any possible solution to the problem on the part of the wise men, Daniel now seized the opportunity to glorify his own God and, at the same time, disavow that the interpretation of the dream stemmed from any powers that he might have. By giving all the credit and glory to God, Daniel was showing that the God of Israel is far superior to the gods of the Babylonians and that He is the God who is able to know and reveal secrets. Like in *(Gen 41:16)* *So Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace."*
- **Now, he speaks concerning the dream, speaking with such confidence!** Earlier he said, *[16] So Daniel went in and asked the king to give him time, that he might tell the king the interpretation.* When God spoke to him, He then spoke the Word of God with great confidence. That is important that we speak God's Word with great confidence, and great assurance! That is one characteristic that the Pharisees did not have, nor the scribes in the days of Jesus. They were like bureaucrats today. No one wanted to take responsibility for anything. That is why it is so hard to get anything done. No one wants to accept responsibility. They always will pass you onto the next guy, the next guy, and no one can make decisions. Daniel speaks very confidently.
- **Daniel as he speaks the Word of God, speaks to King Nebuchadnezzar with authority and confidence in the LORD! We need to have that kind of conviction about God's Word! We should be speaking God's Word with real authority! It is the truth! All truth!**

Daniel Interprets the Dream –

[31] "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome.

[32] This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly, and thighs of bronze,

[33] its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.

[34] You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay and broke them in pieces.

[35] Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

[36] "This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king.

[37] You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory;

- **Nebuchadnezzar, you are there because He has appointed you to be there!** God rules over the affairs of man. In *(Jer 27:5)* *"I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are on the ground, by My great power and by My outstretched arm, and have given it to whom it seemed proper to Me.* God speaking of Nebuchadnezzar declared that he was God's servant to be used of God to accomplish God's purposes. He was there because he was ordained by God to reign. Note Daniel's fearless declaration that Nebuchadnezzar owed all of his power to the God of heaven, who had revealed this secret to Daniel. How different this was from the subservient respect given by the other wise men. Here was a voice of truth that even the "king of kings" had to receive with submission.
- **Now, as we move on in Daniel, we will find that Nebuchadnezzar comes to realize that God does establish** on the throne those whom He will, and those whom He wishes to exalt. He can exalt, and those He wishes to humble, He can humble! *(Mat 23:12)* *And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.*

[38] and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—you are this head of gold.

- **The vastness of this Babylon Empire covered that civilized portion** of the world in the Middle East area. Its boundaries reached as far as Cilicia in the north to Egypt and Arabia in the south, and from Cyprus and the Mediterranean coastal cities in the west to Media and Persia in the east.

[39] But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.

- **Daniel does not speak any more about the Medo-Persian Empire than that.** He tells us that there was a chest and arms of silver. The Medo-Persian Empire, the two arms representing the Medes and the Persians. With the two legs you have the Eastern and Western Roman Empires. But nothing more is said that there shall arise after you another kingdom inferior to you. In 538-539 B.C., which was about sixty-five years from the date of this dream, the Babylonian kingdom did fall to the Medo-Persian Empire. Then, another third kingdom, which would be the stomach of brass, which shall rule over all the earth, is a reference to the Grecian kingdom. In the year 330-331 B.C., the Medo-Persian Empire fell to Alexander the Great and the Grecian kingdom.
- **As we move into the book of Daniel, chapter 7 there is a vision of the world governing empires** that corresponds to this dream of Nebuchadnezzar. But, in Daniel's vision he does name the Medo-Persian Empire as the second beast, the bear that conquers over the lion (Babylon). Then in a further prophecy, he prophesies of the Grecian Empire that is to destroy the Medo-Persian Empire, taking us all the way to the Grecian Empire. In 330-331 B.C., the Grecian Empire conquered the Medo-Persian Empire.

[40] And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.

- **Now, the fourth kingdom was the Roman Empire.** In 63 B.C. Rome conquered Greece, which was the beginning of the Roman Empire.
- **Following the Roman Empire, we move out to the end.** Since the Roman Empire there has not been a world dominating empire. There have been nations, powerful nations, but not anything that would be considered a world dominating empire.

[41] Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.

[42] And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.

[43] As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.

- **The ten toes of the iron and clay feet represent ten nations or kingdoms that will be federated** together as a final world dominating kind of a kingdom or empire. Partly iron, would relate it to the Roman Empire. Partly clay would speak of more or less democratic states or nations. In Europe today there is the European Union (EU), which is an international organization comprising 27 European countries, governing common economic, social and security policies. The idea was for economic strength for these nations of Europe to join together as one common market, combining their buying power and their selling powers, removing the tariffs between the nations of Europe, allowing a free trade between the nations, a free exchange of goods without adding taxes or tariffs.
- **We see this federation of nations, but also even as clay does not cleave to the iron,** we see that there are many problems that have arisen in this attempt to bring the nations together. The United Kingdom, which had been a founding member of the EU, left the organization in 2020. Thus, as Daniel prophesied, it is not going to be an easy kind of blending of all of these issues together, as they are discovering, as this federation of nations develops. They have run into a lot of problems and are facing many at the present time but are working to get them resolved.
- **Now, in Daniel's vision where he sees not as a man, but as beast, the fourth beast,** the Roman Empire, is a fearsome looking beast, that he does not or cannot describe. It is just awesome looking. And, it has ten horns. The ten horns would be equivalent to the ten toes. The ten horns rise out of the fourth beast. Then there comes an eleventh horn which is the anti-christ who takes control over this federation of ten kingdoms! It is out of this revived Roman Empire that the anti-christ will come to establish his rule over the earth.

- **The exciting thing is that in the days of these kings**, that is when these nations have federated together, shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed. Now, we are to be looking and be ready for the second coming of Jesus Christ. Jesus told His disciples to pray, Thy kingdom come! They will be done on earth as it is in heaven!
- **When you look at the world today you do not see the world that God created** or intended. God gave man freedom to do what he wished. Man has been in rebellion against God's rule and against God's laws. As a result of that rebellion, there are tragedies. There is suffering. But thank God when the kingdom of Christ shall come, these things will be done away with, and He will reign in righteousness, justice, and peace!

[44] And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

- **In contrast to the kingdoms of man, which are like the chaff blown away** in the summer wind, when it comes down to it finally, the Lord establishes His kingdom which will stand forever!

[45] Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure."

- **That stone of course is Jesus Christ!** He is the precious cornerstone that God promises through Isaiah, that He would lay in Zion. Peter picks that up quoting from Isaiah, also from Psalm 118. (*1Pe 2:7*) *Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, "THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED HAS BECOME THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE.* So, Jesus Christ is coming again to establish God's kingdom!
- **To pass after this. Remember he was wondering what was going to happen** in the future. God has shown it to him, and these kingdoms that would rule.
- **Then Daniel affirms: *The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.*** You can be sure this is going to happen. Up to this point it has been very sure and very certain! It is certain, the dream is sure. God is keeping His word and He is right on schedule!

Daniel and His Friends Promoted – vs. 46-49!

[46] Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face, prostrate before Daniel, and commanded that they should present an offering and incense to him.

- **This is so typical of man, in worshipping the instrument that God has used.** It is wrong. But it is so typical of man. We so often get enamored by God's instruments, rather than by God.

[47] The king answered Daniel, and said, "Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret."

- **You sort of saw the tri-unity of God**, a God of gods, the Father; a Lord of kings, King of kings and Lord of lords, Jesus Christ; and the revealer of secrets, the Holy Spirit, who searches the deep things of God.

[48] Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise men of Babylon.

- **Now, remember Daniel is still probably in his late teens**, but what a position of authority, of power, is given unto him. Either in late teens or just early twenties, and all of this has been given now to him.
- **But then Daniel looks out for three friends too**, and I like this.

[49] Also Daniel petitioned the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego over the affairs of the province of Babylon; but Daniel sat in the gate of the king.

- But then Daniel looks out for three friends too, and I like this. Daniel got good positions for his friends also, though *Daniel was the only one that sat in the gate of the king!*

SUMMARY:

- **Daniel prays! God reveals Nebuchadnezzar's dream**

- **Daniel is given the dream from God and explains the dream to the king with authority and confidence in the LORD.** *He removes kings and raises up kings.* There is a God who makes known what will be in *the latter days*, which is where are, coming up to the Messianic Kingdom! All people must know we are His disciples because we are filled with the Holy Spirit and of our love for each other!
- **Daniel and his friends are promoted!**
- **Daniel confidently says, “The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure!”** Thank You, Lord for the peace that we have and knowing that You are in control of human history and that we are on the right side of You! We thank You for that! In Jesus’ name.
- **God is great! All the time!**

CLOSING SONG:

HOW GREAT THOU ART – Stuart Hine, Shea (2:45/2:48)

*Oh Lord my God when I in awesome wonder Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder Thy power throughout the universe displayed*

*Refrain: Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee, How great thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee! How great Thou art! How great Thou art!*

*When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then
I shall bow in humble adoration, And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art. (Refrain)*

CLOSING PRAYER:

Read and meditate on *Daniel Chapter 3!*

Remember the upcoming change in the location of the classroom for both Monday night and Tuesday morning studies, beginning the week after Resurrection Day!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS107, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!! Beginning 4/10/23, will meet CC Living Word, 17101 Armstrong, Irvine, CA

TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).

THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE CCCM FAMILY ROOM, Beginning 4/11/23, will meet CC Living Word, 17101 Armstrong, Irvine.

