Sunday, January 12, 2025

Title: "When Dreams Come True"

Text: Daniel 2 **Series:** *The Book of Daniel*

Daniel 2

- (#1) In Nebuchadnezzar's 2nd year reigning, he experienced sleep-depriving, troubling dreams (Daniel 2:1).
 - A. In the second year ... (v. 1a)
 - B. [He] had dreams; his spirit was troubled, and his sleep left him (v. 2b)
- (#2) Nebuchadnezzar commanded those in his kingdom who ostensibly specialized in dreams to tell him his dreams. However, they wanted Nebuchadnezzar to first tell them his dream. Angry, N. decreed that if they could not tell him his own dream and its interpretation, they would be brutally executed, but if they could, they would be greatly rewarded (Daniel 2:2–6).
 - A. The king ... summoned to tell the king his dreams (v. 2)
 - B. The Chaldeans... tell your servants the dream (v. 4)
 - C. The king answered ... if you do not ... but if you show the dream ... (vv. 5–6)
- (#3) Frightened, the ostensible Babylonian dream specialists again ask to know the dream. Angered, Nebuchadnezzar prepares to execute them. Desperate, the Babylonians admit their inability. (Daniel 2:7–11)
- A. They answered a second time ... "Let the king tell his servants the dream" (v. 7a)
 - B. The king answered ... (v. 8b–9)
- C. The Chaldeans answered the king and said, "There is not a man on earth who can meet the king's demand, for no great and powerful king has asked such a thing of any magician or enchanter or Chaldean. ¹¹ The thing that the king asks is difficult, and no one can show it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh." (vv. 10–11)

(#4) Nebuchadnezzar decrees the death of all of Babylon's "wise men" – including Daniel, who was unaware of the situation (Daniel 2:12–16).

- A. The king was angry and very furious (v. 12)
- B. and they sought Daniel and his companions to kill them (v. 13)
- C. Daniel replied with prudence and discretion (vv. 14–16)
 - 1) Daniel humbly, wisely requested to know why the king's decree was so urgent (v. 15)
 - 2) Daniel faithfully anticipated God's provision (v. 16)

(#5) Daniel led his friends to "seek mercy from the God of heaven" (Daniel 2:17–24).

- A. And told them to seek mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery (v. 17–18)
- B. Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision (v. 19a)
- C. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven ... (v. 19b–23)
 - 1) God Reveals
 - 2) God Reigns
 - 3) God Rescues

(#6) Daniel answered, "but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries" (Daniel 2:25–30).

- A. But there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries (v. 28)
- B. But as for me, this mystery has been revealed to me, not because of any wisdom that I have (v. 30)

(#7) Daniel—only by God's gracious revelation—interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dream (Daniel 2:31–45).

- A. Four Earthly Kingdoms: Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Iron (divided with Clay) (vv. 31–43)
- B. One Kingdom of God: Being made "in the days of those kings" (v. 44), yet everlasting (v. 45)

(#8) Nebuchadnezzar promotes Daniel (Daniel 2:46-49).

- A. N. said, "Truly your God is God of gods and Lord of kings" (vv. 46–47).
- B. Then the king gave Daniel high honors (v. 48)
- C. Daniel made a request of the king (v. 49)

APPLICATIONS for US: