

Chapter 2

The Faith of Daniel

Daniel Chapter 2 is another test it is the study the main character. Look for the list of characteristics.

2:1 And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him.

- Second year of his reign, but it should be the third year because Daniel had to wait three years before he came to the king.
- The first year was the 0 year or the campaign year as he invaded Jerusalem.
- The dream was really bad as it has troubled him.

2:2 Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, for to show the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.

- He called magicians, astrologers, and sorcerers first.
- It was common to interpret dreams.
- We know that God gives dreams.
- They were use to interpreting dreams.
- *"Professed theologians seem to take pleasure in making that which is plain, mysterious. They clothe the simple teachings of God's word with their own dark reasonings, and thus confuse the minds of those who listen to their doctrines." {ST July 2, 1896}*

2:3 And the king said unto them, I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit was troubled to know the dream.

2:4 Then spake the Chaldeans to the king in Syriack, O king, live for ever: tell thy servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation.

- How hard is it to interpret a dream?

2:5 The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, The thing is gone from me: if ye will not make known unto me the dream, with the interpretation thereof, ye shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made a dunghill.

- Is the king reasonable?
- How can you expect other to know what you have dreamed?
- He has an extreme personality, he is very emotional, he thinks they should know everything.
- This is a good opportunity to see if they are true or not.
- Reference to verse 9 to see what is in his heart towards (lying and corrupt)
- Wise man was tested first.
- God has made the dream such a way that only God will be glorified.
- Remember in Egypt that they were able to copy Moses miracles.
- God gave the dream then took it away to protect His truth from Satan.
- This dream was only to be understood by Daniel.
- This is why much of the prophecies are symbolic.
- God set the situation so that the King would come into contact with Daniel.

2:6 But if ye show the dream, and the interpretation thereof, ye shall receive of me gifts and rewards and great honour: therefore show me the dream, and the interpretation thereof.

- The king really wants to understand this dream.
- He is willing to give great riches.
- He wants to know both the dream and the meaning.

2:7 They answered again and said, Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation of it.

- These wise man are pushing for the king to tell them the dream.

2:8 The king answered and said, I know of certainty that ye would gain the time, because ye see the thing is gone from me.

- The king as seen that they are waiting for him to remember the dream.

2:9 But if ye will not make known unto me the dream, [there is but] one decree for you: for ye have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, till the time be changed: therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that ye can show me the interpretation thereof.

- He was testing the wise man.
- I know that you're true when you tell me what it was.

2:10 The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, There is not a man upon the earth that can show the king's matter: therefore [there is] no king, lord, nor ruler, [that] asked such things at any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean.

- Now we see their true understanding.
- They are telling the king that what his is asking is very unreasonable.
- What you're asking have never been asked before of the wise man.
- This is really setting the scene for God to be glorified.

2:11 And [it is] a rare thing that the king requireth, and there is none other that can show it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.

- They are now showing that they have a limit to wisdom.
- They understand god not to be someone who's dwelling is not with flesh.
- They don't see god as someone close.
- Except the gods, referring to more than one gods.
- Dwelling not with them in the flesh.
- This is not Daniel's God.
- **{John 1:14}** – Daniel's God came in the flesh.
- These gods are the Babylonian gods.
- This reveals the Nature Christ:
- What kind of flesh **{Rom 1:3}** *"Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;"*
- **{1 John 4:3}** *"every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that [spirit] of antichrist,"*

2:12 For this cause the king was angry and very furious, and commanded to destroy all the wise [men] of Babylon.

- Now the king has gone too far.
- Showing his hot temper.
- How many where wise man?
- This includes Daniel.

- If you were Daniel, what would be your natural thoughts? “Why did you put me in this kind of situation?”
- When you are lead into a corner; it is then when you have to depend wholly on Him.

2:13 And the decree went forth that the wise [men] should be slain; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to be slain.

- How is this fair? Daniel was not even asked.
- Satan is willing to sacrifice his own servants, if it will take out Gods servants.

2:14 Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Arioch the captain of the king's guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise [men] of Babylon:

- Daniel asked with counsel and wisdom; Even facing death Daniel maintained composure, didn't answer in hast.
- What would Arioch have thought?

2:15 He answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, Why [is] the decree [so] hasty from the king? Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel.

- Instead of killing Daniel he had a conversation with him. Why?
- Daniel says “Why is this so hasty?” He is so calm. Here we can see that Daniel has a very stable personality.

2:16 Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would show the king the interpretation.

- Why was Daniel given time?
- He asked for time to give the interpretation, not for what the dream was.
- Interpretation is what the king wanted.
- God gave the dream in such a way that the king really wants to know.
- Daniel is the kind of person who does not move easy either in crisis or in excitement.
- How can Daniel claim such a promise? Faith.
- Faith is based on promised.
- Daniel grew up with the book of Genesis and story of Joseph.
- But Joseph had the dream, Daniel had faith that God would give the interpretation as with Joseph, but more then that he had faith that God would give him the actual dream as well.
- Daniel has great faith, this is the faith of Jesus.

2:17 Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions:

- Daniel sort counsel, he was not self-confident, true faith lead you not to trust yourself.
- *“There is wisdom in a multitude of counsel” {Prov 11:14}*

2:18 That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise [men] of Babylon.

- They prayed to the God of heaven.
- Was Daniel ready to die in Chapter 1? Yes.
- Was he ready to die in Chapter 2? No.
- Its not worth dying in Chapter 2 because of some dumb decree.

- Daniel is not a martyr fanatic, he knew when to die and when not to die.

2:19 Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

- It was revealed to Daniel? Why not to the other three?
- {Dan 1:17} – With all understanding.
- Daniel was the one who stepped out.
- Seems like Daniel was the leader.

2:20 Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his:

- Daniel is humble, giving all credit to God.

2:21 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:

- Tells us about the dream.
- God changes times.
- God removes kings and set-ups kings.

2:22 He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what [is] in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him.

2:23 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.

- What's the meaning of might?
- He has given to me; humble.

2:24 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 show unto the king the interpretation.

- Daniel is not a man of violence, not man of revenge.
- God gave grand opportunity for the wise man to see that the God of Daniel is their saviour.

2:25 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.

- Arioch takes to credit for Daniel.
- Puts down Daniel, captive of Judah.
- The Babylon takes about Israel as captives.

2:26 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?

- Daniels name.

2:27 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, show unto the king;

- Daniel is reminding the king that the education is of no profit.
- Daniel didn't even answer his question.

2:28 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 is putting himself in the category as the other wise man.
- It is only God who can interpret.
- The prophecy is about kingdoms and latter days (future).

2:29 As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came [into thy mind] upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass.

- As the king is falling asleep he thought about the future.
- Un requested prayer was answered.
- Why did these king have such a privilege?
- God cares about the leaders of this world.
- God by meeting his needs he is trying to save him.

2:30 But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for [any] wisdom that I have more than any living, but for [their] sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart.

- Daniel makes it clear that it's not him.
- He is humble.

The Dream

2:31 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness [was] excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof [was] terrible.



- Great, terrible = {Dan 7:7} Anti-Christ

2:32 This image's head [was] of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass,

2:33 His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.

2:34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet [that were] of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

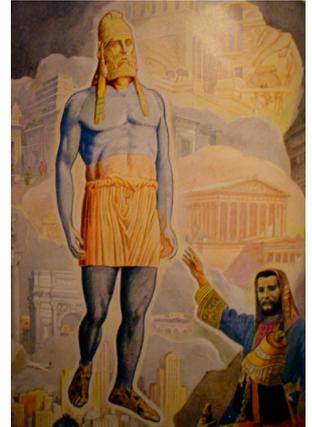
- And brake them to pieces = Second coming of Jesus

2:35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

- The dream was an image.
- Why did God describe the future with an image?
- Idols? Familiar languages that He might understand.
- The image in his dream was broken to pieces
- Maybe this is why he woke up?
- When Daniel was given dreams of the future, he was given dreams of animals, this was the language he was familiar with.
- God will use what we understand in order for us to understand it.
- Longest prophecy from Babylon to (filled the whole earth) New Jerusalem.
- That no place was found for them = Third coming of Jesus.
- From Babylon to the third coming.

The Image

Most important prophecy as it lays the foundation for all other prophecies in the book of Daniel.



Observation (look for)

- Repeated terms
- Definitions
- Descriptions
- Comparison
- Contrast
- Emphasise

The Dream

- Elements, Precious
- Why is it gold, silver what's the difference?
- Value is decreasing Gold > Silver > Brass > Iron > Iron Clay
- Strength increases Gold > Silver > Brass > Iron > Iron Clay

2:36 This [is] the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king.

2:37 Thou, O king, [art] a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.

- You are the best kingdom of all kingdoms.
- {Det 10:17} The title king of kings belongs to God only
- Who is the king of the beast? Lion; Therefore Gold = Lion
- "A lion [which is] strongest among beasts, and turneth not away for any" {Prov 30:30}

2:38 And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou [art] this head of gold.

- Head of Gold is Babylon {Dan 2:38}
- {Dan 2:37-38} = Description of Babylon.
- God gave the kingdom.
- Head represents {Eph 5:26} Leader of all other kingdoms.
- The whole image is Babylon as the head controls the whole body.
- There may be other kingdoms coming after Babylon with different names but it is still Babylon.
- God is showing one image with different aspects.
- One philosophy.
- Is the image positive or negative, good or bad? The stone is coming to destroy it therefore it is evil; the whole image had the character of Babylon.

2:39 And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth.

- This all it says about the second kingdom is one sentence.
- Book of Daniel has more political aspect to prophecy (kings).
- Book of Revelation is more ecclesiastic aspect to prophecy (churches).
- Gods people in OT where nation.
- Gods people in NT are a church.

- Second kingdom of silver (less value, but stronger) .
- Second kingdom is Medes and Persians {Dan 5:28} {Isa 45:1}.
- Second kingdom is also the arms (Medes and Persians).
- God only told the king that he would be attacked but not who or when as it was future.
- Third kingdom is Grecia {Dan 8:21}
- Daniel chapter 2 is the best place to show that Gods word is truth.
- There is more detail then the second kingdom.
- Alexander the Great conquered the world at 32.
- Greece was known for its use of Silver. [\(LOOKUP\)](#)

2:40 And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all [things]: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise.

- Out of the four kingdoms the fourth has the more details.
- We need to study the forth kingdom; Rome.
- Rome was known for the use of Iron.
- Breaketh in pieces keeps repeating {Ps 2:9} Jesus is the one who breaks; but here it is Rome. Characteristics of Christ; Against Christ; Anti-Christ {Isa 53:5}
- Against Christ > They killed him.
- Bruise {Gen 3:15} foretelling the death of Christ; that the Romans would kill Christ.
- Bruise connotation of cross.
- The stone breaks in pieces paying back.
- {Dan 7:23} - Forth kingdom upon earth; devour the whole earth.
- {Luk 2:1} - Decree unto the whole world.

2:41 And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay.

- The kingdom shall be divided.
- One kingdom.
- kingdom shall be divided (by iron and clay).
- Iron = kingdom (Broken Rome - Characteristics (political entity with persecution)).
- Clay = kingdom.
 - Trying to unite but they cannot, only Christ can have church and state and not have persecution.
 - {Acts 5:31} Prince belongs to Jesus in the context of State, saviour in context of Church.
 - {Rev 1:5-6} Prince (State), sins (Church); kings and priests.
 - {Rev 15:3} God, King.
 - {Rev 19:16} KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.
- Only church and state can exist with Christ but Anti Christ tries to bring it about but it can only bring persecution.
- From Babylon to Rome it was church and state but pagan gods;
- In Iron Clay its state and pagan religion which is called Christian.
- Last day issues is union of church and state.
- This kingdom is trying to be like Christ (Anti).
- Potters clay = Good connotation. {Isa 643:8}
- Miry clay = (Heb #2916) To be sticking, dirt swept away, dirt.

- "He brought me up also out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, [and] established my goings." {Ps 40:2}
- This is a NEGATIVE, like a pit (margin; Pit of Noise) = Confusion = Babylon
- {2 Thess 2:3} falling way (opposite) departing from the true faith.
- Potters clay to Miry clay = falling away.

The Ten toes

2:42 And [as] the toes of the feet [were] part of iron, and part of clay, [so] the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken.



- Toes are part of the feet - not separate but part.
- The toes are still iron and clay.
- All the toes are ONE kingdom.
- {Rev 17:12} Ten horns are ten king's with no Kingdom, one mind one kingdom.
- Kingdom of Iron and clay.
- 5 Kingdoms and after this is kingdom of God.
- strong, and partly broken (opposite of strong is weak) so, strong and weak.
- Iron = political (strong).
- Clay = religious (weak) because of {v41} depending on political power for its power therefore it is weak, has not merit.

2:43 And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.

- Out of five kingdoms the kingdom with the most detail is the fifth.
- All these kingdoms are world wide kingdoms.
- What is the climatic point of the prophecy? The stone.
- Its getting weaker and weaker, in moral value (degeneration).
- Its increasing in its strength in sin and political power (area).
- These kingdoms where connected with Gods people.
- Now spiritual Israel with iron and clay.
- Their relationship to Gods people was that they were conquered by them.
- This image is destroying Gods people. That's why God is going to destroy it.
- The images in Babylon have religious connotation (idol).
- This image has political connotation (kingdoms)
- Put these together (church + state) = persecution (Christ was killed by union of church (blasphemy) and state (king of Jews))?
- Gods people through gold, silver, iron, iron and clay are persecuted.
- This images from top to bottom has religion and political entities.
- Shall not cleave {Gen 2:24} uniting. This a union that will not happen.
- Mingle themselves with the seed of men = (intercourse man and women).
- Intercourse: refers to fornication, or the mixture of (church and state).

Iron and Clay

- Iron is political (Broken Roman Empire).
- Clay is {Isa 64:8} Gods people or Church.
- Feet is a combination of Church and State, which equals persecution.
- Why is Gods kingdom represented as a stone?
- Stoning is associated with the punishment of breaking the law. {Jon 8:1-7}
- God will judge the whole world after the iron and clay.
- Where are Babylon, Medes and Persians, Greece, and Rome today?
- The stone is meant to destroy all three kingdoms, but they don't exist, all the characteristics still exist in the kingdom of iron and clay.
- If we setup this image according to time were missing the toes. (One Kingdom) {Dan 2:42}
- The time will come when the toes will form and bring persecution to Gods people.
- Why is the (Iron Clay) stronger?
- The 4 kingdoms persecuted Gods people with paganism.
- The (Iron Clay) persecuted Gods people with "Christian" religion.
- It's stronger because of its deception.
- Because they can use the name of God to destroy the Christian people.

2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, [but] it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

- These kingdoms were already destroyed political speaking.
- The bible makes it sound as if they all exist.
- Philosophy, religion, politics of Babylon all exist in the feet.
- All these continued into the feet {Rev 13:2}.
- {Matt 12:34} out of the heart the mouth speaks
- What is the main emphasis of Babylon?
 - Idol worship {Dan 3}
- What is the main emphasis of Medes and Persians?
 - Decree that cannot be changed (infallibility) {Dan 6}
- What is the main emphasis of Greece?
 - Philosophy {Acts 17:21}
- What is the main emphasis of Rome?
 - Persecution military power {Matt 2:16}
- The feet contain, (Idol worship; Infallibility; Philosophy; Military power)

2:45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream [is] certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

- Iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold.
- (5 thing mentioned).
- What is the centre ingredient? Clay
- Total Destruction {Matt 21:44}

2:46 Then the king Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and worshipped Daniel, and commanded that they should offer an oblation and sweet odours unto him.

2:47 The king answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a truth [it is], that your God [is] a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldst reveal this secret.

2:48 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.

2:49 Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, over the affairs of the province of Babylon: but Daniel [sat] in the gate of the king.