

IN SOVEREIGN HANDS

DANIEL: GOD'S REPRESENTATIVE TO HIS GENERATION

PART 3

THERE IS A GOD IN HEAVEN...

Whether Men Choose to Believe It Or Not

(Daniel 2:1-30)

INTRODUCTION:

"However, there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will take place in the latter days...."

—Daniel 2:28a

THE TEXT: NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S _____ AND DANIEL'S _____

1. THE KING'S _____ : (v. 1-3)

"Now in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was troubled and his sleep left him. ...The king said to them, 'I had a dream and my spirit is anxious to understand the dream.'"

2. THE KING'S _____ : (v. 4-6)

"...if you do not make known to me the dream and its interpretation, you will be torn limb from limb and your houses will be made a rubbish heap. But if you declare the dream and its interpretation, you will receive from me gifts and a reward and great honor; therefore declare to me the dream and its interpretation."

3. THE KING'S _____ : (v. 7-13)

"...if you do not make the dream known to me, there is only one decree for you. ...therefore tell me the dream, that I may know that you can declare to me its interpretation. ...Because of this the king became indignant and very furious and gave orders to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. So the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they looked for Daniel and his friends to kill them."

TWO OBSERVATIONS:

1. The _____ of humanity should be no surprise to _____.

"...there is not a man on earth who could declare the matter for the king... no one else could declare it to the king except gods, whose dwelling is not with mortal flesh."

—Daniel 2:10, 11

2. The _____ of humanity is no surprise to _____.

"...He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will take place in the latter days. ... on your bed your thoughts turned to what would take place in the future..."

—Daniel 2:28

**TRANSFERABLE IMPLICATIONS:
WHEN CONFRONTED WITH A WORLD SYSTEM AT ODDS WITH YOUR FAITH...**

1A. DON'T _____ . (v. 14-16)

"Then Daniel replied with discretion and discernment to Arioch..."

2A. TURN TO _____ . (v. 17, 18)

"Then Daniel went to his house and informed his friends, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, about the matter, **so that they might request compassion from the God of heaven** concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his friends would not be destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon."

3A. BEGIN WITH _____ . (v. 19, 20)

"Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven... 'Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever, for wisdom and power belong to Him."

4A. ACKNOWLEDGE HIS _____ . (v. 21-23)

1B. He _____ the _____ . (v. 21)

"It is He who changes the times and the epochs..."

2B. He _____ His _____ . (v. 22)

"It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things..."

3B. He _____ His _____ . (v. 23)

"To You, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, for You have given me wisdom and power; Even now You have made known to me what we requested of You, for You have made known to us the king's matter."

5A. UNDERSTAND YOUR _____ . (v. 24-30a)

"...However, there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will take place in the latter days. This was your dream and the visions in your mind while on your bed. As for you, O king, while on your bed your thoughts turned to what would take place in the future; and He who reveals mysteries has made known to you what will take place. But as for me, this mystery has not been revealed to me for any wisdom residing in me more than in any other living man..."

6A. FULFILL YOUR _____ . (v. 30b)

"...this mystery [has been revealed to me]...for the purpose of making the interpretation known to the king, and that you may understand the thoughts of your mind."

CONCLUSION: