



SLEEPLESS IN BABYLON

Daniel 2:1-28

I. The Fear of Hopeless Situations

Daniel 2:3 – “And the king said to them, ‘I have had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to know the dream’.”

Application: Power and wealth do not produce peace of mind.

- Shakespeare once said, “Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.”

II. The Failure of Godless Systems

Daniel 2:10 – “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. It is a difficult 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.’”

The Brain-Trust of Babylon:

- Magicians = Hebrew root for “stylus” or “pen” = They were the scholars
- Astrologers = They predict the future through the stars.
- Sorcerers = “mediums” – or those who claim to contact the dead, but really it is demonically inspired.
- Chaldeans = the wise men of that day.

Nebuchadnezzar knows they lie to him. He intends to humiliate them with this request.

Daniel 2:8-9, “...My decision is firm... you have agreed to speak lying and corrupt words before me till the time has changed...”

Application: Satan cannot read your mind. If he could, he would have informed these men what Nebuchadnezzar’s dream was and some kind of interpretation.

Application: God loves to expose the faultiness of human wisdom and intellectual pride without God.

- Example: Moses and Aaron with Egyptian magicians / Elijah against the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel
- *1 Corinthians 1:20, "Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?"*

III. The Faith of a Fearless Servant

He prayed corporately in Daniel 2:17 and praised God for the answer in Daniel 2:20-23.

Daniel did not depend upon political power or worldly wisdom. He simply prayed.

Because of prayer (David Jeremiah):

- He was composed in a crisis.
- He was courageous before the captain.
- He was careful to praise God (without pride).
- He was confident in front of the king.

Daniel 2:24, "Therefore Daniel went to Arioch... 'I will tell the king the interpretation'."

Daniel 2:28, "There is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. Your dream, and the visions of your head upon your bed were these..."

Application: God wants us dependent upon Him more than we are dependent upon political power and worldly wisdom to accomplish His purposes in this world.

EXTRA: GOD CAN SOMETIMES USE DREAMS TO GUIDE YOU

Some Scripture on Dreams

Numbers 12:6 (NKJV) ⁶ Then He said, "Hear now My words: "If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream.

Jeremiah 23:28 (NKJV) ²⁸ "The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream; And he who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully. What *is* the chaff to the wheat?" says the Lord.

Joel 2:28 (NKJV) 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.

Genesis 37:5 (NKJV) ⁵ Now Joseph had a dream, and he told *it* to his brothers; and they hated him even more.

Genesis 40:5 (NKJV) ⁵ Then the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt, who *were* confined in the prison, had a dream, both of them, each man's dream in one night *and* each man's dream with its *own* interpretation.

Matthew 2:12 (NKJV) ¹² Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

Matthew 27:19 (NKJV) ¹⁹ While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent to him, saying, "Have nothing to do with that just Man, for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him."