

# DANIEL 2

TRUST IN THE INFINITE GOD = CONFIDENCE FOR THE FINITE MAN

*Throughout our lives we find ourselves **limited** in answers (“Why?”) and resources (“How am I going to...?”). It is in these times that God’s **unlimited** power comes to the forefront. In **Daniel 2**, we will see this played out and how our confidence in Christ can grow!*



**LIMITED – 2:1-16**

# • Limited in answers – 2:1-3

- Most of the time, we only get little glimpse of what God is going to do.
- Stretching, not stressing – this is the *‘walk by faith’* process – **2 Corinthians 5:7**

*\*\*\* Shift in language – From Hebrew to Aramaic  
(from 2:4-7:28) \*\*\**

- Limited in knowledge – 2:4-11

- A distressed king disgraces his “wise men” & reveals who they really are!
- Our finiteness reveals our need for God’s sovereign, infinite power!

- Limited in time – 2:12-16

- “Timeless” Principle: Think, don’t react...with objections (v. 11) or anger (v. 12). Instead respond with *‘tact and discretion’* (v. 14).





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**“FEAR STIFLES OUR THINKING AND ACTIONS. IT  
CREATES INDECISIVENESS THAT RESULTS IN  
STAGNATION.”**

**– CHARLES STANLEY**

**PRINCIPLE:**  
CONFIDENCE IN  
CHRIST BEGINS  
WITH OUR  
ACKNOWLEDGING  
OUR **FINITENESS.**

**UNLIMITED – 2:17-49**

- Unlimited in resources – **2:17-18**
  - Community – Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah (**Hebrews 10:24-25**).
  - Prayer

“PRAYER IS THE SLENDER  
NERVE THAT MOVES THE  
MUSCLE OF OMNIPOTENCE.”  
– **CHARLES SPURGEON**

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- **Unlimited in answers – 2:19-30**

- God answers prayers...BIG TIME!

- Our response to God's answer should be praise!

- Praise results in proclamation.

- Proclamation results in worship – **Daniel 2:20-23**  
– **Key passage in Daniel!**





<sup>20</sup> and Daniel declared:

May the name of God  
be praised forever and ever,  
for wisdom and power belong to him.

<sup>21</sup> He changes the times and seasons;  
he removes kings and establishes kings.  
He gives wisdom to the wise  
and knowledge to those  
who have understanding.

<sup>22</sup> He reveals the deep and hidden things;  
he knows what is in the darkness,  
and light dwells with him.

<sup>23</sup> I offer thanks and praise to you,  
God of my ancestors,  
because you have given me  
wisdom and power.

And now you have let me know  
what we asked of you,  
for you have let us know  
the king's mystery.

**PRINCIPLE:**  
CONFIDENCE IN  
CHRIST IS  
**STRENGTHENED** BY  
ANSWERED  
**PRAYER.**



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## Unlimited in knowledge – 2:31-49

- The Dream – vv. **31-35** The statue – big and foreboding.
- The Stone – out of nowhere, tougher & in control!

## The Interpretation – vv. 36-45

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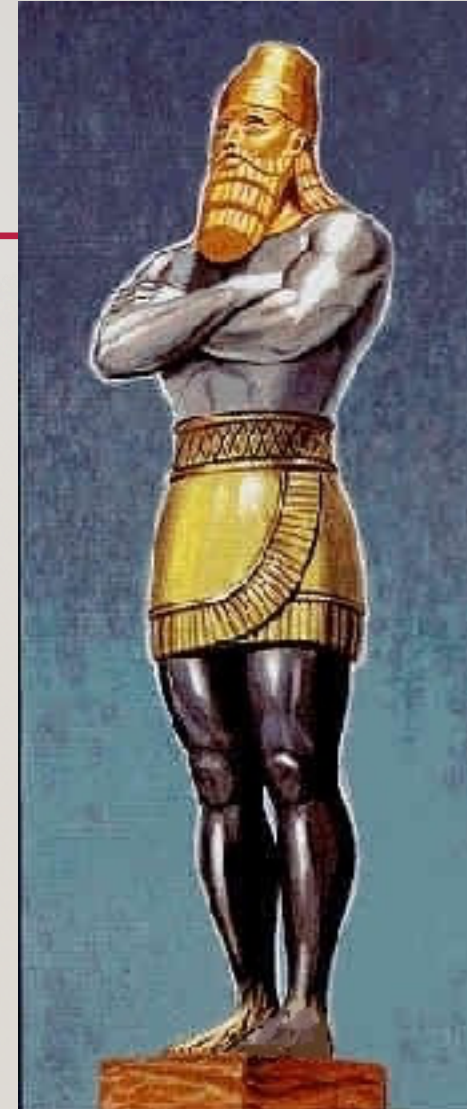
The head of gold – Babylon kingdom – 639-539 B.C..

The breast and arms of silver – the Medo-Persian Empire – 539-330 B.C.

The belly and thighs of bronze – the Grecian kingdom – 330 – 63 B.C.

The legs of iron – the Roman Empire – 63 B.C. – 475 A.D.

The feet and toes of iron mixed with clay – The revived Roman Empire – TBA





## The Reaction – AWE! – vv. **46-49**

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Response – Prostration & offerings.

Recognition – Understanding Who really gets the credit.

Request – Set up for chapter **3**...and **4**.

**PRINCIPLE:**  
CONFIDENCE IN  
CHRIST IS  
SOLIDIFIED BY THE  
**SOVEREIGNTY** OF  
GOD!

# APPLICALOGY – HOW TO BUILD CONFIDENCE IN CHRIST!

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- **Proponent** – **Who** God revealed the dream to; a 17-year-old...who was **faithful!**
- **Position** – Your **outlook** (is God in control or you?) determines your **outcome** (His plan or mine?) – see also the book of **Philippians**.
- **Production** – What looks like a tragedy is really an **opportunity** for triumph! – **Genesis 37-50**.
- **Promise** – God tells us how the story ends (see **Revelation** – we win)! If we can trust Him for the big things (salvation, life), we can trust Him for the smaller things too.
- **Provision** – God is a God of **details**; He knows every problem we will ever face before we even existed & He has provided for the solution! See also **Jeremiah 1:5; Eph. 1:3-14**.

# Discussion Questions

- Often, our limitations reveal God's unlimited ability to work in our lives. Talk about a time when you were limited in answers, knowledge, and/or time. What happened? How did you respond?
- Describe a time when God answered one of your prayers. Did the answer come right away or later? How did you react? What did you do because of the answered prayer? How did God's answer to your prayer impact your faith?
- What would you do if you found out how the rest of your life would play out? *What* would you change? *How* would you change it? *Why* would you change it?
- What have you learned today that could change your life forever?
- Why is it difficult for us to trust God when we "go through the process?" How can we prevent ourselves, while 'going through the process,' to not go into "freakout mode?"

