



# Daniel

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## Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- Nebuchadnezzar had a dream that left him troubled and unable to return to sleep.
- He summoned all the people who purported to have special insight and wisdom.
  - Their sources of wisdom are reflected in the different terminology to describe them.
    - Some used astronomy and astrology
    - Some used special incantations or spells

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## Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- He summoned all the people who purported to have special insight and wisdom.
  - Their sources of wisdom are reflected in the different terminology to describe them.
    - Some observed the movement of animals, particularly birds
    - Some used the entrails of animals
    - Some studied writings
    - Sacrifices were offered to their idols to try to gain insights

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## Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- Nebuchadnezzar made the astounding request that these men tell what he had dreamed and then give the interpretation.
  - Nebuchadnezzar wanted to make sure the interpretation was accurate.
  - He wanted to be sure these men did not give him an opinion or guess.
  - He offered a great reward for compliance.

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## Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- Nebuchadnezzar made the astounding request that these men tell what he had dreamed and then give the interpretation.
  - He assured destruction and death if they did not or could not do all he asked.
  - All of these men replied that this was an unreasonable request and could only be supernaturally granted.

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## Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- Nebuchadnezzar ordered the execution of all the wise men of Babylon.
  - Since Daniel, Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael were in this group they would suffer the same fate.
  - Again, God's favor rested on Daniel to the extent that Arioch, the captain of the guard, explained the situation to Daniel.
  - Daniel then went in and requested that the king give him a time to present the interpretation.

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## Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- Nebuchadnezzar ordered the execution of all the wise men of Babylon.
  - Daniel then went to his companions and urged them to pray that God would grant them mercy by revealing the dream.
  - God did reveal the dream to Daniel that night.

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## Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- Nebuchadnezzar ordered the execution of all the wise men of Babylon.
  - Daniel responded first by heartfelt praise and thanksgiving to God.
  - Daniel's standing is revealed by the fact that Arioch went to the king with the confident assertion that he had found one who would make the interpretation known.

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## Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- Daniel both revealed and interpreted the dream.
  - At Nebuchadnezzar's inquiry if he could disclose the dream and interpretation, Daniel agreed with the other wise men that no man could accomplish this but revealed that there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries.

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### Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- Daniel both revealed and interpreted the dream.
  - Daniel captured the king's attention with the opening words revealing the king's thoughts as he lay on his bed.
  - Daniel again punctuated the fact that there was nothing special about him but that God was revealing future events to the king.

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### Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- Daniel both revealed and interpreted the dream.
  - The Dream
    - An image described as mighty, exceedingly bright and frightening.
      - Head of gold
      - Chest and arms of silver
      - Middle and thighs of bronze
      - Legs of iron
      - Feet mixture of iron and clay

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### Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- Daniel both revealed and interpreted the dream.
  - The Dream
    - A stone struck the image at the feet completely destroying the whole image.
    - The stone became a great mountain and filled the earth.

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## Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- Daniel both revealed and interpreted the dream.
  - The Interpretation
    - The statue represents the present kingdom and ensuing kingdoms of the world.
      - Head of gold-Babylon under Nebuchadnezzar
      - Chest and arms of silver- Medo-Persian Empire
      - Middle and thighs of bronze-Greek Empire
      - Legs of iron-Roman Empire
      - Feet mixture of iron and clay-Various nations of the world after the Roman Empire

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## Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- Daniel both revealed and interpreted the dream.
  - The Interpretation
    - A stone struck the image at the feet completely destroying the whole image.
    - The stone became a great mountain and filled the earth-God's kingdom.
    - Daniel ended by again showing that a great God had revealed these things to him.

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## Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

- Nebuchadnezzar's response
  - Honored Daniel probably to the point of embarrassment
  - Declared that Daniel's God is the God above all gods and the Lord above all king.
  - Rewarded Daniel richly both materially and in elevated position
    - Made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon
      - Daniel requested that his three companions take this position
    - Made him chief over all the wise men of Babylon

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### Lessons

- Truth has nothing to fear from healthy skepticism.
- An obedient walk with God will result in confidence in God.
- Exercising confidence in God results in greater revelation of His glorious being.
- We can live in the confidence that God knows and controls the future.
- Be diligent to direct attention to God.

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### Lessons

- Remember the people who helped you get to where you are today.

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