



COUNTER CULTURE SERIES

Part 2: Wise Guys

Scripture: Daniel 2:1-49 (ESV) p737

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream: (v1-11) Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylon has a dream that troubles his spirit. He needs the interpretation for the dream, and asks all his Wise Men to first recall to him the dream; then interpret the Dream. The Wise Men claim that they, or any other man, is not able to do it, only "the gods can". The King is furious and demands that, if the Dream can not be recalled and interpreted, ALL Wise Men in Babylon shall be killed, which includes Daniel and his friends.

1. God Reveals Nebuchadnezzar's Dream (Read v12-30)

- (v12-16) Daniel acts in faith and boldly asks to show the King the Dream and it's interpretation **BEFORE** God gives it to Daniel.
- (v17-18) Daniel shows the right response by making the matter known to his friends and faithfully _____ about it.
- (v19-23) Unlike the wise men of Babylon and their gods, God was able and willing to reveal the mystery to Daniel. Daniel thanked and blessed God for answering his prayer: _____ and _____ before the King of Babylon.
- (v24-30) Daniel attributes the accomplishment to God, not himself or any other man.

2. Daniel Interprets Nebuchadnezzar's Dream (Read v31-45)

- (v31-35) Daniel recalls the dream in vivid detail.
 - (v36-45) Daniel rightly interprets the King's dream:
 - Earthly Kingdoms that rule the Earth will pass and become weaker/divided.
 - In the days of the last Earthly kingdom, God will set up His Kingdom: a kingdom that shall never be destroyed and will endure forever. (Psalm 39:4-6) p468
 - "Made by no human hand" - The stone that struck the statue is _____
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.... “What then is this that is written:

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone?

Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken into pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

(Luke 20:17-18) p879

3. Daniel is Promoted (Read v46-49)

- King Nebuchadnezzar promotes Daniel and his friends in the Babylonian court:

(Jeremiah 29:7) p656 - God commands his exiles to seek _____ for the city that they have been exiled to. God gives Daniel and his friends much greater opportunity to promote peace and good for the city.

We have been “exiled to the World”... but God has given us the opportunity to promote _____ to the World.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ***How are we called to act in tough situations?***
- ***How does God “answer” our prayers? ...What should we do when God answers our prayers?***
- ***When God works and accomplishes His will in our lives, who do we attribute?***
- ***After reading this scripture, what are we to think about our earthly lives - our earthly authority, power, possessions, etc?***

Closing Prayer Topic:

Father God, we pray that you will give us faith to act boldly in Your Name. Help us to seek your Wisdom and Might not our own. What is impossible to man is not impossible for you God. Help us to know that Your Kingdom will not be inherited by anyone, and it will endure forever. Amen.

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