



DANIEL

Chapter 2:1-30

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Ch.2 Major Divisions

V 1-30 give us the history of Nebuchadnezzar's dream and how Daniel interpreted it

V 31-49 Actual dream itself and what it meant.

A 3 act Play

The first part of Ch. 2 is like a 3 act play

- Act 1 - 1-13 Nebuchadnezzar is on the stage by him self, Daniel is not in the picture
- Act 2 - 14-23 Daniel is the central figure on the stage.
- Act 3 - 24-30 both Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar are on the stage together.

Act-1: Ch2. V 1-13

- Ch2 : V1 King's dream
- V 2-4 King's determination
- V 5-6 Kings demand:
- V 7 - 11 a very fast moving interchange between the king and the wise men
- V12 & 13 King's decree

Oh, the sin and the folly of pretension. The emphasis is not to be put on Nebuchadnezzar's wrath and cruelty, but on that which occasioned it. These sons of the colleges were trained and paid to interpret mysteries, and it is reasonable to assume that the means whereby they could know the interpretation of a dream might also be employed to discover the dream itself. The fact is, they were frauds. The four Hebrews studied astrology to understand it, not to believe it, just as today the theological student may study evolution to understand it, but not to believe it. Daniel 2:10 shows in one single sentence that all of the astrology and necromancy and oracles and dreams and mantic revelations of the whole pagan world for six thousand years are nothing but imbecilities and lies, and it proves that all the religions and arts and sciences and philosophies and attainments and powers of men apart from God-inspired prophets and an all-glorious Christ are nothing but emptiness and vanity as regards any true and adequate knowledge of the purpose and will of God.

Secular Education

What happens when Christian parents send their children into a secular environment for their education? The young people are bombarded with information and opinions in all of their subjects, most of which are contrary to God's word. Even students who are solid in their beliefs may succumb to the pressure of the "wise men" in their classes. When it comes to dealing with the important priorities of life that have to do with the revelation of God's word, we can only find it in a place where godly men stand behind the teaching desk.

Many times I have heard parents say, "I want my child to have the best education in his field, and he can't find that in a Christian school." I do not believe that is true. Private Christian schools and colleges are academically high, and I strongly urge parents and students to investigate and consider the lifelong consequences. Brilliant scholars, who represent the secular viewpoint of their day, haven't graduated from kindergarten when it comes to dealing with the important matters of the kingdom of God.

Act 2: V 14-23

1. Daniel's problem V 13 & 14
2. Daniel's Poise V 15 & 16
3. Daniel's persuasion V16
4. Daniel's Prayer V 17 & 18
5. Daniel's performance V 19
6. Daniel's praise V 20-22
7. Personal nature of Daniel's prayer V 23

Act 3: V 24-30

A contrast between Arioch and Daniel

- Arioch's pride
- Daniel's humility
- Daniel was a man
 - Composed before a crisis
 - Courageous before the captain who can take his life
 - Confident before God in prayer
 - Careful before his success to give praise to the Lord.
 - When God answered his prayer, he was contrite in spirit