Dan. 2: 1-24

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IV

SUBJECT: The Dream of Nebuchadnezzar

The Wisdom of men and of God

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Dan. 2: 1-24

The Wisdom of Men and of God

The dream
The inability of the magi
The revelation to Daniel

The remarkable, astonishing, magic of God
1. Not, disaster, the unusual prophecy
2. 77 nations, his divine plan
3. not in the wisdom of this world
4. saving for the sake of the righteous

I. The Story In The Text

1. The dream of Nebuchadnezzar

2:1 "in the second year..." Cir. 604 monarch, after death of Nabopolassar, then about 4 years after Dan. taken captive, a year after finished his Chaldean training in the secrets of the magi.

Nebuchadnezzar now fully established on the throne. All rivals crushed. Time to take to heart the lessons of the dream.

Nebuchadnezzar the subject of prophecy, as Jer. 25:8-11; 27:4-8. Now a revelation made to the king himself.

(1) Nothing strange, that God reveals a matter in a dream.
God had said: Num. 12:6, "to more face to face, to other..."
God appeared to Jacob in a dream at Bethel
God spoke to Joseph in dreams
God appeared to Solomon in a dream
(a) Pr. Truett
(2) Not anything unusual for God to reveal his message to a Gentiles prince
God warned of the famine in Egypt through a dream
God spoke to Abimelech in a dream Gen 20:1-18 (which saved a kingdom)
God revealed to a Midianite in a dream the victory of Gideon
God uses dreams when he uses the unrighteous for righteous purposes; a king
Pharaoh or Cyrus when God uses the unrighteous for righteous purposes; a king
messy, roughly, unruly men

2:1 "His spirit troubled". "sleep broke from him"
No terror like the soul grasped in fear, and agony. The darkness adds to the fear.
Or, or through the hours of the night,
Intense agitation of mind. Convinced, the dream portended events of no
common importance. Tried resolutely again and again to recall and grasp
shape to the vague images that still floated in his mind. In vain. The more
he tried the more he failed. The dream had startled the king; a roughly colossal
of brilliant metal, suddenly destroyed by a stone; the image fell in pieces while
the stone grew to fill the earth. Still, strange as the vision had been, no clear impression
upon his mind. Only a vague sense of terror. Tried, could recall nothing.
of the tossing of the sea after the storm has passed; waves of terror still surging,
thoughts clashing, but the cause of the unrest has passed away.

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2:3 He frightened by our interpretation. "Troubled him!" We understand. We in the same state of mind. The past world events of the recent decades like a terrible dream. Events, they are only as in a dream, for meaningless events. Yet much is seemed as plain as day; but the next moment the meaning hidden in impenetrable fog. Impossible to understand the strange world mists? Futility to analyze them in our intellect plan.

Destiny Kaiser William II – a Hitler
Destiny Hitler – a Stalin
Destiny Fascism – communism
Destiny France – a De Gaulle
The new Christ, alliance from the Legions – Mussolini – Mussolini Hitler – Mussolini Stalin

Nebuchadnezzar may have lived elsewhere, seem go but his face appear plain before us. He is the, we, Sitting back in today.

2. The Interpretation, the Intellectual

2:2 We need wise friends, in war search, sent for the magi.

"magicians" – practical magic, all the superstitions into a economic?
"fortune tellers" – the astrologers
"astrologer" – men who pretended to tell fortunes went by the study of the stars.
much in vogue then, as today: newspapers.
"sorcerers" – men or priests to hold communications with the dead. Used potions claimed to possess supernatural powers, Annually through the and spirits. modern spiritualism or magic.
"Chaldeans" – a priestly sect, philosophers of the Babylonian caste in India. Sect, cleft, learned.

They formed an important order, the state.

Actually, they possess considerable real knowledge. We find among the cuneiform inscriptions tablets astronomical and astrological observations made in very early times in intensity which to. The great tablet bear on this matter called "the Elucidation", Bel, consisting of 72 chapters. Was composed at least 100 years after the time, Nebuchadnezzar in was apparently co. by BEROSUS priest Bel. A writer, valuable scientific treatise which a strange medley of fortune-telling and conjuring.

They appear before only in past magi-dom. Complimented they are invited. Rich gift, honor awaited them. This reward achieved by the skillful use of the single victim.

This anticipation turns to terrible confusion.

The more the king tried to recall the dream, the more determined he was that the magi should recount the origin for him.

Did not the magi exist, wealth, rank, power, because they had influence with the immortals? They must now make good this claim.

when in that abject kingdom [illegible] could not [illegible] [illegible]
question, his rage knew no bounds. When fear cut, the king's treasury.
If they could not tell the dream, we see the dream, frauds. He had been
brought up not only to [illegible] the magi but to reverse them.
But the king a skeptic in his own religion. "Tell me the dream — the
show proof that you have divine authority to interpret and unfold the mystery."

The magi dumfounded, made very a case and quickly.
The king uncertain
Yet the king's dream was much such a request
The magi's .. [illegible] explain just a city legend
The king the more agitated. An answer is needed, and.
[a picture, the whole world in this great tragic dream.

3. Prayer.
The king was furious. Woe to those who could not quick the
spirit, pratify the demands, the Oriental despot.
Decree the death, all the magi. Power corrupts — absolute power
corrupts absolutely. Like a politician, what unscrupulous means [illegible]
to be for most, [illegible] to be plain. We need restraint, limitation,
constitutional laws, constitutionalism.
The so very [illegible] rulers, a man, a vicious, cruel tyrannt.
of Cleopatra, points on above.

2:13 "sought Daniel ... to be slain"
Probably, lines apart, big guns. They were at war the magi who had been no ability
called to the king's palace
:15 Dan let matter his faith and his prayer, most. When news reached Dan
he answer with counsel and wisdom.
:16 Instead, big Daniel to the prison when the magi were collected for
execution, Dan. is taken into the king's presence. Dan promise to reveal the dream
said faith. Confident God would answer his supplication. Sublime faith
Asks for time. Why ask for time? The answer in the subsequent [illegible]:
that he might speak to God, implore on bended knee King, instructor, prudence.
:17,18. United prayer. Together they pray. Could her prayed alone. But
much 18:19. The 4 youth under sentence of death. All night prayer vigil
There is a mystery from God which is given at the moment when the
widest, man fails. There is One who can see light after man can only
obtain darkness.

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the children in the efficacy of prayer. The magi - miraculously, perhaps of Mt. 8:19

But to Daniel and his friends, prayer was the outpouring of the heart to a personal God, the Almighty in Heaven. When by after weeks, forbidden to pray, he must have realized how prayer had saved him. But for prayer he would have been put to death in early manhood. His strength, comfort through the years. Was he in old age to forfeit the privilege which in his youth from the pillow of his infancy? No. But would have prayed there as this had been the outward result. A blessing too treasured, a privilege too precious, a duty too holy, to be lightly abandoned.

4. Praise

2:19-23 An answer. Jesus in the fourth year of his ministry, Barnabas calls his I Sam 2:3. / notably time prayer to praise. Petitioner checks to Mm.

The man who prays sincerely in the A.M. will be sincerely praise this in the P.M. 'Is any afflicted? let him pray. Merry? sing.'

It is easy to be X^n when we want something and Reason allows when we have obtained it. Off as a X^n - appeal to PM as a X^n

Prom ... Pleasing ...

(a) contrition, remind.

5. Humility

2:24, 30 Modesty. Humility. Dare stand to reach the King look only for his to the King, the gift of wisdom.

not - look - let - did?

(a) God has no-heaven wonderful day

II The Astonishing, Remarkable ways of God

1. His everlasting mercies to His people.

The city of Jew, the modern of Judah, the Temple in ruins. The sacred website of the property of the ministry.
The play had departed from between the Cherubim.
"Ichabod, Ichabod" the glory is departed, the sad inscription on the altar rules
The sons & daughters, fruits were captives, partly the Egyptians.
How deeply distressed the world, Israel in the bondhouse. the oracles of God.

But in the strait, agonizing tragedy, see how God manifests his
mercy, pity, wisdom, truth. All apart from natural advantages, the
scattered Israel and the way not dependent upon outward accidents.
of the upper Alpha.

When the outward FABRIC is dissolved, the inward glory that seems indistinct
to the world by break forth with jewels splendor, spreads throughout the
world with greatly speed.
(1) Christ. Burned. Statue of Christ on side walls.

Often when the visible church is in ruins, darkness not content upon it
with a more glorious frame, a house not made with hands.
more beautiful than the temples, Baalbec
" magnificent " cathedrals, Europe
" splendid " theatres of Greece
" magnificent " temples of Jupiter in all its splendor.
Often when the church has no visible upon her head, no Urim & Thummim
upon her breast, but the word reads more legibly the inscription upon her
glow: " Should me. Not Ichabod the Ly mother."

2. God gives the greatest manifestations of His mind to suffering.

The children of God in the wilderness, the commandments.
The weeping prophet, the prophet of retreat
The Coptic David beside the brook, by Ulai and the Hiddekel Rivers,
the unfolding eyes.
Paul, imprisoned, the apostle mourns, rejoicing
John, with a pen on dreary Patmos, the grand pensioner, the unity
The three witnessing prophets in sackcloth five.
to men who felt they had unity on earth did not make known his
need the God in Heaven
To the eye it was shut upon all the splendor of Christ did not disclose
the fashion, the form, beauty.

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3. He brings to nought the wisdom of this world.

God silences the wisdom of men.

These magi compelled to own their ignorance before Baby wonder
wisdom. Then God shows the wisdom of men to be folly.
(a) of study to make it still confer to men. Back to simplicity of life.
cf. Job. 38:1-7 ch.; 40:1-3, 5f.
cf. Paul I Cor. 1: 25, 27-29
cf. Jesus' little babes' Matt 11:25; Lk 10:21

What relationship did we do. When in despair, call upon "
children, intellectual intelligence, the learned. 2:2 But they not rely on
my. They are religion as he is. Compelled to admit it 2:
the only upon the intellectual, influential men, the wise, the powerful,
the practitioners. Need the women, 3rd.
Now philosophy only for boys
Learned conclude it commence.

4. He saves the lost for the sake of the righteous
Dan. fast request. Daily not the magi - "
2:24 Dan. fast request. Daily not the magi - "
Royalty, Polytheistic religion, sacrificed for Israel's sake Gen 27:23, 24
Israel for Moses' sake Ps 106:23; Ezek. 22:30 standing in the breach
~~Israel~~ / ~~Polytheistic cult for~~
God would have allowed Sodom for 10 righteous. The church, righteous keep here
The world spared just for the church sake. The church, righteous keep here
bad just just. Day by day when the church is caught up. The world.
The world on edge for righteous sake.
of a church. Orphans, at Egypt. But if no church - crying
Jesus

So we are saved for Jesus' sake.