

CAUGHT IN CIRCUMSTANCES

DANIEL 2:1-3 NLT One night during the second year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar had such disturbing dreams that he couldn't sleep. ⁽²⁾ He called in his magicians, enchanters, sorcerers, and astrologers, and he demanded that they tell him what he had dreamed. As they stood before the king, ⁽³⁾ he said, "I have had a dream that deeply troubles me, and I must know what it means."

DANIEL 2:5 NLT But the king said to the astrologers, "I am serious about this. If you don't tell me what my dream was and what it means, you will be torn limb from limb, and your houses will be turned into heaps of rubble!"

DANIEL 2:12-13 NLT The king was furious when he heard this, and he ordered that all the wise men of Babylon be executed. ⁽¹³⁾ And because of the king's decree, men were sent to find and kill Daniel and his friends.

OUR ROLE IN CIRCUMSTANCES

JEREMIAH 29:4-7 NLT This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies, the God of Israel, says to all the captives he has exiled to Babylon from Jerusalem: ⁽⁵⁾ "Build homes, and plan to stay. Plant gardens, and eat the food they produce. ⁽⁶⁾ Marry and have children. Then find spouses for them so that you may have many grandchildren. Multiply! Do not dwindle away! ⁽⁷⁾ And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare."

DANIEL 2:17-19 NLT Then Daniel went home and told his friends Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah what had happened. ⁽¹⁸⁾ He urged them to ask the God of heaven to show them his mercy by telling them the secret, so they would not be executed along with the other wise men of Babylon. ⁽¹⁹⁾ That night the secret was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven.

GOD WORKS IN CIRCUMSTANCES

DANIEL 2:20-23 NLT He said, "Praise the name of God forever and ever, for he has all wisdom and power. ⁽²¹⁾ He controls the course of world events; he removes kings and sets up other kings. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the scholars. ⁽²²⁾ He reveals deep and mysterious things and knows what lies hidden in darkness, though he is surrounded by light. ⁽²³⁾ I thank and praise you, God of my ancestors, for you have given me wisdom and strength. You have told me what we asked of you and revealed to us what the king demanded."

DANIEL 2:47-49 NLT The king said to Daniel, "Truly, your God is the greatest of gods, the Lord over kings, a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this secret." ⁽⁴⁸⁾ Then the king appointed Daniel to a high position and gave him many valuable gifts. He made Daniel ruler over the whole province of Babylon, as well as chief over all his wise men. ⁽⁴⁹⁾ At Daniel's request, the king appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to be in charge of all the affairs of the province of Babylon, while Daniel remained in the king's court.

THINK & DISCUSS:

1. How are the current circumstances impacting you?
2. What role might God have you play during these times?
3. What could be the outcome of allowing God to work through you now?

MAKE A STAND:

SERVE CHRIST TODAY!



4-1-6
STORIES ABOUT DANIEL & HIS FRIENDS
VISIONS OF DANIEL
6-7-12

DANIEL

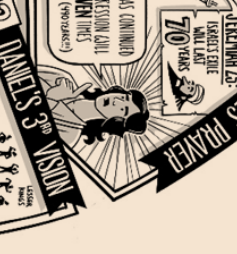
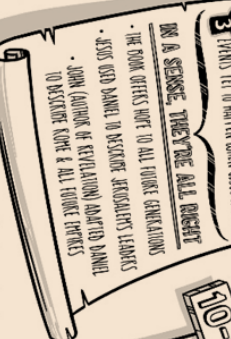
HOPE THAT MOTIVATES FAITHFULNESS

THE POINT OF DANIEL:
a Pattern
a Promise
FOR ALL GENERATIONS

HUMAN BEINGS BECOME BEASTS WHEN THEY DON'T ACKNOWLEDGE GOD'S KINGDOM AND RESUME HIS WORLD.

GO WILL ONE DAY CONQUER THE BEAST AND RESUME HIS WORLD.

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IMAGERY FROM GENESIS 1:2 & PSALM 8
HUMANS: THE BROTHERHOOD IMAGE OF GOD
The ruler or *governor* *basileus* but.....
LION, WOLF, BEAST & HAWK
THE BEASTS GOD THEY BECAME

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