THE BOOK OF DANIEL
Chapter 2
Lesson # 3

I. **A MYSTERY TO BE SOLVED** (extra blessing questions)

Before examining the details of Dan. 2 here is a mystery that isn’t really important but is fun to solve. In order to solve the ministry you will have to remember the king of all Bible study principles. Here are questions:

A. How long was Daniel in Babylon before Nebuchadnezzar had his first dream? How do you know this?

B. How long were Daniel and his friends supposed to be trained before entering into the king’s service? Did this happen? Explain your answer from the text.

C. How old do you think Daniel was when taken captive to Babylon? Support your answer from the text of Scripture.

D. What strong irony is related to the questions above concerning Daniel and his friends? What blessing can you receive from this?

II. **THE KING HAS A DREAM** (Read Dan. 2:1-11)

A. According to vs. 1 when did Nebuchadnezzar have his dream?

B. In vss. 1-3 write down the three effects the dream had on Nebuchadnezzar and what he did in response.
   1. First effect (vs. 1):

   2. Second effect (vs. 1):

   3. Third effect (vs. 3):

   4. Nebuchadnezzar’s response:
5. What four categories of people are mentioned in vs. 2, and how are they different or similar?
   
   a. 
   
   b. 
   
   c. 
   
   d. 

C. According to vss. 4-9 what was unusual about the king’s request to his wise men, magicians and conjurors?
   
   1. What did the king promise to do if they did not interpret the dream?
   
   2. What did the king promise to do if they did interpret the dream?
   
   3. What seems to be the king’s attitude towards his wise men, magicians, and conjurors? Why?
   
   4. Why did the king make such a difficult request of his wise men?

D. Examine vss. 10-11 closely. What four arguments do the Chaldeans use in an attempt to persuade the King to change his command? Explain why each argument would be persuasive.
   
   1. 
   
   2.
III. MAGICIANS, CONJURORS, AND WISE MEN IN PERIL (Read Dan. 2:12-18)

A. According to vs. 12, what two emotional responses did Nebuchadnezzar have towards the Chaldeans? Why?
   1. 
   2. 

B. What do we learn about Daniel and his friends according to vs. 13 that is related to the “extra blessing” question above?

C. Answer the following questions:
   1. Who gave Nebuchadnezzar his dream?
   2. Who knew how the dream would affect Nebuchadnezzar?
   3. Who knew how the king would respond?
   4. Who knew the interpretation of the dream?
   5. Who gave someone in Babylon the ability to interpret dreams and who was this man?
   6. Considering what we learned from the “extra blessing” question above, what was God’s plan in giving Nebuchadnezzar the dream concerning Daniel and his three friends? What does this teach us?
7. Meditate on and consider **vs. 13**. Explain the difference between how a believer and unbeliever would think, feel, and respond if they were put into a situation like the one Daniel and his friends were put into (keep in mind how old Daniel was at this time).

D. What two words in **vs. 14** describe what Daniel did when faced with a life threatening situation and what do these two words mean?

1.

2.

E. In **vss. 14-18** what five courses of action did Daniel immediately take after hearing that the lives of all the wise men, conjurors, magicians were in jeopardy?

1. (vs. 14)

2. (vs. 15)

3. (vs. 16)

4. (vs. 17)

5. (vs. 18)

6. What can we learn from Daniel's five fold response to this particular trial that we can apply to our own lives?
IV. INTERPRETATION OF THE DREAM REVEALED TO DANIEL (Read Dan. 2:19-45)

A. According to vs. 19 God revealed the mystery of Nebuchadnezzar's dream in a “night vision.” What is a “night vision?”

B. At the end of vs. 19 we learned that Daniel blessed the God of heaven for revealing the mystery to him. Then in vss. 19-23 we are told how Daniel blessed the Lord. Daniel praises God in certain ways. List and briefly define each aspect of Daniel's praise, stating why each of these things is something praiseworthy.

1. Our proper response to God (vs. 20)

2. Attribute of God to be praised (vs. 20)

3. Attribute of God to be praised (vs. 20)

4. Attribute of God to be praised (vs. 20)

5. Aspect of God’s sovereignty (vs. 21)

6. Aspect of God’s sovereignty (vs. 21)

7. Aspect of God’s sovereignty (vs. 21)

8. Aspect of God’s sovereignty (vs. 21)

9. Aspect of God’s sovereignty (vs. 21)
10. Aspect of God’s sovereignty (vs. 21)

11. Aspect of God’s omniscience (vs. 22)

12. Aspect of God’s omniscience (vs. 22)

13. Aspect of God’s omniscience (vs. 22)

14. Aspect of God’s omniscience (vs. 22)

15. Historical reason for praise (vs. 23)

16. Personal reason for praise (vs. 23)

17. Personal reason for praise (vs. 23)

18. Personal reason for praise (vs. 23)

19. Corporate reason for praise (vs. 23)

20. What are some general lessons or principles of praise we can learn from Daniel’s time of praise and how can these be applied to your life?
C. In vss. 24-27 Daniel, after receiving the night vision revealing the dream and its interpretation, is escorted by Arioch into the presence of the king. How do you think the king felt when he heard Daniel’s first words recorded in vs. 27?

1. Why did Daniel utter these words?

2. What do these words imply about the king’s request?

D. In vss. 28-30 Daniel explains to the king the one who is able to reveal mysteries.

1. Who is the one who reveals mysteries and where does He live?

2. What does the text say (vs. 28 & 29) that tells us the source of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream?

3. What was the purpose of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream according to vss. 28 & 29?

4. What does vs. 30 tell us about Daniel? Look up the texts below that speak to this issue. Write down after each verse that which relates to Daniel’s response.

   a. Isa. 2:12

   b. Isa. 42:8

   c. Isa. 48:11

   d. What principle/s can we learn from Daniel’s response that we should apply to our own lives?
E. In **vss. 31-35** Daniel reveals the details of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream. Write them down.

1. What did the King see according to **vs. 31**?
   a. Attribute –
   b. Attribute –
   c. Location –
   d. Attribute –

2. List the attributes of each part of the statute listed below.
   a. Head (**vs. 32**) –
   b. Breast (**vs. 32**) –
   c. Belly and Thighs (**vs. 32**) –
   d. Legs (**vs. 33**) –
   e. Feet (**vs. 33**) –
   f. Stone’s attributes and actions
      1. (**vs. 34**)
      2. (**vs. 34**)
      3. (**vs. 34**)
      4. (**vs. 35**)
      5. (**vs. 35**)
      6. (**vs. 35**)
F. In **vss. 36-45** Daniel interprets the dream for the king. Fill out the chart below with the interpretation of each part. Include any key Scriptures or details you can find which help clarify the interpretation of the statue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part of Statue</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Head of Gold</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breast and arms of silver</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belly &amp; Thighs of bronze</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legs of iron</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feet of iron and clay</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Stone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What do we learn about God from the dream and its interpretation and how should we apply this information to our lives?
V. DANIEL AND HIS FRIENDS ARE BLESSED (Dan. 2:46-49)

A. According to vs. 46 in what three ways did King Nebuchadnezzar respond to Daniel revealing his dream and its interpretation? Why and what do each of these three things mean?

1. 

2. 

3. 

B. According to vs. 47 how did this entire incident affect the king?

1. Should we have this same response from reading stories like this in the Bible? Why or why not?

2. Many Christians long for miracles to happen today in their lives. They want to experience a miracle themselves. What does this mind set reveal about their faith in what has already happened as recorded in the Word of God?

C. According to vs. 48 what four things did the king do for Daniel?

1. 

2. 

3. 

4.
D. According to vs. 49 how did Daniel use his newly found respect and position in the eyes of the king?

1. Where did Daniel serve in relation to his three friends?

2. Think about all of Daniel chapters 1 & 2 and ponder what God was doing through His providence in the lives of Daniel, his friends, and the King. Then answer the questions below.
   a. Did Daniel and his friends finish their schooling?
   b. How did Daniel’s position change, how long did it take, and how did God bring it to pass?
   c. How do you think the wise men, conjurors, and magicians felt about Daniel and his three friends, their age, their nationality, and their new positions?
   d. What encouraging lessons can we learn from the grand lessons of chapter one and two and how might we put them into practice in our personal lives?