



Daniel: A Faithful Life in a Hostile Culture
Daniel 2:1-16
From Sermon 8.23.26

Read *Daniel 2:1-16*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: Daniel and his friends have successfully and safely passed the first conflict in their captivity. As always, the enemy now turns up the heat. The devil is consistently attempting to thwart the plan of God by destroying the people of God through compromise or violence. Daniel is keenly aware. This next clash will not be based as much on character as it will be ability.

1. What was the three-pronged attack taught on Sunday and what would those look like in our day? Assaults by the World/Culture, the Enemy/Satan, and the King/Government.

2. Daniel's culture (like ours) was steeped in spiritualism. How does spiritualism differ from genuine Christian faith? Because we are spiritual beings as well as physical, the enemy sends numerous counterfeits to give false assurances. Spiritualism is rooted in the demonic and focuses on self. Genuine Christianity is holy and focuses on Christ as revealed in Scripture. Spiritualism centers on the Creation. Christianity on the Creator. See Romans 1:20-25.

3. What was the king's dilemma? He had a very disturbing dream but could not remember it.

3a. What were the titles of the spiritualist Nebuchadnezzar turned to? Magicians, the conjurers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans.

3b. What would be the modern equivalent today? Psychics, mediums, seers, horoscopes, readings, people who claim to have prophetic abilities. Magic 8-balls.

4. Young, nominal, and carnal Christians still turn to these practices today. What does the Bible say about utilizing or considering any "spiritual" method outside of God speaking to us through the Bible and our use of communicating back through prayer? See also...

- *Deuteronomy 18:10-12*—_____
- *Leviticus 19:31*—_____
- *1 Timothy 4:1*—_____
- *The 1 Samuel 28 drama*—_____

5. What was Nebuchadnezzar discovering about the wise men of Babylon, through this event? They were fakes and charlatans. They had no real power or insight.

6. Does God still use dreams to speak to people? (very popular modern movement currently in the Middle East). No. God's done speaking new revelation. Everything God has to say, He has said in His Word. There is no word-from-God that can be less authoritative than Scripture. See 2 Timothy 3:16-17