

Scripture Reading: Daniel 2:26-35

The king said to Daniel (also known as Belteshazzar), 'Is this true? Can you tell me what my dream was and what it means?'

Daniel replied,

'There are no wise men, enchanters, magicians, or fortune-tellers who can tell the king such things. But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and he has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in the future...'

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Scripture Reading: Daniel 2:26-35

"Now I will tell you your dream and the visions you saw as you lay on your bed... While Your Majesty was sleeping, you dreamed about coming events. The Revealer of Mysteries has shown you what is going to happen. And it is not because I am wiser than any living person that I know the secret of your dream, but because God wanted you to understand what you were thinking about."

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Scripture Reading: Daniel 2:26-35

"Your Majesty, in your vision, you saw in front of you a huge and powerful statue of a man shining brilliantly, frightening and awesome. The head of the statue was made of fine gold, its chest and arms were of silver, its belly and thighs were of bronze, its legs were of iron, and its feet were a combination of iron and clay."

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Scripture Reading: Daniel 2:26-35

"But as you watched, a rock was cut from a mountain by supernatural means. It struck the feet of iron and clay, smashing them to bits. The whole statue collapsed into a heap of iron, clay, bronze, silver, and gold. The pieces were crushed as small as chaff on a threshing floor, and the wind blew them all away without a trace."

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Scripture Reading: Daniel 2:26-35

"But the rock that knocked the statue down became a great mountain that covered the whole earth. That was the dream. Now I will tell Your Majesty what it means."

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Daniel 2:27 -
 "Daniel answered the king and said,
 'No wise men, enchanters, magicians, or
 astrologers can show to the king the
 mystery that the king has asked.'
 Concurs with the Babylonians - vs 10

However!



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Daniel 2:28 -
 "There is a God in heaven!"
 "In him all things were created: things in heaven
 and on earth, visible and invisible, whether
 thrones or powers or rulers or authorities;
 all things have been created
 through him and
 for him!"
 Colossians 1:16



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Daniel 2:28 -
 "There is a God in heaven!"
 The (Sovereign) God
 of Heaven... (vs 2)
 In His mercy & love...
 Gave!
 Nebuchadnezzar!
 A Dream...



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The Dream

A Statue -
 Full of inconsistencies...

- Beauty & homely
- Costly & common
- Gleaming & dull
- Unstable base

Nonsensical mix of metals &
 pottery



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The Dream

A Statue -
 A Rock -

This is the dream!

- Not quarried by human hands...
- Crashed into its feet
- Statue is Pulverized...
 ...and Blown Away!

Grows to cover the whole earth:



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The Dream

#1

A sequence of kingdoms...



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The Dream

A sequence of kingdoms...

Each rises...
Appointed of God for a time...
Then, fades away!



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The Dream

A sequence of kingdoms...

Isaiah 40:23-24

He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground, than he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff.



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The Dream

A sequence of kingdoms...

A historic reality...
(for his time)
...and...
A symbolic pattern!



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The (Sovereign) God of Heaven...
(v37)

"Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will send and take Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and I will set his throne above these stones..."

Jeremiah 43:10



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The (Sovereign) God of Heaven...
(v37)

1 Corinthians 4:7

"...What makes you so special? What do you have that you didn't receive as a gift? And if in fact you received it [from God or someone else], why do you boast as if you had not received it [acting as though you had gained it by yourself]?"



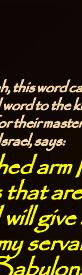
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The (Sovereign) God of Heaven...
(v37)

Jeremiah 27:1-6 -

Early in the reign of Zedekiah son of Josiah king of Judah, this word came to Jeremiah from the Lord: 2 This is what the Lord said to me: ...send word to the kings of Edom, Moab, Ammon, Tyre and Sidon... Give them a message for their masters and say, 'This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says:

With my great power and outstretched arm I made the earth and its people and the animals that are on it, and I give it to anyone I please. Now I will give all your countries into the hands of my servant Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon;



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The Dream

#2

A "Rock!"




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The Dream

A "Rock" -

Not of human hands!

Arrives... strikes...
destroys... increases!



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The Dream

A "Rock" -

As a "mustard seed"...
Yeast...

"The kingdom of God
is here!"

Matthew 13 -
The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the
Yeast



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Nebuchadnezzar!
..my servant!



Numbers 22 -
Balaam

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The (Sovereign) God of Heaven...
(v37)

Gave!

Nebuchadnezzar!

A Dream... But more!

...power!
...strength!
...glory!
...authority!



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The (Sovereign) God of Heaven...
(v37)

"For from him and through
him and for him are all things.
To him be the glory
forever! Amen."
Romans 11:36



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The (Sovereign) God of Heaven...
(v37)

*"Our days on earth are like grass; like wildflowers, we bloom and die. The wind blows, and we are gone, as though we had never been here, and our place remembers us no more."
Psalm 103:15-16*



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The (Sovereign) God of Heaven...
(v37)

So...
Nebuchadnezzar...

*You have been granted...
for a time!*

How will you respond?



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The (Sovereign) God of Heaven...
(v37)

Psalm 93:1 - "The Lord reigns; He is robed in majesty."

Psalm 96:10 - "Say among the nations, 'The Lord reigns!'"

Psalm 97:1 - "The Lord reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlines be glad!"

Psalm 99:1 - "The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!"



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The (Sovereign) God of Heaven...
(v37)

Romans 12:3

"...Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you."



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The (Sovereign) God of Heaven...
(v37)

Isaiah 41:13

"For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, 'Fear not, I am the one who helps you!'"



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The (Sovereign) God of Heaven...
(v37)

So...
Christian...

*You have been granted...
for a time!*

How will You respond?



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