

## **DANIEL: Thriving in Babylon**

*Lesson Three • Daniel 2*

### **The God of Dreams and Destinies**

#### **Thriving in Babylon**

Thriving in the last days has as much to do with knowing history's **DESTINY** as it does with making personal decisions.

*"...there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and He has made known... what will take place in the latter days...In the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed...it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever...the great God has made known to the king what will take place in the future; so the dream is true and its interpretation trustworthy." Daniel 2:28, 44-45*

#### **History's Destiny: A Dream Come True or a Never-ending Nightmare?**

### **1. History's Destiny Is DISTRESSING to Those Who Don't Know God. (1-13)**

#### **Two Earthly Reasons Why History's Destiny Is Distressing**

- Not knowing what the future holds is especially alarming to those who don't know the One who **HOLDS** the future. (vv. 1-3)
- Worldly wisdom is **POWERLESS** to predict the future much less fulfill it. (vv. 4-13)

### **2. History's Destiny Is DISCLOSED to Those Who Know Their God. (14-23)**

#### **Three Heavenly Resources for Knowing History's Destiny**

- **WISDOM'S** perception (vv. 14-16; James 1:5-8)
- **PRAYER'S** communication (vv. 17-19; James 5:16-18)

*God is sovereign and in His wisdom and power He chooses to use our prayers to fulfill history's destiny!*

- **GOD'S** reputation (vv. 20-23)

### **3. History's Destiny Is DECLARED by Those Who Know Their God. (24-45)**

#### **Two Practical Reminders About Declaring History's Destiny**

- God reveals history's destiny, so we can **DECLARE** it those who do not know the God of Dreams and Destinies. (vv. 24-30)
- God reveals history's destiny so we can **EXPLAIN** it with simple clarity. (vv. 31-45)

#### **The Content of the Dream Declared (vv. 31-35)**

#### **The Meaning of the Dream Explained (vv. 36-45)**

#### **History's Destiny Is...**

*The Coming of God's Eternal Kingdom to Crush All Rival Kingdoms to Dust!*

### **4. History's Destiny Will Be a DREAM Come True for Some and a Never-ending Nightmare for Others. (46-49)**

- **HUMBLE YOURSELF** before **Jesus the Saving Rock** that is able to save all peoples. Acts 4:11-12; Luke 20:9-18; 1Peter 2:5-8; Psalm 40:2

*"He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the mire clay, And He set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm." Psalms 40:2*

- **TAKE HEART** in **Jesus the Strong Rock** that secures all who trust in Him. Deuteronomy 32:4; 1Samuel 2:2; 2Samuel 22:2-3, 32, 47; Psalm 18; Revelation 17:12, 14

*"From the end of the earth I call to You when my heart is faint; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I." Psalms 61:2*

*"Do not tremble and do not be afraid; Have I not long since announced it to you and declared it? And you are My witnesses. Is there any God besides Me, Or is there any other Rock? I know of none." Isaiah 44:8*

- **SURRENDER EVERYTHING** to **Jesus the Sovereign Rock** that is supreme over all kingdoms.

*"Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever." Revelation 11:15*