

/We will now begin the third lecture on the book of Daniel. /We will begin at 1:14. /We will begin the lecture with Daniel 1:14.

/Read verse 14-15. /So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days. At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food.

/Ten days of testing can only be completed with one gives his all. /The testing of ten days had a definite deadline. /Therefore, they needed to endure the time God chose for them.

/Daniel completed the ten days testing and then was able to overcome other testing in the three years. /Therefore, the ten days testing made things easier for Daniel in the future. /Daniel and his three friends only ate vegetables for ten days.

/The other young men ate the royal food and ate good food. /Yet, Daniel and his three friends looked healthier and better nourished than the other young men. /How did they look better when they had only eaten vegetables?

/It was because they were peaceful in heart. /God's comfort and power were with them. /Proverbs 14:27. /This comes from spiritual peace. /This comes from the heart. /Proverbs 15:13. /15:13/ 17.

/When we have peace in our hearts, it shows in our faces. /God protected Daniel and his three friends. /God worked through his power. /Daniel and his three friends were filled with joy in their hearts.

/Therefore, their faces looked better nourished than the other young men. /The deacon Stephen's face was like that of an angel. /Thus, Daniel and his friends' faces looked better nourished.

/Verse 16. /So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.

/The guard gave vegetables to Daniel and his three friends. /Daniel and his friends protected their faith.

/Verse 17. /To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.

/Daniel and his friends showed great understanding in literature and learning. /God blessed them with more grace. /What did they receive for overcoming the test?

/What did Daniel and his friends gain? /First, they gained knowledge. /Proverbs 1:7. /They received talents. /Through their knowledge in faith, they gained knowledge of the world.

/They acted on their faith and they gained spiritual awareness. /They received grace and intelligence of God that was greater than that of man. /1 Corinthians 3:19. /This is knowledge that can only come from experiences of faith.

/This is knowledge that is distinguished from knowledge of their worldly friends. /This is knowledge from God. /This is the knowledge of knowing God.

/Second, Daniel gained understanding of visions and dreams. /God specially gave Daniel understanding of revelation. /He allowed Daniel to understand the will of the Bible and the will of God.

/This is understanding of knowledge of God and the future. /In the Old Testament times, God's will was made known through dreams, visions, or voices. /Dreams, visions, or voices.

/Yet, in the New Testament times, God's will was known through the Bible. /Matthew 24:15. /Daniel gained understanding about the special revelation. /Third, they were made greater than the other young men.

/Verse 18. /At the end of the time set by the king to bring them in, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar.

/They were called before the king.

/Verse 19. /The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service.

/The king tested them. /Yet, he found that none were better than Daniel and his friends. /Therefore, King Nebuchadnezzar appointed Daniel and his friends.

/Verses 20-21. /In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom. And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.

/The wisdom of Daniel and his friends were ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in the whole kingdom. /Thus, this means that they were made greatest in the kingdom after overcoming the test.

/They were ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters. /This is the result of Daniel and his friends' passing of the test. /This is because they passed the test. /People tend to become foolish when they are overtaken by tests.

/If we keep the Word of God and overcome tests, we will become wise. /Daniel was made great in the worldly sense. /Then he made him ruler over all the wise men. /2:48. /4:9.

/In this way, Daniel was great in the spiritual sense, and also in the worldly sense. /He was made great spiritually and physically. /Thus, when we protect our faith, God will bless our souls.

/Verse 21. /And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.

/Daniel remained until the first year of King Cyrus. /The first year of King Cyrus. /This is 538 BC. /538 BC. /This is the year the people of Judah ended their 70-years captivity in Babylon and returned home.

/This is the year they returned home after the first captivity. /This is the year Babylon fell to the Medes and Persians. /Daniel was a little over eighty years of age at the time. /By this time, Daniel had become a successful person.

/Daniel was successful during the time of Babylon and also during the time of Persia. Daniel kept his faith even during captivity.

/Hence, God blessed Daniel and his friends with wisdom and intelligence. /Then God allowed them to become men who were good enough to serve the king.

/We will continue the lecture with Daniel chapter 2. /The title is, "The Idol in the Dream." /Third, God shows the future through the dream. /Verse 1. /Second, people are unable to explain or interpret the dream. /Verses 2-13.

/Third, the dream is interpreted only through God. /Verse 14-19. /Fourth, praises and testimony of God. /Verses 20-30. /Fifth, the shape of the statue and the meaning of the dream. /Verses 31-35.

/Sixth, Daniel interprets the dream for the king. /Verses 36-45. /Seventh, the king praises God and puts Daniel in a high position. /Verses 46-49.

/Read verse 1. /In the second year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; his mind was troubled and he could not sleep.

/King Nebuchadnezzar was in his second year of his reign. /In Babylon, a king's reign is calculated by the year that a king comes to the throne, then the first year, then the second year, and so forth.

/The year that a king comes to the throne is the very beginning. /The year a king comes to the throne. /Then after that is the first year of a king's reign, then the second year of reign, and so forth.

/Thus, Nebuchadnezzar's second year of reign here is the same time as the third year when Daniel and his friends were tested. /Daniel and his friends were tested in technically the third year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign. /King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream.

/Verse 2. /So the king summoned the magicians, enchanters, sorcerers and astrologers to tell him what he had dreamed. When they came in and stood before the king,

/Verse 3. /he said to them, "I have had a dream that troubles me and I want to know what it means."

/Verse 4. /Then the astrologers answered the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will interpret it."

/King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream, and he called all the magicians, enchanters, and sorcerers. /However, he forgot his dream. /He was tormented. /He then asked the magicians and the astrologers to interpret his dream.

/Then the astrologers and enchanters replied. /They said, "Tell your servants the dream, and we will interpret it." /However, the king couldn't remember the dream and he was tormented.

/Verse 5. /The king replied to the astrologers, "This is what I have firmly decided: If you do not tell me what my dream was and interpret it, I will have you cut into pieces and your houses turned into piles of rubble.

/King Nebuchadnezzar said, "If you do not tell me what my dream was and interpret it, I will kill all of you." /Nebuchadnezzar is a dictator. /He was an evil king. /He told the men to interpret his dream without even telling them what the dream was.

/Then he said that he would kill all of them if they didn't interpret the dream. /He said that he would reward those who could interpret the dream. /Then the servants replied, "Tell us the dream and we will interpret it."

/Then Nebuchadnezzar answered them, "I am certain that you are trying to gain time." /However, this dream was not a dream of the world. /This was not an ordinary dream.

/This dream was a special revelation. /It was God's special revelation. /God gave the dream to Nebuchadnezzar to tell him of what was to come in the future. /In the Old Testament times, God made his special revelation known through dreams, voices, or visions.

/Yet in the New Testament times, God's will was made known through Scripture. /It says, "You are trying to gain time." /In verse 8 it says, "You are trying to gain time."

/This means, "You are trying to buy time." /This means that they were trying to extend the time of which they would receive their punishment.

/Verse 11. /What the king asks is too difficult. No one can reveal it to the king except the gods, and they do not live among men."

/The astrologers and the enchanter said, “What the king asks is too difficult.” /They said, “No one can reveal it to the king except the gods.”

/Therefore, Nebuchadnezzar became furious and ordered that all the wise men and enchanters be executed. /Daniel and his friends were to be put to death as well. /They were about to be put to death.

/Verse 14. /When Arioch, the commander of the king's guard, had gone out to put to death the wise men of Babylon, Daniel spoke to him with wisdom and tact.

/Verse 15. /He asked the king's officer, "Why did the king issue such a harsh decree?" Arioch then explained the matter to Daniel.

/Verse 16. /At this, Daniel went in to the king and asked for time, so that he might interpret the dream for him.

/Daniel spoke with wisdom and tact to Arioch, the commander of the king's guard. /Daniel said to the king, “If you give me time, I can interpret the dream.” /Daniel knew that this was no ordinary dream.

/Daniel knew that this was a dream from God. /He knew that this was a special revelation. /Therefore, Daniel realized that only God could tell him what the dream was.

/Daniel realized that only God could tell him what the dream was. /Amos 3:7. /All the wise men were about to be killed. /If Daniel couldn't figure out what the special revelation was, then all of them would be killed.

/If Daniel didn't interpret the dream, all the wise men and magicians would be killed. /Daniel held on to his calling and attempted to interpret the dream with all he had. /He also went before Arioch, the commander of the king's guard, with wisdom. /Proverbs 15:1.

/In verse 16, Daniel said, “Give me time so that I may interpret the dream.”

/Verse 17. /Then Daniel returned to his house and explained the matter to his friends Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.

/Daniel returned to his house and prayed with his three friends. /Daniel believed in the answering of prayer. /It is important to pray alone, but it is even more important to pray as a group. /Ezekiel 36:37.

/Esther also prayed for three days with the Jews before she went before the king. /We must pray that we would find the will of God.

/We must pray earnestly. /James 4:2-3. /James 4:2-3. /Daniel and his friends prayed

earnestly that the dream would be revealed to them.

/Verse 18. /He urged them to plead for mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that he and his friends might not be executed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

/Daniel did not want he and his friends, and the wise men to be executed. /Daniel loved his peers and had mercy on them. /He had mercy on those who did not believe in God.

/Verse 19. /During the night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven

/God revealed the revelation to Daniel while he was awake. /God told Daniel about Nebuchadnezzar's dream. /Therefore, Daniel praised God for his grace.

/Verse 20. /and said: "Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his.

/Daniel first thanked God. /Daniel was extremely happy and thankful that God's will was revealed to him. /In this way, when we seek the will of God, we will be happy and thankful.

/Our God is the "God of wisdom and power." /God is the God of power.

/Verse 21. /He changes times and seasons; he sets up kings and deposes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.

/Our God changes times and seasons. /God sets up kings and deposes them. /He gives knowledge to the discerning.

/Verse 22. /He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him.

/God also reveals deep and hidden things. /God reveals all deep and hidden things. /God teaches man about salvation.

/God is in control over the rise and fall of nations. /God also teaches us about the kingdom of Christ. /James 1:5. /The Messiah is also mentioned in verses 34 and 45.

/Verse 23. /I thank and praise you, O God of my fathers: You have given me wisdom and power, you have made known to me what we asked of you, you have made known to us the dream of the king."

/Daniel praised the God of his fathers. /This teaches us about the concept of a covenant with God.

/Just as he promised Abraham, Jacob, and Isaac, God would bring about the kingdom of the Messiah. /Daniel gave thanks and praised God.

/Verse 24. /Then Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to execute the wise men of Babylon, and said to him, "Do not execute the wise men of Babylon. Take me to the king, and I will interpret his dream for him."

/Daniel asked of Arioch. /Daniel asked, "Do not execute the wise men of Babylon." /He said, "I will interpret his dream for him."

/Daniel had a heart that loved his neighbors. /Matthew 5:44, 45. /5:44, 45. /Daniel did not have mercy only on those who believed in God, but also on those who didn't.

/Verse 25. /Arioch took Daniel to the king at once and said, "I have found a man among the exiles from Judah who can tell the king what his dream means."

/Finally, Daniel was taken before the king through Arioch. /Then he said that he would interpret the king's dream.

/Verse 27. /Daniel replied, "No wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about,

/Daniel said that no wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner could explain to the king the dream. /Man cannot know God's revelation.

/Verse 28. /but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries. He has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in days to come. Your dream and the visions that passed through your mind as you lay on your bed are these:

/Daniel said that only the God in heaven can reveal mysteries. /Daniel did not say that he would interpret the dream. /Daniel did not say, "I." /He did not show himself off.

/He showed only God to the people. /John 3:30. /This teaches us that only God's grace can interpret the dream. /1 Corinthians 15:10. /Therefore, God's revelation cannot be known by worldly magicians and enchanters.

/Only God can reveal his revelation. /Daniel testified about God. /Daniel loved God. /Daniel praised God.

/It says here, "what will happen in days to come." /"This refers to the "last things of the days." /The "last things of the days." /This means that God will reveal the promise of Christ in the Last Days.

/This is the promise of the coming of the Messiah. /This means that the times of the Messiah will come in the New Testament times. /1 Peter 1:20.

/Verse 29. /"As you were lying there, O king, your mind turned to things to come, and the revealer of mysteries showed you what is going to happen.

/Verse 30. /As for me, this mystery has been revealed to me, not because I have greater wisdom than other living men, but so that you, O king, may know the interpretation and that you may understand what went through your mind.

/This means that Daniel cannot interpret the king's dream or reveal the mystery. /Daniel said, "I do not have greater wisdom than other living men."

/Daniel meant that he was not a better person than other men. /Daniel denied himself. /He acknowledged only the Lord and loved the Lord only.

/Daniel did not say, "I will interpret the dream." /Daniel said that he would interpret according to what God told him.

/Verse 31. /"You looked, O king, and there before you stood a large statue-- an enormous, dazzling statue, awesome in appearance.

/God revealed the king's dream through Daniel. /God clearly revealed King Nebuchadnezzar's dream through Daniel. /Daniel said that King Nebuchadnezzar saw a large statue.

/Here it says, "statue" but in accuracy, it was an "appearance." /It was a form of man. /Thus, the nations of the world are very humanly. /The kingdom of God is of divine origin.

/The kingdom of God is God's creation. /Yet, the nations of this world are man's creation. /It is humanism. /No matter how impressive the nations of the world may seem, none of it is God's creation. /The worldly nations were made by humans.

/Thus, the nations of the world are centered on man. /Everything is for people, and it attempts to lift people up. /Yet, the kingdom of God exists to glorify God.

/Verses 32-33. /The head of the statue was made of pure gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of baked clay.

/The head of the statue was made of pure gold. /Its chest and arms were made of silver. /Its belly and thighs were bronze. Its legs were iron, /and its feet were partly of iron and partly of baked clay.

/This symbolizes the nations of the world. /First, its head was made of pure gold. /The golden head is Babylon. /It is the nation of Babylon. /Babylon reigned from 625 BC to 538 BC.



/Babylon reigned from 625 BC to 538 BC. /The nation was great and strong. /Second, the statue's chest and arms were made of silver. /The chest and arms symbolize the nations of Medo-Persia.

/Medo-Persia reigned from 538 BC to 331 BC. /This means that just as silver is not as grand as gold, the power of Medo-Persia would not be as great as that of Babylon. /Third, the belly and thighs were made of bronze. /The bronze symbolizes Greece.

/Greece reigned from 331 BC to 63 BC. /Fourth, the legs were made of iron. /The legs of iron symbolize Rome. /Rome reigned from 63 BC to AD 476.

/In AD 395, Rome was separated into the west and the east. /The Western Roman Empire and the Eastern Roman Empire. /However, the Western Roman Empire fell in AD 476 by the invasion of a northern Germanic group.

/In 1453 AD, the Western Roman Empire fell to the nation of Turkey. /At the time, Turkey was known as the Ottoman Empire. /Rome was as strong as iron, and defeated many other nations.

/Fifth, its feet were made partly of iron and partly of baked clay. /This symbolizes the fall of Rome and its separation into several nations. /Here, gold was Babylon. /It is said that the Babylonians used a lot of gold.

/The Babylonians used gold to make idols and statues. /Silver was the Medes and Persians. /The Medes and Persians used silver as their currency.

/Bronze was Greece. /In Greece, bronze was used to make weapons. /Alexander the Great of Greece used bronze to make weapons.

/Iron symbolizes Rome. /The Romans used iron to make armor and weapons in the Roman Empire. /In this way, we can see the nations becoming weaker. /The materials became cheaper and weaker.

/Silver is cheaper than gold, /and bronze is cheaper than silver. /The ten toes symbolize the final ten nations at the end of times. /Articulation will be big at the time.

/Then because it is partly iron and partly baked clay, the two components do not mix well. /It is easy for the two parts to be broken. /This "Rome" symbolizes the Antichrist in the Last Days. /Daniel 7:19.

/Then in verse 34 it says, "While you were watching, a rock was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and smashed them."

/Verse 35. /Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were broken to pieces at the same time and became like chaff on a threshing floor in the summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace. But the rock that struck the statue became

a huge mountain and filled the whole earth.

/Here there is a “cut out rock.” /The Rock symbolizes Jesus Christ who is to come. /This symbolizes the first and second coming of Christ. /In 7:13 it says that Jesus Christ will come on the clouds of heaven.

/This means that Jesus will come again a second time. /Then Jesus Christ will destroy the nations of the world, and He will judge the world. /Hence, the nations of the world will ultimately perish.

/This also means that the nations of the world will continue to change. /A nation like Babylon will rise, then will come another like Medo-Persia, /and sometimes there will be a nation like Greece, and then a nation like Rome.

/The nations of the world continue to change. /The sovereignty of nations changes, and situations of nations change as well. /Power changes. /Thus, in the midst of such changes, Jesus will come and the nations of the world will perish.

/In 7:7 it says that Rome is the fourth beast. /It is the fourth beast in 7:7 and it is a terrifying and frightening beast. /This means that in the Last Days, the Antichrist will come. /Yet, Jesus Christ will come and destroy the Antichrist.

/Then the kingdom of God will be established. /In verse 35, it says the rock that struck the statue filled the whole earth. /The “rock” symbolizes Jesus. /1 Peter 2:4. /This means that ultimately, the kingdom of God will be established.

/There is a difference between the “statue” and the “cut out rock.” /It is a man’s king and God’s kingdom, /appearance and the rock, /humanistic things and spiritual things, /temporary things and eternal things, /and the weakening of worldly nations and the fact that God’s kingdom is becoming stronger and stronger.

/A man’s world is humanistic and temporary. /Yet, the kingdom of God is forever, and it is a kingdom established by God. /Jesus will judge the world, and will establish the kingdom of God.

/Thus, the rock will become a huge mountain and fill the whole earth. /This means that the kingdom of God will be completed in the Last Days. /The Millennial Kingdom will be established.

/We believers are also the rock. /Therefore, this symbolizes that all believers of Jesus will fill the whole earth.

/The number of believers of Jesus will grow and will fill the whole earth. /Then in the end, believers will enter the Millennial Kingdom and eternal heaven.

/Here we will conclude the third lecture on Daniel. /Thank you.