

Series: A Purposeful Heart

THERE IS A GOD IN HEAVEN

DANIEL 2:27-28, 45

Text: Daniel 2:27-28, 45

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²⁷ Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king; ²⁸ But **there is a God in heaven** that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;

Daniel 2:45

⁴⁵ Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; **the great God** hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

Introduction:

As we looked at the Dream of Nebuchadnezzar and the Dependence of Daniel we continue looking at this passage.

As we read in our passage “There is a God in Heaven” and He is the Great God in which we honor Him and Glorify Him and give Him the Credit Where Credit is Due.

I often say, “Life is all about God!”

Notice:

1. THE PREDICAMENT (vs. 1-13)

As we looked last week Daniel finds himself once again in a difficult spot.

He was in the king’s court, one of the "wise men" serving with integrity, faithful to the Lord and faithful to king Nebuchadnezzar.

Difficulty came to Daniel, a faithful servant, just as difficulty comes to us today.

Some think that just because they are a Christian that there will never be any difficulty, but we must remember there will still be times that we will face things that we would never choose to go through but God is able to bring us through it.

The predicament led to:

2. THE PLAN (VS. 14-16)

Daniel 2:14-16

¹⁴ Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Arioch the captain of the king's guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon: ¹⁵ He answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, Why is the decree so hasty from the king? Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel. ¹⁶ Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would shew the king the interpretation.

Daniel dealt with the situation in a godly manner.

He took specific steps to resolve the situation.

The first thing he did was to ask the questions that needed to be answered. He found out from a reliable source what the problem was. Put simply, he gathered information.

Secondly, he asked for time. Daniel knew he needed time to go before God in prayer. He was confident that he would get not only the time he needed from the king but also the answer he needed from his Lord.

Too often our first reaction is our worst reaction. We react out of self-pity, and selfishness; certainly Daniel could have done this.

Instead of reacting with anger, Daniel reacted, or rather, acted in a calm manner.

This Predicament led to The Plan and that Plan led to:

3. THE PRAYER (VS. 17-23)

Daniel 2:17-23

¹⁷ Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions: ¹⁸ That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. ¹⁹ Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. ²⁰ Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: ²¹ And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: ²² He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. ²³ I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter.

Daniel sought God's wisdom in solving the problem.

We see some simple principles here that we should ever forget.

We Are To Pray Not Panic (vs. 19)

First, Daniel went to his friends and asked for their prayer support. They had been with him from the beginning, a team of prayer warriors who would stand with him no matter what was coming. Question, do you have friends like these? If not, begin to cultivate relationships of trust and caring for your prayer team.

Daniel spent the evening in a state of prayer, not panic.

Most of us would have been worrying ourselves sick, perhaps even trying to escape the king.

We might have been so upset about the situation that we might not have had the concentration to pray.

Daniel and his friends went before the Lord in prayer.

As a result, the vision of God revealed the answer that Daniel needed.

Someone once said: “The size of your God, determines the size of your prayer request. The size of your prayer request, determines the size of your answers.”

Remember:

Philippians 4:6-7

⁶ Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Not only should we pray and not panic but also we should:

Praise God for His Provisions (vs. 20-23)

Daniel 2:20-23

²⁰ Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: ²¹ And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: ²² He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. ²³ I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter.

When Daniel received the answer he immediately began to praise and thank the Lord.

Note not only the Predicament, the Plan, and the Prayer, but also:

4. THE PROCLAMATION (VS. 27-28, 45)

Daniel 2:27-28

²⁷ Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king; ²⁸ But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;

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⁴⁵ Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

Daniel proclaims that there is no man that can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about, “BUT THERE IS A GOD IN HEAVEN.”

Daniel gave God the credit. He knew that all he was; was a direct result of who God was.

As a result the king began praising God too.

We too must remember that it's God who makes all things possible.

We are what we are by the Grace of God.

God has enabled us to do what it is that we can do.

The Predicament led to a Plan, and the Plan led to Prayer, and because of Prayer the answer came which led to the Proclamation which led to:

5. THE PROMOTION (VS. 46-49)

Daniel 2:46-49

⁴⁶ Then the king Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and worshipped Daniel, and commanded that they should offer an oblation and sweet odours unto him. ⁴⁷ The king answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret. ⁴⁸ Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon. ⁴⁹ Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, over the affairs of the province of Babylon: but Daniel sat in the gate of the king.

Then the king placed Daniel in a high position and gave him gifts. He made him ruler over the entire province of Babylon and placed him in charge of all its wise men. Moreover, at Daniel's request the king appointed Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego administrators over the province of Babylon.

The result of giving God the glory, the credit, is that Daniel was given more responsibility in the king's court and the king's life was influenced by God. He was given a promotion. Because he glorified God and was faithful in life, he was given more.

We see this principle in Matthew 25:

Matthew 25:14-23

¹⁴ For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. ¹⁵ And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. ¹⁶ Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. ¹⁷ And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. ¹⁸ But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money. ¹⁹ After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them. ²⁰ And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou

*deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. ²¹ His lord said unto him, **Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things:** enter thou into the joy of thy lord. ²² He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. ²³ His lord said unto him, **Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things:** enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*

The questions that we should consider:

“Are we being faithful with what we have?”

“Are we giving glory to God?”

Daniel took Godly steps, found and obeyed God’s solution, and gave God the glory giving him the answer he was seeking.