

**Series:** The Stand

**Message:** Ascribing To The Sovereignty Of God

**Scripture:** Daniel 2:1-23

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**Date:** 26 July 2015

1. God Designs Situations In Our Lives (Good And Bad) For The Purpose Of Showcasing His Sovereignty. vs. 1-13

### **Daniel 2:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> Now in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was troubled and his sleep left him.

<sup>2</sup> Then the king gave orders to call in the magicians, the conjurers, the sorcerers and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came in and stood before the king.

<sup>3</sup> The king said to them, "I had a dream and my spirit is anxious to understand the dream."

<sup>4</sup> Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic: "O king, live forever! Tell the dream to your servants, and we will declare the interpretation."

<sup>5</sup> The king replied to the Chaldeans, "The command from me is firm: if you do not make known to me the dream and its interpretation, you will be torn limb from limb and your houses will be made a rubbish heap.

<sup>6</sup> "But if you declare the dream and its interpretation, you will receive from me gifts and a reward and great honor; therefore declare to me the dream and its interpretation."

<sup>7</sup> They answered a second time and said, "Let the king tell the dream to his servants, and we will declare the interpretation."

<sup>8</sup> The king replied, "I know for certain that you are bargaining for time, inasmuch as you have seen that the command from me is firm,

<sup>9</sup> that if you do not make the dream known to me, there is only one decree for you. For you have agreed together to speak lying and corrupt words before me until the situation is changed; therefore tell me the dream, that I may know that you can declare to me its interpretation."

<sup>10</sup> The Chaldeans answered the king and said, "There is not a man on earth who could declare the matter for the king, inasmuch as no great king or ruler has ever asked anything like this of any magician, conjurer or Chaldean.

<sup>11</sup> "Moreover, the thing which the king demands is difficult, and there is no one else who could declare it to the king except gods, whose dwelling place is not with mortal flesh."

### **Daniel 2:12-13**

<sup>12</sup> Because of this the king became indignant and very furious and gave orders to destroy all the wise men of Babylon.

<sup>13</sup> So the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they looked for Daniel and his friends to kill them.

2. God Uses The People's Faith And Prayers In His Sovereign Plan To Provide For His People. vs.14-19a

#### **Daniel 2:14-16**

<sup>14</sup> Then Daniel replied with discretion and discernment to Arioch, the captain of the king's bodyguard, who had gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon;

<sup>15</sup> he said to Arioch, the king's commander, "For what reason is the decree from the king so urgent?" Then Arioch informed Daniel about the matter.

<sup>16</sup> So Daniel went in and requested of the king that he would give him time, in order that he might declare the interpretation to the king.

#### **Daniel 2:17-18**

<sup>17</sup> Then Daniel went to his house and informed his friends, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, about the matter,

<sup>18</sup> so that they might request compassion from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his friends would not be destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

#### **Daniel 2:19a**

<sup>19a</sup> Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. ...

3. Believers Are Amiss Not To Bless God For His Demonstration Of His Sovereignty. vs. 19b-23

#### **Daniel 2:19b**

<sup>19b</sup> ... Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven;

#### **Daniel 2:20-21a**

<sup>20</sup> Daniel said, "Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever, for wisdom and power belong to Him.

<sup>21a</sup> "It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; ...

#### **Daniel 2:21b-22**

<sup>21</sup> ... "He gives wisdom to wise men and knowledge to men of understanding.

<sup>22</sup> "It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with Him.

#### **Daniel 2:23**

<sup>23</sup> "To You, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, For You have given me wisdom and power; Even now You have made known to me what we requested of You, For You have made known to us the king's matter."