

Daniel 2:26-49

About 2,500 years ago, the powerful ruler of the Babylonian Empire, King Nebuchadnezzar, commanded the wise men of Babylon to reveal and interpret his dream. Facing the threat of death, Daniel and his friends prayed, and God revealed King Nebuchadnezzar's dream and its interpretation to Daniel in a vision at night.

Today's passage contains the content of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream and its interpretation.

Through the dream of King Nebuchadnezzar, God reveals His great providence and plan. All the kingdoms of the world will rise and fall, sometimes stronger, sometimes weaker, sometimes more splendid, and sometimes less so. But at God's appointed time, through the stone prepared by God, all these kingdoms will collapse, and a new kingdom will be established.

The kingdom that God establishes will come. This is God's kingdom. This eternal kingdom of God, the victorious kingdom that overcomes all nations, will be established by the "stone cut without hands" mentioned in verse 45. This stone represents Jesus Christ. Therefore, King Nebuchadnezzar's dream today is a message about the kingdom of God that will come through Jesus.

First, God is the true King.

Through Jesus, we must realize that there is a true King—God (v. 37). King Nebuchadnezzar is great, brilliant, and fearsome. He is the ruler of a mighty empire, called the king of kings. However, there is One who gave him glory. Though he appears to be the master of the whole world, God lets him know that the true master of the world and history is God.

Kingdoms may rise strong or fall weak, but all of this is in God's hands. Faith is knowing that God exists, that what we have comes from God, and that it is given by Him. When we realize this, we humble ourselves, bow before God, and seek His will. True faith is knowing that I am not the master, but that God is the master of my life, and that I am not the king, but God is.

Second, God's kingdom ultimately triumphs.

God revealed that all the strong and splendid kingdoms of the world will ultimately be defeated by God's kingdom through Jesus. The kingdom of God given to us through Jesus Christ does not appear splendid or strong. However, God's kingdom will grow, spread, and ultimately prevail (v. 44, latter part).

Jesus triumphed on the cross and, through His resurrection, destroyed the power of death and sin (John 16:33). When Jesus came to this world, died on the cross, and rose again, salvation was given, and victory was achieved. Jesus fulfilled His mission on the cross and won over sin and death. Although Satan still resists in his final struggle and sin and death remain in the world, on the day Jesus returns, God's kingdom will ultimately triumph, and Satan will be completely defeated.

Third, only God's kingdom is eternal.

Through the interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream, one of the core messages God gave is that the kingdoms of this world, no matter how strong or splendid, will rise and fall repeatedly. The kingdoms of this world are not eternal. They will all eventually collapse and disappear. However, the kingdom of God, established by the "stone cut out of a mountain without hands" (Daniel 2:34), is described as an eternal kingdom (v. 44). Only the eternal kingdom is the kingdom of God.

When we look to the eternal world, the way we live today changes. We begin to discern what is futile and what truly matters. It is precious to commit ourselves to God's kingdom and to build God's kingdom within us.

**Bible
Memorization**

A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)

**Bible
Reading**

12/2(Mon)	12/3(Tue)	12/4(Wed)	12/5(Thur)	12/6(Fri)	12/7(Sat)	12/8(Sun)
Rom. 16 1 Cor. 1-2	1 Cor. 3-6	1 Cor. 7-10	1 Cor. 11-14	1 Cor. 15-16 2 Cor. 1	2 Cor. 2-5	2 Cor. 6-9

QT

Quiet Time Passage

12/2(Mon)	12/3(Tue)	12/4(Wed)	12/5(Thur)	12/6(Fri)	12/7(Sat)	12/8(Sun)
Rev. 7:9-17	Rev. 8:1-13	Rev. 9:1-21	Rev. 10:1-11	Rev. 11:1-14	Rev. 11:15-19	Rev. 12:1-6

**Sharing
Questions**

1. Please share any grace you have experienced in your life through last week's sermon or your quiet time this past week.

2. What new realizations or blessings have you received through today's message?

3. Pray for one another to live with faith in God's lordship and for His eternal kingdom.