

# CALVARY BIBLE CHURCH

“Lessons from the Book of Daniel - #3”

Date: May 3,, 2009

Text: Daniel 2:24-49

Speaker: Dennis L. Finnan. Sr. Pastor

## ***DREAMS AND THE FUTURE (Part #2)***

***INTRODUCTION:*** In answer to the collective prayers of God's children, Daniel is given a vision that revealed to him the King's dream and its interpretation. As Arioch was rounding up the wisemen for slaughter, he gave time for Daniel to try and find an answer to the King's request. As morning light came Daniel asked to again see the King, for now he had God's revelation that would save him and all the other wisemen from imminent death. Let's look at what happened...

### **I. DANIEL'S REFLECTION - (2:24-30)**

- A) His Yielding Request**
- B) His Yearning Reflection**

### **II. DANIEL'S REVELATION - (2:31-45)**

- A) The Dream Illuminated**
- B) The Dream Interpreted**

### **III. DANIEL'S REWARD - (2:46-49)**

- A) Great Respect**
- B) Glorious Rule**

***CONCLUSION:*** What humanly speaking was a disaster in the making, God turned around for good for His children. What's more God used it to place Daniel and his three friends in the highest places of government to affect its rulership and purpose to carry out God's will. May we learn from this that God is in control at all times, even when He seems to be publicly absent. The key to God's places of blessing are found in God's children being available to serve God in His kingdom and the world of mankind. Are you such a servant? If not why not consider becoming one today and using your gifts, talents and treasures for God's glory.

## BIBLE TEXT FOR MESSAGE

The New International Version

Daniel 2:24-49 (NIV) 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." 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." 26 The king asked Daniel (also called Belteshazzar), "Are you able to tell me what I saw in my dream and interpret it?" 27 Daniel replied, "No wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about, 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: 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. 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.

### **(1) NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM REVEALED**

31 "You looked, O king, and there before you stood a large statue--an enormous, dazzling statue, awesome in appearance. 32 The head of the statue was made of pure gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, 33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of baked clay. 34 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. 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. 36 "This was the dream, and now we will interpret it to the king.

### **(2) HEAD OF GOLD - Babylon (609-539 BC)**

37 You, O king, are the king of kings. The God of heaven has given you dominion and power and might and glory; 38 in your hands he has placed mankind and the beasts of the field and the birds of the air. Wherever they live, he has made you ruler over them all. You are that head of gold.

### **(3) CHEST AND ARMS OF SILVER - Medo-Persia (539-331 BC)**

39 "After you, another kingdom will rise, inferior to yours.

### **(4) BELLY AND THIGHS (HIPS) OF BRASS - Greece (331-168 BC)**

Next, a third kingdom, one of bronze, will rule over the whole earth. 40

### **(5) LEGS OF IRON - Rome (168 BC - 476 AD)**

Finally, there will be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron--for iron breaks and smashes everything--and as iron breaks things to pieces, so it will crush and break all the others.

### **(6) FEET OF IRON AND CLAY – EUROPE (476 to the end)**

41 Just as you saw that the feet and toes were partly of baked clay and partly of iron, so this will be a divided kingdom; yet it will have some of the strength of iron in it, even as you saw iron mixed with clay. 42 As the toes were partly iron and partly clay, so this kingdom will be partly strong and partly brittle. 43 And just as you saw the iron mixed with baked clay, so the people will be a mixture and will not remain united, any more than iron mixes with clay.

### **(7) STONE - The Second Coming (Future)**

44 "In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever. 45 This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands--a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces. "The great God has shown the king what will take place in the future. The dream is true and the interpretation is trustworthy."

### **(8) DANIEL'S REWARD**

46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell prostrate before Daniel and paid him honor and ordered that an offering and incense be presented to him. 47 The king said to Daniel, "Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery." 48 Then the king placed Daniel in a high position and lavished many gifts on him. He made him ruler over the entire province of Babylon and placed him in charge of all its wise men. 49 Moreover, at Daniel's request the king appointed Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego administrators over the province of Babylon, while Daniel himself remained at the royal court.