

Daniel Dialogue

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Reading Guide for Daniel 2

God KNOWS everything about everything!

Group Discussion

When you were a child what did you want to do when you grew up?

Kids Activity

What would you like to do when you grow up? On the activity sheet draw what you think you might look like in ten, twenty and fifty years from now. In your picture include your family, friends, work and pets.

Do you ever think about the future?

Do you ever think of what life might be like ten, twenty, thirty years from now? At times it's exciting to think about the good things life can bring, but it can easily turn to fear. It seems that each news bulletin brings another sad story leaving us asking big questions—like: Is anyone in control of planet earth? Where have we come from? Why are we here? Where are we going? Is there a God?

In Daniel chapter 2 we find an amazing story in which 2,500 years of future events were revealed to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. We find that history is not just a random assortment of happenings— wars, accidents, disasters and deaths. The evidence of fulfilled prophecy tells us that there is a God and He does care about planet earth. He does care about us. He is in control.

God knows the past, present and future. As you take this journey through the stories and prophecies of Daniel you will discover a new strength to meet the stress of daily living, a new faith in God's personal guidance and a new confidence to face the future.

The MYSTERIOUS DREAM verses 1-3

1. When Nebuchadnezzar could not recall his dream he called in his wise men.

What do each of these wise men represent? What were their activities?

Magicians _____ Enchanters _____
Sorcerers _____ Astrologers _____

The FAILURE OF THE WISE MEN verses 4-13

2. What ultimatum did Nebuchadnezzar give his wise men? Vs. 5,6,8,9

ANS: _____

3. What was the king's decree—in response to their failure? Vs. 12,13

ANS: _____

The MYSTERIOUS DREAM REVEALED TO DANIEL verses 13-23

4. Why do you think God allowed the "wise men" to fail before bringing in Daniel?

ANS: _____

5. God revealed Himself to Daniel and his three companions in response to their earnest prayers. Can you tell of an experience when God revealed His way to you when you asked Him? Matthew 7:7

ANS: _____

DANIEL APPEARS BEFORE THE KING verses 24-30

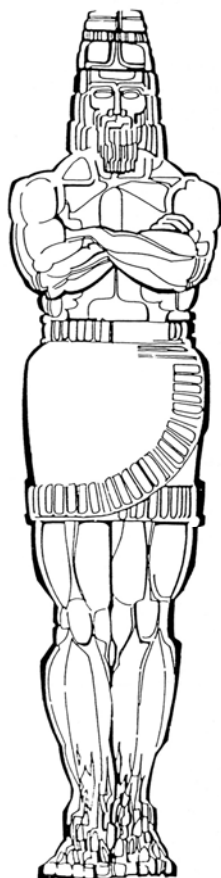
6. What did God want to reveal to king Nebuchadnezzar?

ANS: _____

The DREAM & INTERPRETATION verses 31-45

The rise and fall of nations was revealed by God and confirmed by history.

A great image Vs. 31-35 Kingdoms Vs 36-45



Head _____ Vs. 37, 38

Chest _____ Vs. 39

Thighs _____ Vs. 39

Legs _____ Vs. 40

Feet _____ Vs. 41-43



Rock _____ Vs. 44, 45

The KING’S RESPONSE verses 46-49

7. What is your response to this vision?

ANS: _____

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF DANIEL’S story:

These special characteristics will become increasingly apparent as we read Daniel’s book:

1. **RELEVANCE TO ALL READERS.** Jesus urged the people of His day to read this book—and its messages are also meaningful to us. Even though written years ago, its themes can speak into our lives today, and help with the everyday reality of our world.
2. **DANIEL’S BOOK HAS LESSONS FOR US ALL.** Many have approached Daniel’s book as an

intellectual exercise to identify the rise and fall of nations and to identify the antichrist. However, the purpose of the book is moral and spiritual. It shows us how we can cope in a crazy and sometimes hard world and we have God helping us to do that!

3. **DANIEL'S BOOK IS ABOUT GOD & HIS PEOPLE.** In both the stories and the prophecies we view the conflict between Christ and evil, and how this effects God's people until His everlasting kingdom of glory is set up.
4. **DANIEL'S PROPHECIES ARE COMPREHENSIVE.** They give us God's view of history—extending from Daniel's day to the setting up of God's kingdom without any gap or break. God's kingdom supersedes all human kingdoms — forever.
5. **THE REPETITION OF THE PROPHECIES.** Each successive prophecy in the book amplifies some details of the previous prophecy or prophecies. However, its purpose is not just to give an accurate picture of the rise and fall of nations.

SUMMARY OF DANIEL'S BOOK—HIS STORIES & PROPHECIES

Daniel 1	Daniel and his three friends were taken in captivity. God cared for them.
Daniel 2	God revealed to Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel that He knows everything.
Daniel 3	God rescues His servants from the fiery furnace.
Daniel 4	Nebuchadnezzar was humbled and acknowledged that God rules as King.
Daniel 5	God responds to Belshazzar's choices—with the final defeat of Babylon.
Daniel 6	God protects Daniel—not even a den full of lions, could break his friendship with God.
Daniel 7	While on this earth evil seems supreme—the truth is: God judges .
Daniel 8	God's ultimate plan is to restore His people .
Daniel 9	In the Bible's most amazing prophecy, God's plan of salvation is revealed.
Daniel 10-12	God's kingdom is established.

DISCUSSION

1. What does the story of Daniel 2 reveal to you concerning God's character and the nature of His kingdom?
2. What relationship do you see between Daniel's faithfulness to his God and the dramatic answer he received to his prayer? (See Daniel 2:17-23 and Psalm 66:18)
3. **Kid's DISCUSSION:** Now that you've thought about what you'll be like in the future, what do you think the world will be like?
4. **Daniel 2:47 is a key verse in this story.** We don't know what will happen in the future, but the Bible tells us that God knows everything about everything – even King Nebuchadnezzar believed so. In what ways is it encouraging for you to know that God knows what is happening—and that He knows everything about everything?

FINAL PERSONAL WORD ...

Thinking about the future can be really scary but its great to know that someone knows, even though we don't. God's knowledge about everything gives us hope!

You are not alone in your search for a deeper understanding of God. Throughout history statesmen, religious leaders, educators, physicians, scientists, merchants and thousands of others have diligently studied the stories of Daniel.

Although Jesus Christ encouraged the study of the entire Bible the only book that He specifically named was the book of Daniel. (See Matthew 24:15,16.) Jesus pointed to Daniel's writings as a reliable source of study to understanding the events of "the end of the age".

As you read this fascinating book you will find it to be of great significance to your life. The message of the book of Daniel is one of hope. Although it so often appears as if the forces of evil are in control, each story and prophecy of Daniel's book illustrates that our God is in supreme command and yet still cares about our day-to-day lives. This is GOOD NEWS!