

Sermon Title: **No One on Earth!**

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Scripture Reference: **Daniel 2:1-11**

Thesis: **King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream and wanted an interpretation; but in order to know if the wise men could really interpret the dream they must first tell the king what he had dreamt.**

Purpose: **No one on earth could do such a thing; only God can reveal our dreams and direct our paths.**

Key Word: **"God's Wisdom"**

I) Introduction:

Scripture Reading is: **Daniel 2:1-11**

A) The Setting:

1) **Have any of you ever gone to see a psychic?**

- (a) Someone who could tell you your future, speak to the dead, or read your palms?
- (b) Maybe they could read tarot cards or tea leaves?

2) **Back when I was in the Fire Science program one of the classes I had to take was psychology.**

- (a) We had a psychic who was at the college on the third night of class and our instructor directed us to go to see him as he was performing at the Student Cafeteria.
- (b) That was to be our class for the night and our assignment was to try and see if we could figure out how he did what he did.

3) **As he began calling on people in the audience he began to ask questions and tell them things that nobody present knew.**

- (a) I was a Christian at the time; and I have to tell you that I got this overwhelming feeling that I was in the presence of demons.
- (b) It got so uncomfortable that I got up and left after about 20 minutes.

4) **Now, I am going to tell you that I do not believe that there are any harmless psychics:**

- (a) They are either fakes, just people who are good at reading people,
- (b) Or they are possessed with demonic forces being fed information from dark spirits.

5) **One of the greatest lies of Satan is that He or demons are not real.**

- (a) That seeing a psychic or playing with things of the occult are just harmless fun.
- (b) They can be a door for non-Christians which allows for demonic forces to enter and influence your life.
- (c) Do you remember Mary Magdalene whom Jesus cast out 7 demons?

6) **This is the group that Daniel was thrown in with who practiced these black arts.**

- (a) They were called magicians, enchanters, sorcerers, and Chaldeans.
- (b) They tried to read the stars (Astrology) and use the black arts to predict and perform acts that would entice the gods they served to act in their behalf.

7) **There is no god except the one true God who created all things.**

- (a) Therefore, their gods were demons and servants of Satan who had limited powers.
- (b) This is where Daniel and his friends were trying to survive as servants to the king of this Pagan nation.

8) **This is why God gave a special ability to Daniel so that he was able to interpret dreams.**

- (a) But Daniel knew that this was not his ability; it was because God revealed it to him.
- (b) God gave Daniel abilities that no one could have in order to raise him up into a powerful position during the time of the Israelites captivity in Babylon.

9) **Now let us see the story for ourselves of the impossible task the King of Babylon demanded which no one on Earth could possibly do from our scripture reading in Daniel 2:1-11.**

B) *Sermon Prayer*

C) (The Hook)

- 1) **Now let me begin by telling you that Satan and His demons have no POWER over Jesus or those who belong to Jesus beyond that which God allows.**
 - (a) Satan is not an equal to God;
 - (b) Jesus is God and Satan is a created being.
 - (c) One who would be more an equal to Satan would be the Archangel Michael.
- 2) **Take Job for example; God allowed Satan to take away all his material wealth and all that was important to him.**
 - (a) God allowed this time of testing with a severe illness;
 - (b) But God would not allow Satan to take the life of Job and in the end restored everything back to Job in abundance after the time of testing.
- 3) **The principle we are raising up is that a Christian is under the protection and guidance of the Creator of the Universe.**
 - (a) Christians need not fear Satan; but would be wise to respect him.
 - (b) Much the same way we don't fear electricity; but learn to respect it with a healthy fear so that we don't misuse it.
- 4) **Daniel did not fear this evil King for His trust was in God.**
 - (a) Daniel knew who to trust and who was in control of His life.
 - (b) So, the principle that as a Child of God we come under His protection.

TS: There are several other principles that we can see at work here in Daniel; the first one is that we serve . . .

II) Body: (Key Points)

A) Key Point #1: **The God Who Can Do the Impossible**

- 1) While WE cannot do the impossible;
- 2) With God, all things are Possible. (Luke 1:37)
- 3) **Nebuchadnezzar was no fool and knew that these guys were good at what I call the spin.**
 - (a) We hear the spin every day on the news.
 - (b) Something bad happens or someone does something stupid so they try to spin it in the best light.
 - (c) Truth and facts are not important; what matters is how they can spin it to make it sound NOT so bad.
- 4) **So, the King told them that he would know that the person who could interpret the dream must first be able tell him what he dreamt.**
 - (a) Nebuchadnezzar told them outright, there will be "**no lying and misleading words to me.**" (Vs 9)
 - (b) They tried to tell the king, "**no man on earth can do this**". (Vs 10)
 - (c) And they were right; there is no man; no one person who can tell you what is going on inside someone else's head while they are sleeping.
- 5) **In fact, they said no king, no matter how great, has ever asked such a thing.**
 - (a) If mind readers were real; couldn't they tell you who you were?
 - (b) And what you wanted to know without someone having to spell it out for them?
- 6) **I think it is interesting that Daniel was not a part of this group.**
 - (a) At this point, Daniel is a servant in this group; but not considered one of the wise men.
 - (b) However, God is about to change all that.
- 7) **Reading on in our text we see in verse 12 that the king goes into a rage and orders the executions to begin of this whole group.**
 - (a) As they start rounding them up; they come to Daniel who asks what is going on?

- (b) The Chief executioner Arioch explains why the King is so enraged and Daniel says take me to him.
- (c) Daniel asks the King to give him a day for His God to reveal the King's dream and its interpretation and is granted the time.

TS: **You see while what was asked was impossible for a man to do; Daniel knows ...**

B) Key Point #2: **The God Who Reveals Our Dreams**

- 1) **In verse 17, we learn, "Then Daniel went to his home and informed his companions, Hananiah, Meshael, and Azariah, and told them to seek mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his companions with the rest of the wise men of Babylon might not perish."**
 - (a) Daniel knew where the true source was who could handle the impossible.
 - (b) Daniel told his friends if we are going to survive this; we must ask God for mercy that it will be revealed.
- 2) **I bet they prayed like their lives depended on it; because it did.**
 - (a) I don't know how much sleep any of them got during that night;
 - (b) But they prayed in earnest for God to show them the answer.
- 3) **In verse 19 it says, "Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision of the night, and Daniel blessed the God of heaven."**
 - (a) Have you ever received an answer to a prayer that you knew was from God?
 - (b) How did you or would you react?
- 4) **I bet you were or would be pretty overjoyed.**
 - (a) It is quite an experience; but God can and will answer our prayers at times when it suits His purpose for us.
 - (b) James wrote in his letter, "you **receive not because you ask not!**" (James 4:23)
- 5) **If you haven't had an experience with God answering your deep heartfelt prayer; then it is probably because you didn't ask.**
 - (a) First of all, it has to be heartfelt meaning a deep desire for an answer.
 - (b) Second of all, there has to be faith that God can answer your prayer.
 - (c) Third, your prayer must be in accordance with God's will.
- 6) **I have to admit that most of the time I am just throwing prayers up to God with the routine requests.**
 - (a) If I am honest; my heart really isn't in it.
 - (b) It often takes something that puts the pressure on to make me pray in earnest.
- 7) **It shouldn't be that way; as we should believe that God wants our heartfelt prayers every day.**
 - (a) But that is the way it is for many of us; when things are going along pretty well;
 - (b) We tend to just go through the motions because we know we should pray.
- 8) **Just imagine what God might do if we spent more quality time with God in prayer and let His Word speak to us . . .**
 - (a) We can even pray through the scriptures; reading them and making them our personal prayers.
 - (b) I have been trying to do this more with my pastoral prayers.

TS: **Why is this so important? Because He is . . .**

C) Key Point #3: **The God Who Directs Our Paths**

- 1) **Daniel was so overjoyed, that he records His praises to God for us in verses 20-23.**
 - (a) Daniel said:
 - ²⁰ **"Blessed be the name of God from age to age, for wisdom and power are his.**
 - ²¹ **He changes times and seasons,**

**deposes kings and sets up kings;
he gives wisdom to the wise
and knowledge to those who have understanding.**

**²² He reveals deep and hidden things;
he knows what is in the darkness,
and light dwells with him.**

**²³ To you, O God of my ancestors,
I give thanks and praise,
for you have given me wisdom and power,
and have now revealed to me what we asked of you,
for you have revealed to us what the king ordered."**

2) Daniel Blessed God acknowledging His wisdom and power.

- (a) Daniel acknowledged that God controls the season as well as those who are in leadership.
 - (b) God is the source of all wisdom and understanding and can reveal the deep hidden things be it in darkness or light.
 - (c) And Daniel sings praises and thanks for allowing him to know what the king desires.
- 3) **When God answers your prayers or provides an answer do you take the time to thank and praise Him?**
- (a) Do you acknowledge that it is God who deserves the credit for you having the right answers?
 - (b) Do you Glorify God for His mercy and goodness?
- 4) **This is our chief end; to glorify God and praise Him for all His marvelous mercy.**
- (a) God was merciful when He went to the cross for our sins.
 - (b) God showed His grace to us when He forgave us and invited us to be part of the family.
 - (c) So, when God clearly acts on our behalf we should show a little emotion and praise and thank Him and give God the credit He deserves.

TS: **So, Remember . . .**

III) Conclusion (Life Application)

A) **God is the one who is in charge.**

- 1) Demons have no power over Christians.
- 2) God is the answer to all our problems if we will just turn to Him in earnest prayer.
- 3) **God is the one who reveals our dreams.**
 - (a) Psalm 37:4-5 says, "**4 Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.**"
 - (b) But we must first trust God.
- 4) **Don't think that God will give you everything you desire.**
 - (a) It is not our desires that God gives us;
 - (b) But the desires that God wants us to have that He gives.
 - (c) **For God is the source of all POWER, Knowledge and Wisdom.**
- 5) **God is the one who directs our paths.**
 - (a) God Directs our paths and when we trust HIM,
 - (b) Proverbs 3:5-6, "**Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.**"
 - (c) God controls the circumstances of your life.

IV) Invitation: **Let us Pray!**