MYSTERY REVEALER

"...they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him, like the bitter weeping over a first-born." Zech. 12:10

"In that day there will be great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the plain of Megiddo." vs. 11 Chapter One: Prologue, Jews surrounded by Gentiles. Chapter Two: God is the Revealer Chapter Three: God is the Protector Chapter Four: God is the Sovereign Chapter Five: God is the Sovereign Chapter Six: God the Protector Chapter Seven-Twelve: God the Revealer

Chapters 2-6 God Instructing Gentile Rulers. Chapters 7-12 God Instructing Jews living under Gentile Rulers. "And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." Luke 21:24

"For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope." Jer. 29:11

1. THE *INABILITY* OF MAN *LEFT* TO HIMSELF. Vs. 1-13

"Now in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar..."

A. The <u>Crisis</u>. Vs. 1-2

"Now in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was troubled and his sleep left him. 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."

B. The *Test*. Vs. 3-6

"And the king said to them, 'I had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to understand the dream.' 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.' The king answered and said 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. 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."

C. Stalling for time. Vs. 7-13

"They answered a second time and said, 'Let the king tell the dream to his servants, and we will declare the interpretation.' The king answered and said, 'I know for certain that you are bargaining for time, inasmuch as you have seen that the command from me is firm, 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." **vs.** 7-9

"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. 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."" vs. 10-11

"Because of this the king became indignant and very furious, and gave orders to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. So the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they looked for Daniel and his friends to kill them." vs. 12-13

2. THE <u>POISE</u> OF THE MAN OF <u>GOD</u>. Vs. 14-30

A. <u>Calm</u>, Cool and Collected.

"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; he answered and 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." vs. 14-15

B. <u>Confident</u>.

"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." vs. 16

C. A man of *prayer*.

"Then Daniel went to his friends, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, about the matter, in order that they might request compassion from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his friends might not be destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon." vs. 17-18 "At the beginning of your supplications the command was issued, and I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed; so give heed to the message and gain understanding of the vision." Dan. 9:23

D. A man who worshiped. Vs. 19-23 "Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven; Daniel answered and said, 'Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever, for wisdom and power belong to Him. And it is He who changes the times and epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men, and knowledge to men of understanding." vs. 20-21

"It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with Him. To Thee, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, for Thou hast given me wisdom and power; even now Thou has made known to me what we requested of Thee, for Thou hast made known to us the king's matter." vs. 22-23

E. A man of humility. Vs. 24-30

"Therefore, Daniel went in to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of **Babylon; he went and spoke to him as follows: 'Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon! Take** me into the king's presence, and I will declare the interpretation to the king.' Then Arioch hurriedly brought Daniel into the king's presence and spoke to him as follows: 'I have found a man among the exiles from Judah who can make the interpretation known to the king!" vs. 24-25

"The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, 'Are you able to make known to me the dream which I have seen and its interpretation?" Daniel answered before the king and said, 'As for the mystery about which the king has inquired, neither wise men, conjurers, magicians, nor diviners are able to declare it to the king. However, there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will take place in the latter days. This was your dream and the visions in your mind while on your bed." vs. 26-28

"As for you, O king, while on your bed your thoughts turned to what would take place in the future; and He who reveals mysteries has made known to you what will take place. But as for me, this mystery has not been revealed to me for any wisdom residing in me more than any other living man, but for the purpose of making the interpretation known to the king, and that you may understand the thoughts of your mind." vs. 29-30

APPLICATION FOR ME

1. Lost sleep recently? Or are do you know the living God and experiencing His peace?

2. Are you drawing near to the throne of God to ask for His compassion?

3. Do you know the Word of God? Or does it remain a mystery to you?

4. Are you firm in your convictions to stand for righteousness?

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