



Introduction to “King of Mysteries”

This week, we are headed into the second chapter of Daniel. Let me encourage you to read the entire chapter through before diving into this discussion because it is a complete story; trying to discuss it only in pieces would be like watching 20 minutes of a movie here, and another hour there, and then the last 20 minutes another day...

The king has had a dream, and does not know what it means. He first asks the men he pays to know such things, his advisors and magicians, but they rightly identify that what the king asks is impossible for men. The wise men despair, the king rages in desperation, Daniel turns to God for the answer and the God of mysteries unveils his plan to the king through Daniel.

Daniel Series Objectives:

Head: To understand the Book of Daniel.

Heart: To face hardship with courage.

Hands: To make choices that glorify God.

Part 2: King of Mysteries

Text: Daniel 2

Big Idea: Your sense of direction depends on your dependence on God.

From the Sermon (add your own notes here):

1. “The thing the king asks is difficult and no one can show it to the king except the gods.”
2. “But there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries.”
3. “Truly, your God is God of gods, and Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries.”

Getting Started

How would you define the setting God has you in? (Family, friends, location, job, etc.)

What parts of the Bible do you *enjoy* most? Stories, wisdom books (such as Psalms, Proverbs), prophecy, etc.?

Where do you see current circumstances opening opportunities to share the gospel in places that would not normally be open to it?

Digging Deeper

God specifically put Daniel in position at the end of chapter 1 for this situation in chapter 2. What other Bible characters can you point to, where God put someone clearly in place to be used by him?

Read verses 13-16. What fears might Daniel have had as he prepared to go before the king? What might you have been feeling in his place?

Daniel praised God for answering his prayer before he was actually out of danger. What do you think motivates his praise and thanksgiving in 20-23?

How does the knowledge of history in hindsight change the way this story reads? Knowing how the kingdoms played out, perfectly matching the dream, how does that effect the way we handle prophecies about the end times that have not yet come to fruition?

The king's reaction in verse 47 is shocking, in the context of a pagan empire. How are answered prayers translated into gospel opportunities? In other words, when God answers your prayers,

what can you do to point others to him, and inspire praise from those who may not have recognized God before?

Live It Out

Pray: Take time to give thanks for the place God has put you and the prayers God has answered in your life. Pray for the courage and boldness to take advantage of the opportunities, from answered prayers, to make him known and glorified.

Confess: What opportunities to glorify God have you missed due to fear? How have you not yet taken advantage of the opportunities around you, in your current setting to make him known?

Act: Consider the example of Daniel. He was not called before the king. He requested the meeting with the king. What can you do this week to actively, intentionally live out your trust in God?